

ARTS LETTER

Vol. 47 No. 3 May/Jun, 2024

ISSN 1195-5643 Publication Agreement #40032521

PENTICTON ART GALLERY

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Nature Festival 2024

2024 MEADOWLARK NATURE FESTIVAL FEATURED ARTIST: Anne-Marie Harvey sfca

PG. 10

Endless Possibilities: SD67 High School Exhibition

PG. 12

Solstice: Penticton Art Gallery's 46th Annual Fundraising Auction





Please Take One

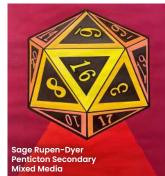
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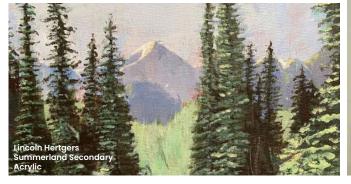


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Endless Possibilities: SD67 High School Exhibition



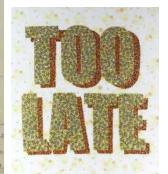




arting bid: \$250.00

PG. **12**

Solstice: Penticton Art Gallery's 46th Annual Fundraising Auction



Above: Andrew McPhail (1961 -) Too Late, 2018 Starting bid: \$500.00

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OUR VISION

Penticton Art Gallery's vision is a world where the visual arts foster inclusiveness, social engagement, critical thinking, and creativity.

OUR MISSION

Penticton Art Gallery's mission is to engage our diverse community in an ongoing dialogue about issues as expressed through contemporary and historic art practices and to provide opportunities for interaction with artists and the artistic process.

OUR MANDATE

Penticton Art Gallery exists to exhibit, interpret, preserve, and promote our collective artistic and cultural heritage as expressed through the visual arts. Our Gallery is accessible to everyone as a vibrant public space in service of our community. Our exhibitions, education, and outreach programs engage our community in local, regional, and global issues, while embracing cultural and gender diversity, and the work of indigenous artists.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THE PENTICTON ART GALLERY ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE LAND ON WHICH WE GATHER IS THE UNCEDED, TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE SYILX (OKANAGAN) PEOPLES.

ABOUT

pentictonartgallery.com 199 Marina Way Penticton, British Columbia V2A 1H5, Canada

1.250.493.2928 inquiries@pentictonartgallery.com

Tuesdays-Fridays: 10am-5pm Saturdays: 11am-4pm Sundays: Closed Mondays + Holidays: Closed

Gender Inclusive Washrooms Wheelchair Accessible

ENTRANCE BY DONATION



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Message from the Director



Paul Crawford

Director/Curator Photo by Gallery Staff

Dear Friends;

First off I want to extend my deepest gratitude and congratulations to our entire community for the overwhelming support shown during the third annual Ignite the Arts Festival. From the outset, our goal has been to create an event driven by and for the community - one that fosters unity, connectivity, and serves as a catalyst for inspiring others to initiate similar arassroots initiatives throughout the year. The success of the festival exemplifies the proverb "many hands make light work," highlighting the power of the collaborative and collective efforts that have fueled its momentum.

Your continued support and dedication of time will undoubtedly shape the future trajectory of this event, ensuring that its legacy ultimately lies in the collective hands, minds, and aspirations of our entire community, rather than being attributed to any single individual or organization. It's truly inspiring to witness the genesis and evolution of an idea into a movement and to experience the power it has to ignite our collective passion and imagination.

With each passing year, the festival draws an increasingly diverse and expanding audience from across the province, symbolizing a growing pg 4-

community of like-minded individuals that enriches and enhances the vibrancy of our city. Through these connections and shared experiences, we're empowered to shape and revitalize Penticton into the community where everyone can aspire to live, work, and thrive.

Beyond its role as a celebration of music, art, and culture, the festival stands as a powerful testament to our collective spirit, reflecting our shared identity and aspirations. It serves as a tangible reminder of the transformative force that art and culture has in bringing us together. Ultimately, the festival embodies our community's collective aspirations and collaborative efforts, demonstrating the profound impact we can achieve when we unite to uplift and support one another.

