

Former Sudbury artist can't forget his first vocation

By MARTHA TANNER
For The Star

STAR SPOTLIGHT

from Sudbury to Ottawa, Poulin remained committed to his adoptive "home".

"We felt Bernie personified the arts' contribution to the community," said Judy Zelikovitz, president of the Dorothy Rothschild Chapter. "He is still active and supportive in the community, and a lot of what he does has the welfare of children at heart."

One of the Bernard Poulin Arts Scholarships will be awarded to a student in the Visual Arts Program at Cambrian College, while the other will enable a student in Israel to attend the Neri Bloomfield College of Design in Haifa, Israel.

During the past year, similar celebrations have been held across Canada by Hadassah-WIZO (Women's International Zionist Organization) to honor prominent Canadian artists and designers for their outstanding contributions.

Poulin joins an illustrious group of honorees, including filmmaker Harry Rasky, artists Christopher and Mary Pratt and fashion designer Linda Lundstrom, in whose names scholarships will be awarded to young Israelis wishing to study at the Neri Bloomfield College of Design. About 100 people attended the

ceremony in the Cavern at Science North. On display were about 25 of Poulin's paintings, representing a limited retrospective of his Sudbury works.

In a characteristic spirit of generosity which has endeared him to so many in the community, Poulin donated his latest work to be auctioned off to maintain the scholarship at Cambrian College.

Poulin was at Cambrian College this morning to speak to students in the visual arts program who will be vying for the Bernard Poulin Arts Scholarship.

Next May, Poulin will be one of three jurists to select the first recipient of the \$500 award.

"I hope the young people of Sudbury realize what they have here," Poulin said. "There are so many talented people to learn from — and not just in the arts. So many people are doing things that are new."

Poulin, who has carpal tunnel syndrome, which robs him of feeling in his drawing and painting hand and which requires him to wear a rubber banker's money counting finger to compensate, could well have been speaking of himself when he said, "This is a real gutsy town. People fall flat on their faces and they get right back up and keep on trying."

"It is more than an honor to come back to Sudbury."



ARTIST HONORED — Portrait artist Bernie Poulin talks with Neri Bloomfield, president of the Eldee Foundation, a Canadian charitable group. Poulin was honored Saturday night by the Dorothy Rothschild Chapter of Sudbury Hadassah-Wizo Canada. Two scholarships in Poulin's name will be awarded to a student from Cambrian College and a student from the Canadian Hadassah-Wizo Neri Bloomfield Haifa College in Israel.

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