Women embrace art

EXHIBIT CELEBRATES THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY

Maureen Andrade, artistic director for "Expressions of Community: Women Embracing Art," got the idea for the Clark County Historical Museum show after painting "Woman at Cello Falls."
Art:

From Page D1

emphasize hips and boobs," said Gold, who wove the doll's head out of cattail leaf fiber to show humanity's connection to the Earth.

Gold, a member of the Wasco tribe honored by the National Endowment for the Arts with a heritage award in 2007, said she comes from a long line of anti-Barbie women.

"I come from a culture where women have always been strong," she said of her matriarchal tribe.

Strength inspires

Women's strength also provides inspiration for Vancouver sculptor Traci Donahue, who has two nearly 5-foot-tall pieces on display at the museum.

"I like to celebrate women in my work," she said.

One woman receiving tribute from Donahue is Frida Kahlo, captured in the sculpture "La Pintora."

"She is one of my favorite painters," Donahue said. "With all the hardships she went through, she kept going. I appreciate her as a painter, and also as a strong, strong woman."

Kahlo's rise to success despite battling polio and suffering serious injuries in a bus crash is well known, but Donahue also finds inspiration in everyday women whose achievements sometimes go unsung.

"I try to really push the strength of women in my work," she said. "Women are strong because they have to be."