In the spirit of the festival, I hope you'll join in supporting and sustaining our arts and culture ecosystem year-round by attending, promoting, and hosting cultural events,

concerts, art openings, poetry nights, workshops, and more. Without our collective effort and ongoing support, we risk losing the vibrancy, color, soundtrack, and heartbeat that not only brings us together but also sustains us throughout the year. If you ever feel discouraged or alone please remember the feeling of escape, connection, and wonder you experienced at the last exhibition opening, concert, theater performance, or poetry reading you attended. That is the intangible, ethereal nature, power, and magic the arts have to transform our lives for the better and serves as a powerful reminder of their importance and impact on our individual and collective well-being.

With that in mind, I'm thrilled about our upcoming exhibitions featuring this year's Meadowlark Festival's featured artist, Anne-Marie Harvey, and the fine arts students from our three regional high schools. These two communitybased exhibitions connect us to this place, the land, and the future in ways few of our exhibitions can each year. I'm deeply grateful for these ongoing partnerships and for having the platform to host these inspiring exhibitions. Thank you to all those who have contributed to making these exhibitions happen and to the artists whose work serves as an important reminder of the impact we have on the environment and, in turn, its impact on us. Special appreciation to the teachers for being role models and for providing invaluable mentorship to all of your students; though you may never witness the full extent of your influence as it may manifest in ways you could never have imagined well into the future, rest assured you've made a profound difference.



Speaking of making a difference, I hope this summer you can get out and support the incredible efforts of the 2Rivers Remix Society. After the devastating loss of their home community of Lytton due to wildfire on June 30, 2021, they pivoted their entire operations and mandate from a festival based on a location to a traveling roadshow, known as the Movable Feast. Over the past three years, they have diligently trained and developed an all-Indigenous production team, which accompanies the Movable Feast as it travels to rural Indigenous communities across BC. It's a truly inspired project, and their social and cultural impact is incredible. This summer, I hope you can set aside the weekend of July 5-7 to attend the FREE all-inclusive 3-day Movable Feast as it comes to Tk'emlúps (Kamloops). You can find more information and even live stream all of their events online at: 2riversremix.ca

One way you can help make a direct and impactful difference in the future of the gallery is by attending our Annual



General Meeting on Wednesday, March 29th at 5:30. You don't need to be a member to attend; only if you want to vote. That being said, if you haven't already done so, we would love for you to consider buying a membership and becoming a more invested stakeholder in the gallery and our future. You can find out more information on the costs and perks that come with your membership online: **pentictonartgallery.com/join**

Finally, I would also like to draw your attention to the return of our largest and most important annual fundraiser: our 47th Annual Auction on Saturday, June 22nd. All the funds raised through this event go towards the Penticton Arts Gallery education and outreach programs, ensuring that your support is a direct investment in our community. The live event gala on Saturday, June 22nd will feature an incredible Caribbean-inspired dinner catered by City Eats in Kelowna, plus a hosted bar featuring the fine wines from Gold Hills Winery, Oliver, B.C., and craft beers from Cannery Brewing. Tickets are only \$35.00 for Members and \$45.00 for Non-members and are expected to sell out fast, so don't delay – get yours today.

Over the next two months leading up to the auction, we will be featuring the incredible curated collection of art, objects, and packages in the gallery as an exhibition and preview. Additionally, you can also view and bid online up until 9:00 pm on Friday, June 21st at: **32auctions.com/PAG2024**

Thanks again for your continued interest and support of the Penticton Art Gallery, and we look forward to welcoming you all back to the gallery over the coming months.

Yours, Paul Crawford





Message from the President



Dr. Claude Roberto

President of the Board Photo © Government of Alberta

The party is on at the Penticton Art Gallery on June 22nd, 2024. Doors open at 5:30 pm at 199 Marina Way. It will be a fun event. Join the celebration! Tickets are \$45.00, and, if you are a member of the Penticton Art Gallery community, you will pay much less.

I am talking about our Annual Art Auction, a fun public event, which helps us to keep our doors open year after year from Jan. 1st to Dec. 31st.

This fundraiser is a celebration of the transformative power of the arts, and the importance of cultural institutions, like the Penticton Art Gallery, to the social fabric of our community. Auction rules will be explained because several people may join this exciting event for the first time; there is no reason to feel intimidated.

