

Disability Awareness Day

(music plays)

(upbeat music plays)

Heffern: My wife Libby and I hosted a reception to display and exhibit great artwork by Armenian and American artists with special needs. We have 11 paintings by Armenian artists and 8 by American artists.

Female Translator: (speaking Armenian)

Heffern: You obviously like color too, tell me about the color!

Female Translator: (speaking Armenian)

Artist: (speaking Armenian)

Female Translator: You see for me there should be different colors to make a painting to look really nice. I like to show the reflection of the sun in the water.

Heffern: Beautiful. Fantastic.

(voices speaking Armenian)

Female Translator: And he has not studied art and painting, he's just self-educated.

Heffern: Partners in the United States and here helped us identify these artists and we have displayed their artwork at the residence. At the reception we gave them some awards for their great work and we thanked them for the joy and the color that they brought to our house.

Artist: (speaking Armenian)

Female Translator: So that tree is on the wheel and the wheel is taking me to places that I would like to see. The tree is smiling to me and there are ladybugs all around that are so nice and colorful.

Heffern: The purpose of this event is to raise public awareness on the challenges and opportunities of disabled people and people with special needs. And what the exhibit really does show, it shows what creative and talented people can do when given the chance.

(music plays)