

Peel Big
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Student paints a different picture of Glenforest

By JILL BAXTER

Special to *The Mississauga News*
There's a rain forest in Glenforest.

There's a mural depicting a rain forest in the east Mississauga high school's library, that is, painted by Glenforest student.

Kit Hoang, a 20-year-old Grade 12 student, was asked by art teacher Terron Watson and librarians Lynn Prichard and Greg McPhee to paint the wall in the library.

After completing some research

with Watson, Prichard and McPhee, using National Geographics, he started the six-week undertaking Feb. 15.

"We wanted to picture this lush growth and luxury of the rain forest" said Prichard. "I kept asking him to put in a waterfall, which he did."

"As soon as I saw that first palm frond I knew we had something special," said principal Roger Martin.

Kit emigrated to Canada in 1987

from China, although he was born in Viet Nam. His mother and older brother are also here. He likes Canada, but finds, "the winters are too cold."

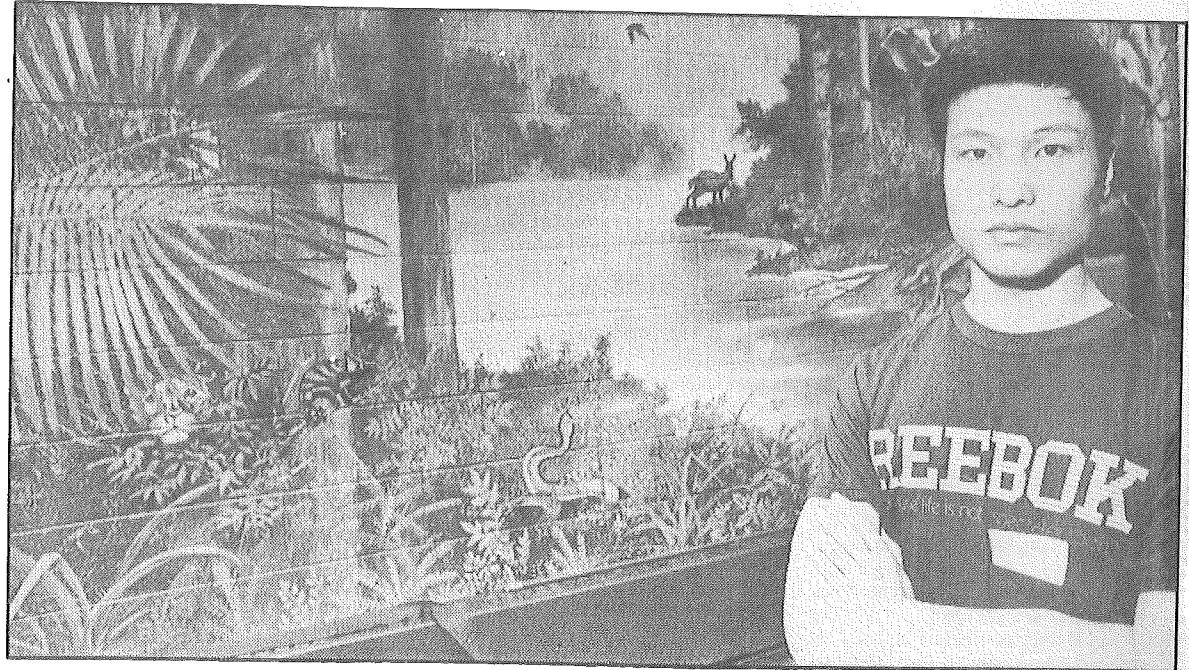
He worked during his daily art periods for 75 minutes, plus lunches and even for five hours a day during the March break.

While Kit was painting, two Grade 13 English students, Rob

Carter and Ross Graham, filmed a video about the progress of the mural. They put 100 hours into filming, editing and adding music to the 12-minute video under the technical supervision of Michael Benneyworth and teacher John McCuaig.

The mural attracted a crowd of students every time Kit went to work on it.

At the unveiling ceremony last Friday, Peel school board chairman Carolyn Parrish presented Kit with a certificate of commendation. Kit also received a certificate of appreciation from Mississauga's acting mayor, Ward 9 councillor Ted Southorn. The library staff and art department presented Kit with a gift certificate from an art supply store.



There's a new rainforest in Glenforest! Grade 12 student Kit Hoang, 20, created this 200-sq.-ft. mural on the wall of Glenforest Secondary School's library

which was unveiled Friday. He completed the undertaking in six weeks, working by himself.

Staff photo by Fred Loek