There are many benefits of an art auction to you as a bidder. You buy a piece of culture lasting forever. You can go home with timeless pieces of artwork carefully selected, priced, identified and described by our incredible Gallery Curator, Paul Crawford. On the party day, Paul will be happy to share his expertise and talk to you if you have any questions. This will allow you to get immediate feedback in person on pieces of interest to you before making a decision. A certificate of authenticity

DINNER IS SERVED AT 6:00 PM

is attached to our artworks.

Our guests and members are art lovers who bid on pieces of art, often valuable, to acquire them for personal enjoyment. They are inspired by the extraordinary power of art, and they bid because of their emotional response it gives them. The decision to purchase comes from their heart.

However they may also bid for investment or resale. Our auctioned art works will almost certainly cost less than what a private gallery would ask.

The Penticton Art Gallery, a vital pillar of the arts scene in Western Canada because of your support, is managed as a charitable organization. Another benefit will be feeling good about supporting the only public gallery in Penticton which needs your help to keep its doors open.

The auction features items such as "Double Elvis Presley" inspired by Andy Warhol, and a piece by the award-winning Canadian artist David T. Alexander, a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, valued at \$12,500. In addition, we will offer up for bid many other items, such as outstanding gift basket packages generously donated by community partners and businesses. There will be something for everyone.

You can view in advance what is available for bids at **32auctions.com/PAG2024.**

We look forward to welcoming you to YOUR gallery on June 22nd. Mark your calendars: The Penticton Art Gallery serves a delicious dinner at 6:00 pm! •



For more information on the stunning featured artists:

- warhol.org/andy-warhols-life
- bau-xi.com/blogs/news/david-alexander-inducted-as-new-member-ofthe-royal-academy-of-arts





In The Gift Shop

FEATURED ARTIST: TOVIE GREEN



The Penticton Art Gallery proudly presents Tovie Green as the featured artist for May/June in its esteemed gift shop, showcasing the captivating work of this Western Canadian award-winning artist. Renowned for her innovative use of local beeswax (encaustic) and soft pastel, Green's artistic journey has been one of continual exploration and transformation.

Amidst the challenges of the pandemic, Tovie Green embraced a newfound commitment to artistic education, immersing herself in the theory of art under the guidance of a respected

mentor. This period of introspection led Green to venture into the realm of soft pastel, resulting in her stunning Vintage Flair series—an homage to nostalgia and whimsy, rendered in vibrant hues and meticulous detail.

But Green's artistic evolution doesn't stop there. In a recent foray into jewelry making, she has seamlessly translated her signature style into wearable art, further expanding her creative repertoire.

Beyond her artistic endeavors, Tovie Green is a beacon of compassion, dedicating her time to teaching art to individuals navigating addiction, utilizing creativity as a catalyst for healing and empowerment. Her impact extends far beyond gallery walls, with her artwork adorning spaces across the South Okanagan and resonating with audiences both locally and internationally.

Reflecting on her journey, Tovie Green shares, "During the Pandemic I chose to be positive and learn more about the theory of the Art. I put my new educational information to the task and used it in a different media than what I was used to."

As the Penticton Art Gallery celebrates Tovie Green's extraordinary talent and contributions, visitors are invited to immerse themselves in the beauty and inspiration of her work, and even take a piece home with you! •





Toni Onley Gallery

MEADOWLARK NATURE FESTIVAL 2024 FEATURED ARTIST:

Runs May 17th – June 15th, 2024

Exhibition Opening: May 17th, 2024 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Intimate Flower Portrait Workshop with Anne-Marie: May 18th, 2024 11:00 - 1:00pm *MORE INFO IN PROGRAMMING - PG. X

Artist Talk: May 18th, 2024 2:30 - 3:30pm

WRITTEN BY PAUL CRAWFORD

As the tulips, daffodils, lilacs, and tree blossoms announce the arrival of spring, so too does the growing jumble that is our lawn and garden. However, for me, spring's official arrival is heralded by the annual Meadowlark Festival exhibition. Over the years, this exhibition, along with our annual High School Exhibition, has evolved into two of our most enduring community partnerships and outreach initiatives.

Our partnership with the Meadowlark Society has showcased some of British Columbia's most celebrated artists, including Robert Bateman, James Fenwick Lansdowne, Jan and Patrick Little, Terry Isaac, Alex Fong, Skyler Punnett, Laila Campbell, Lee Claremont, Julia Hargreaves, Dorothy Tinning, Angie Roth McIntosh, Dr. Murray Roed, Dr. Michael Sime, Lyse Deselliers, and, most recently, Stephanie Perry. This year, we are thrilled to welcome Anne-Marie Harvey into the fold, whose vibrant paintings have been a fixture here in the Okanagan for many years.

