

Artist wins Tut contest

By WILL KOTEFF
Egyptology need not be dull and dusty.

A Mississauga woman proved it can be quite lively and colorful and she won \$2,000 doing it.

Margaret Stephenson Coole, of Shardawn

Mews, received a cheque for that amount Monday for taking top honors in a King Tut Needle Art Contest. The competition was co-sponsored by Village by the Grange and Canadian Living magazine.

Coole's Forgotten Garden, a wall-hanging depicting ancient Egyptian foliage, was described by the contest judges as being "exceptional in its depth and detail."

It took the 46-year-old mother of two nearly 100 hours to complete after weeks of research and mental simmering.

"I try to go as far from the source material as I can," says Coole of her creations. "I know I run the risk of going right off the board but I'm willing to take that gamble."

GAMBLE

It's a gamble which has paid off a great deal in "a

happily frenzied year" of working, competitions and exhibitions. And it's building the local artist an excellent reputation.

In her first contest, an internationally judged show in April 1978, Coole won one of eight special award presentations.

Top wards in the 1979 Ontario Crafts Council Show also went to the Mississaugan and her entry is now part of the council's permanent collection.

Next month some of her work will be exhibited at the Oakville Stitchery Guild's annual show. And from Dec. 3 to Jan. 11 some pieces will hang in

the Pauline McGibbon Cultural Centre.

Many general craft shows and contests along the way provided experience and confidence for this Ontario College of Art graduate.

So did a wide-ranging embroidery course at Sheridan College.

Coole works quite seriously at her craft and the past few months have been especially taxing.

Runners-up in the original design class of the King Tut contest include Mississaugans Betty MacGregor, of Robin Dr., and Nancy Rogers, of Truscott Dr.

Will Koteff
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Coole, Margaret Stephenson