

# Randy Mallory

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January 30, 2007

Jill Lawless  
Texas Highways  
Box 141009  
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Dear Jill,

Take a little community, say 23,000 people. Add 16 or so art studios and galleries along several blocks of a quaint downtown (plus others outside of downtown). What you get is a small town with big art. Oh just for fun, throw in a winery, eateries, bed and breakfasts, and a historic rail depot.

That would lead me—and hopefully Texas Highways readers—to Denison and its blossomed arts district. We're talking paintings, sculpture, glassworks, photography, and even specialties such as Gytaku (traditional Japanese fish rubbing prints). There's a fair amount of art education going on—seminars, workshops, individual lessons—that make Denison a magnet for artists as well as art lovers.

To showcase its art culture, Denison hosts studio and gallery tours each spring and fall. This spring's event (March 31-April 1) coincides with a wine-tasting event, and the fall tour (November 3-4) boasts a Raku firing demonstration in a downtown pocket park.

Jill, I propose a feature with photos on Denison's art life (based on a suggestion by Nola) with an optional sidebar on other local attractions, especially around nearby Lake Texoma. I could do field work during the spring event for a run date to coincide with the fall event, if that suits your needs.

I look forward to hearing from you.