I am grateful for all these who have

Anne-Marie Harvey SFCA

helped make this exhibition happen especially Prema Harris and Lyse Deselliers who have supported and assisted Anne-Marie throughout this process.

Each year we receive a number of inquiries on how the artists are selected for the honour of being the annual Meadowlark Nature Festival featured artist, and I thought I would share the answer I received from this year's guest curator Lyse Deselliers who shared the following:

"The selection committee first makes a list of local artists who have produced a significant body of works, who are interested in conservation or the environment, who will be willing to donate a painting, give two workshops and a talk as well as mount a solo show and be available during the festival for other events. We make every effort to be inclusive and welcome inquiries. Once the list is made, we all vote on the artists and the one who receives the most votes gets contacted. We realize that it's a lot to ask of an individual, but we also see it as a great opportunity to network, get one's work distributed widely through our media campaigns and promotion materials and a chance to have a one-person show at the beautiful Penticton Art Gallery. All in all, a great collaboration, and a lot of fun for the artist."

Once again, a heartfelt thank you to Anne-Marie Harvey for graciously



sharing your art and unique perspective with us, and to the Meadowlark Festival for continually reminding us of the profound importance of nature to our own well-being and survival.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

A self-taught artist, Anne-Marie Harvey spent her first 23 years as an artist exploring and painting in oils the wilds of northern British Columbia and the Yukon. She and her artist husband raised their three children in a land accessible only by bush plane. The dynamic landscape and transformational quality of light in the far north were her teachers.

In 1984, Anne-Marie left her beloved northern mountains for a new life on the west coast. Here she was introduced to watercolours, a challenge even more elusive than northern light! Anne-Marie loved this defiant and



MEADOWLARK Nature Festival **2024**



"In my heart, I am a storyteller and songwriter disguised as a plein-air painter. I love painting people in their everyday interactions with Mother Nature. With big brushes and many colours, I seek to capture the grandeur of the ordinary. As a self-taught artist, I have been earning my livelihood through painting since the early 1960's. I am thrilled and honoured to be chosen as the Meadowlark Festival Artist. When it comes to subjects to paint, the meadowlark is perfectly inspiring to me in both its colour and voice!"

- Anne-Marie Harvey, Artist Statement

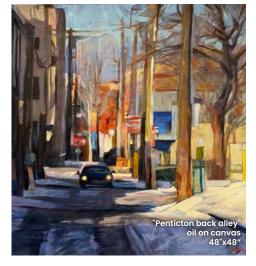
delightful medium and with mastery came success and security, along with dozens of shows, both solo and group. Watercolours led to acrylic, and finally mixed media. Only recently, to keep her paints wet while plein-air painting, Anne-Marie picked up her oil paints again, re-kindling an old love affair. She now delights in painting her world in an old medium but using new and freer techniques to express her love for the Okanagan.

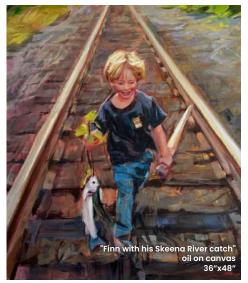
Anne-Marie's ability to paint people as well as landscapes won her success in the competition for cover artist and illustrator for the Advocate, the law magazine for B.C. Each issue features a notable and interesting person in the field of law. With one short interview, Anne-Marie created for the cover a light-hearted portrait, which accurately captured the spirit of this person. This work earned for her a spot as finalist for best illustrator at the Western Magazine Awards in 2003. Anne-Marie teaches part time for the Federation of Canadian Artists, but mostly she paints, and works steadily towards expressing her great passion for simplicity, clarity and colour.

