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Summer enrichment concludes for local education foundation

Part of the foundation’s mission to further adult education for residents

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The Avon Education Foundation recently concluded its Summer Enrichment Program with a private tour of the “Discovering the Impressionists” exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art on Thursday, Aug. 13.

The sold-out bus trip capped a series of events sponsored by the foundation throughout the summer for Avon-By-The-Sea’s adult residents and visitors. Each of the three events offered special insight into the art and artists of the Impressionist era.

The series kicked off on Monday, July 20, with an Impressionist Painting Class at Torche Gallery in Belmar. After a brief demonstration of brushstroke techniques used by the Impressionist painters, guests were able to complete their own unique versions of Monet’s famous water lilies.

On Tuesday, Aug. 4, Avon-By-The-Sea librarian Sheila Watson led a town book talk at the Avon Marina. About 30 readers participated in a lively discussion of the Susan Vreeland novel “Luncheon of the Boating Party,” which focuses on the lives of the artists and friends who served as Renoir’s models for his iconic painting.

Participants found the book insightful and informative, and the setting – in Avon’s new riverside marina – particularly appropriate.

The Philadelphia Museum’s “Discovering the Impressionists” exhibit showcases the work of Monet, Renoir and their fellow artists who revolutionized the late 19th century Paris art scene.

Foundation guests had the galleries to themselves as museum docents led them through the extraordinary collection of paintings, many on loan from British and French museums. The Philadelphia Museum is the only United States venue for this exhibit, which ends Sept. 13.

The Avon-by-the-Sea Education Foundation is a 501[c] 3 organization dedicated to promoting the advancement of community and public education for residents of the borough. For more information, visit avonbytheseafoundation.org.



Avon-By-The-Sea Education Foundation Board member Peggy Oldakowski worked on her impressionist-inspired painting at Torche Gallery in Belmar. *Photo courtesy SUSAN ANNITTO*

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