In 2006 Anne-Marie and her husband Chris purchased a small piece of land on the Naramata Bench in the Okanagan. They put in some Riesling grapes and built a splendid home and a bright new studio. Recently Anne-Marie has been learning singing and songwriting which has been her lifelong dream. She is finding it exhilarating to express her love for life in words and music as well as well as in paint. •

For more info on Anne-Marie Harvey visit: **annemarieharvey.com**

For more info on Meadowlark Nature Festival visit: **meadowlarkfestival.ca**







Runs May 17th -June 8th, 2024

Exhibition Opening: May 17th, 2024 7:00 - 9:00 pm

WRITTEN BY PAUL CRAWFORD

much-loved highly This and anticipated annual exhibition serves as a vibrant celebration of the visual arts students from Princess Margaret, Penticton Secondary, and Summerland Secondary, highlighting the pivotal role of arts education within our schools. Spanning a diverse spectrum of mediums, this exhibition offers invaluable insight into the lives, interests, concerns, and worldview of the students whose work is featured each year.

Each artwork featured serves as a testament to the unique perspectives and voices of these young artists, showcasing the profound impact of art as a form of communication and self-expression. Behind every piece lies the dedication and passion of both students and teachers, who have invested countless hours throughout the year honing their craft. This exhibition provides a unique window into their creativity and allows viewers to connect with the stories and experiences behind each piece of art, fostering a deeper appreciation for the students' perspectives and artistic journeys.

I commend each of the three respective teachers who have encouraged and their inspired students to explore and embrace their creativity, fostering a greater sense of connection among themselves and enriching their understanding of the world. Exhibitions such as these serve as a testament to the transformative power and importance of the arts in

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES: SD67 HIGH SCHOOL EXHIBITION Princess Margaret Secondary, Penticton Secondary, and Summerland Secondary

our education system. They highlight the profound impact of nurturing creativity and artistic expression, not only in shaping students' educational experiences but also in cultivating empathy, collaboration, and a deeper appreciation for diverse perspectives.

Through their dedication and guidance, these teachers have empowered students to explore their artistic potential while also demonstrating how everyone can contribute meaningfully to the cultural fabric of our community. Their mentorship goes beyond technical skills, instilling in students a sense of purpose and confidence in their creative abilities. This collective effort not only enriches the artistic landscape but also strengthens the bonds within our community, fostering a culture of creativity and collaboration.

Over the course of the academic year, these students have not only embraced their imagination and creativity, but they have also honed their technical skills, the fruits of which are beautifully represented in this impressive exhibition. I am always impressed by the breadth and quality of the work featured each year, and I wholeheartedly congratulate each of the participating artists for their openness and trust in sharing their artwork.

Each of the participating students has been empowered through their art to authentically express themselves, nurturing essential qualities such as communication, critical thinking, authenticity, and self-reflection. I hope this exhibition will inspire us all to embrace the beauty of more creativity in our lives, encouraging us to explore new avenues of self-expression and appreciation for the arts.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to Brad Gibson, Aleita Lloyd, and Shauna Reid for creating a safe and inclusive space for students to explore their creativity and express themselves. Teachers like you play a critical role in shaping the lives of your students, and it's truly inspiring to see the impact each of you has had on the students involved in this exhibition.

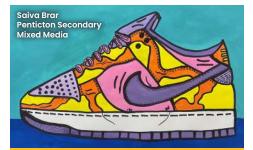
I also want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the participating students, who have entrusted their artwork to be displayed and shared with the community. It takes courage and vulnerability to put one's creative work on display, and these students should be immensely proud of their accomplishments and contributions to the arts community.

This important annual exhibition serves as a powerful reminder and testament to the significance of arts programming in the education system and the profound impact it can have on students' personal and creative development. It underscores the invaluable role of educators in nurturing creativity and fostering self-expression, while also shining a spotlight on the courage and talent of the students whose work contributes to the vibrancy of our community. Together, they embody the transformative potential of the arts in shaping individuals and enriching our society as a whole.

Princess Margaret Secondary Department Head - Fine Arts: Brad Gibson

I am sitting looking at pictures I have taken of the various student work that has been created this 2023/2024 school year in the Maggie Visual Art Program. The title for this year's show is in my opinion, a very fitting one. When I think of the "Endless Possibilities" for projects that I can challenge my students with, the sheer number of photos of work I have for this year's show make it very challenging to consider what needs to be shown. I am always so proud of the work my students take on. If I could, I would put it all on the walls, as I see every piece being so special in its own unique way. I encourage my students to remember how important it is to enjoy the process, and journey it takes to create an authentic piece of art. These photos are a reminder of how important it is to develop your hand-eye-brain coordination. The importance of considering how many kinds of subjects, and mediums there are to explore in this world. I also believe the art room should be a safe space for any kind of person that want to push their art skills. I have put together a diverse amount of work for this year's show. I hope you look at it as a reminder of how different we all are in this world. With 8.1 billion people currently living on this planet, there is no doubt an endless number of artists just waiting to be discovered.

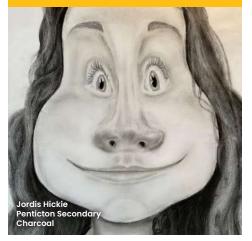


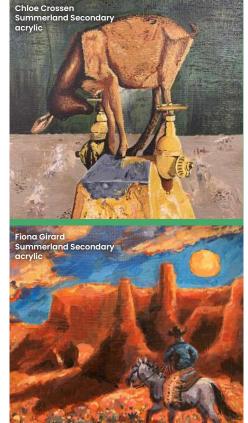


Penticton Secondary Fine Arts Teacher: Shauna Reid

In the realm of Art class, students embark on a journey of skill cultivation self-assurance, and transcendina challenges with each artistic endeavor. Through active engagement and hands-on practice, they harness the power of creative cognition to decipher assigned tasks and glean inspiration from provided examples, ultimately producing original beautiful work. Amidst the fluid evolution of their projects, students engage in a perpetual cycle of evaluation and refinement, perpetually honing their craft in pursuit of excellence.

Undoubtedly, the Art programs within our educational institutions stand as bastions of holistic development, fostering not only technical proficiency but also nurturing the fertile grounds of imagination and critical thinking. This year, the students of Pen High Art have delved deep into the annals of art history, drawing inspiration from luminaries of the past, while also delving into the intimate tapestry of their own lives for subject matter. We warmly invite you to indulge in the carefully curated visual experience awaiting you.





Summerland Secondary Fine Arts Teacher: Aleita Lloyd

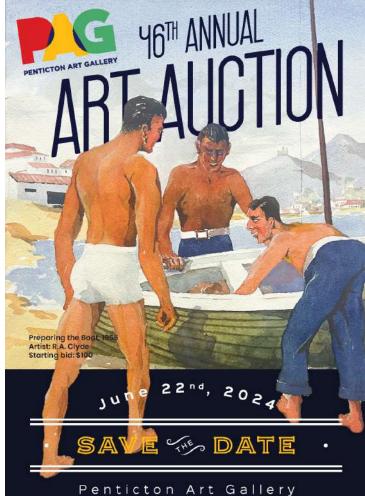
This year has been a whirlwind with a lot on my plate as an instructor. Despite that, my students are, as always, gracious, and inspiring. I love the environment we create together in the SSS Art room and am so thankful to those that allow themselves to be vulnerable in their art. My goal for each year is to foster a love for creating, expressing, and communicating through visual art. The progress I see is so rewarding as an instructor. I try to create space for technical skill build projects as well as creative design and personal projects. There are usually a lot of different things happening at the same time which makes for an interesting and challenging juggling act as a teacher, but so worth it!

This year will see a number of my senior students move on into art degrees and careers. I am going miss their dedication to excellence and you will see some of their amazing work in the show. Look for their names in the future; they will be going places!



Project Room Gallery

A Solstice Soirée!



5:30 - 9:00 pm



AUCTION PREVIEW

WRITTEN BY PAUL CRAWFORD

After several years of modified events, we're excited to once again welcome the community back into the gallery for our largest and most significant annual fundraising event: our annual fundraising auction, scheduled to take place in the main gallery on Saturday, June 22nd, 2024.

To build anticipation for our auction gala, we'll be showcasing an incredible curated collection of artworks, unique items, and experiential packages in an exhibition as part of our Auction Preview. You can view and start bidding on this specially curated collection of treasures in person at the gallery from March 17th to June 21st, 2024.

In the event you are unable to attend the preview exhibition or our gala event on Saturday, June 22nd, have no fear. You can still explore this year's auction and bid online until 9:00 pm on Friday, June 21st, by visiting the following link: www.32auctions. com/PAG2024

All the exact and absentee bids will be carried over to the live event on Saturday, June 22nd.

This exhibition and preview offer you the opportunity to view the art, objects, and packages that will be up for offer as part of this year's annual fundraising auction. All the proceeds from this event will go towards our education and outreach programs, which support the Penticton Art Gallery's mandate to exhibit, interpret, preserve, and promote our collective artistic and cultural heritage as expressed through the visual arts. These funds are vital for ensuring that we can continue to create, develop, and offer engaging, affordable, and accessible programming in the visual arts for the benefit of children, adults, and our entire community.

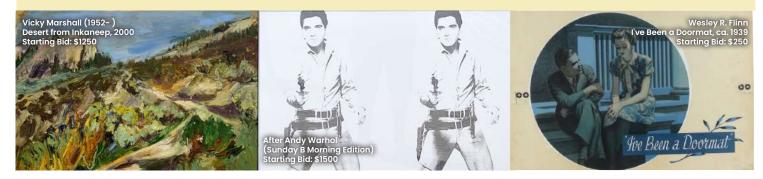
Thank you for your consideration and continued support. I would like to invite you to join us in embracing the transformative power of art by supporting this important event, either in person by attending our annual fundraising auction, or by bidding online. Your support will greatly impact the Penticton Art Gallery's ability to continue providing meaningful experiences in the visual arts as one of the leading cultural institutions in the Okanagan. •

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Details:

Advance On-line Bidding ends: 9:00 pm Friday June 21st Doors: 5:30, Dinner served at 6:00, Auction: 7:00-9:00. Entertainment to follow. **TICKETS INCLUDE DINNER AND HOST BAR**





Catering by: City Eats, Kelowna, BC (Jamaican & Caribbean inspired)



Craft Beers from: Cannery Brewing, Penticton, BC



Fine Wines from: Gold Hills Winery, Oliver, BC

Kerras Trent Jeffery (1966-2017) Beaver the Mountie Starting Bid: \$150



Scan QR for advance bidding online or visit: 32auctions.com/pag2024

SYA MEMBERS PAY: \$35



Tickets and more info: pentictonartgallery.com

Group Tables Available

Joining us with a group or want a corporate table? Contact us for arrangements.

250.493.2928 or email reception@pentictonartgallery.com



Ignite the Arts: A Glowing Success!



WRITTEN BY IGNITE THE ARTS COORDINATOR, JULIE FOWLER



Creativity was indeed sparked over the 10 art filled days of the 3rd Annual Ignite the Arts, March 22 - 31, 2024. A huge thank you to all the community partners who joined and schemed for many months leading up to the event, in order to showcase the best and brightest art, music and culture that snpintktn and the province has to offer. And a huge thank you to all the participating artists from Penticton, the Okanagan, the province, the country and beyond who shared their hearts and souls with us in order to uplift, excite, invigorate, reflect, inform and transform our community into a more beautiful, healthy, connected and happy place to be.



The festival grew a lot this year with more events, more artists, more music, more venues, more attendees and more puppets! If you joined the Parade For No Reason, you got to witness the growth and the hard work of the newly formed puppet brigade who created some incredible characters that joined in the fun. The puppets also popped up throughout the festival weekend at different venues and you may also catch them at some of the upcoming events in the community.



In 2024 the overarching theme of Ignite was mental health awareness, and this included kicking off the festival with the Opening of Gifts of Madness at the Penticton Art Gallery, an exhibition of over 100 artists from across BC and around the world, curated by bipolar artist Kagan Goh. The week continued with many partner events including the 2 Rivers Remix Confluence at the En'owkin Centre and Movable Feast featuring an incredible gathering of Indigenous musicians, elders and cultural workers (*both events were live streamed and can still be watched online at youtube. com/@2riversremix548).

The final weekend of the festival was the ticketed three-day event featuring over 100 musical, literary and performance acts, as well as workshops, artist talks and family fun at more than 10 venues throughout downtown including the Dream Café, Cannery Brewing, The Elks Hall, Brit Bar, Tempest Theatre, Highway 97 Brewery, Legacy Den, The Hub, Slackwater, The BE Hive Yoga Studio, SS Sicamous and of course the Penticton Art Gallery.



Together we have created something special and there is so much more we can continue to create to make Penticton a destination for the arts and dare we say the Arts Capital of BC?!



A huge thank you to the funders like the City of Penticton, Travel Penticton, the Province of BC through Creative BC, BC Fairs, Festivals and Events Recovery Fund, BC Touring Council and BC Gaming, Canadian Heritage, Community Foundation of the South Okanagan, Rotary Sunshine Club and

the Elks for supporting the arts to thrive. A huge thank you to the volunteers who showed up to ensure that Ignite ran smoothly for everyone. A huge thank you to the ticket buyers who came and enjoyed the celebrations, ensuring that the festival had the revenue needed to support the artists and operations. A huge thank you to the board and staff of the Penticton Art Gallery who put in huge overtime and volunteer hours to ensure that the festival was a success. A huge thank you to the community partners, the Penticton and District Arts Council who organized the beautiful Art Walk and other workshops and exhibitions for Ignite, Penticton Academy of Music who ran Adult and Youth Songwriting Camps and an Instructor concert, the Tempest Theatre that presented and produced the Ten Minutes Plays, One Minute Play Festival and showcased incredible performance artists, En'owkin Centre who partnered to present the Night of Indigenous Storytelling at the Dream Café, Ullus Collective who coordinated the Wolf's Trail Indigenous Fashion Show at the SS Sicamous, 2 Rivers Remix who in addition to presenting the Confluence and the Movable Feast at the Cleland Theatre, also provided the fantastic sounds and visual production at the upstairs of the Elks Hall, SOS Pride who organized the Trans Day of Visibility Paint Your Pride Brunch and Social, SOICS who organized the Anti Racism Happy Hour to combat racism and teach "active witnessing", Aurora Matheson Fine Art Gallery that organized Sculpture Day at the Art Walk and helped create the new monthly spoken word and poetry event called snpintktn speaking at the Dream Café, CFUZ Community Radio at 92.9 that helped to amplify the artists and events, DM Productions that created an incredible wrap up video, the Penticton Museum who organized a pre-festival kids workshop, and the various other sponsors and businesses that helped make the festival a success!

We also want to hear from you about your experience at Ignite the Arts, feel free to reach out directly to anyone at the gallery, email: ignite@pentictonartgallery.com, or please fill out the surveys that we have created. More info about our survey on the back of this Arts Letter! Mark your calendar, next year's festival dates are March 28 - March 30, 2025! Artist applications will open soon -Stayed tuned!





Tait Art Library: WORTH READING



Over the last number of months, the intrepid library volunteers have been "weeding" this garden of a library to bring it into better alignment with the mandate and direction of the Penticton Art Gallery. Because the library has been solely developed on donations, there was an overabundance of European and classic art and art forms. We have kept a "smattering" of international art, focusing on major eras and artists, so that Penticton Art Gallery members and patrons can explore beyond our borders.

In our book by book evaluation, it has become abundantly clear that we are lacking materials on Canadian art and artists—historical, contemporary, as well as indigenous. If you have books and/or exhibition catalogues that are Canadian (in the broadest sense of the term), and are willing to donate those, the Art Gallery and its Library would be most appreciative. Depending on the level of the donation, the Art Gallery will issue you a charitable tax receipt.

Some examples:

Unheralded Artists of BC:

- We have vols. 1-5 and 8; but are missing vols. 6-7 and 9!

An Indigenous Present:

- Jeffrey Gibson, ed., publ. 2023. This book gives the perspectives of more than 60 contemporary indigenous artists.

A Dictionary of Canadian Artists:

- This is an older work, but considered essential. We have vols. 1-6, but are missing vols. 7 (Rakos-Sadowski, publ. 1996) and 8 (Safadi-Smith, publ. 2006). This work ended after no. 8, but is carried on with an online version, Artists in Canada (National Gallery of Canada Library)

And there are so many more...

A side benefit of looking at each and every book in the PAG Library, is discovering the many fascinating items in the collection—from the "how-to's", to art history, to beautiful "coffee-table" books of artists' works, to art and artist critiques, etc. So, to give you a taste, we have picked some "books of the month" that interested us, and maybe you too.

Hazel Recommends:

The Artist Herself: Self-Portraits by Canadian Historical Women Artists (Call no. 709.71 Ar799)

A stunningly illustrated look at the ways in which women artists have given profound expression to their identities from colonial times to 1970. From Pauline Johnson's performance costumes representing her dual Mohawk and Euro-Canadian identity to Emily Carr's painting of herself from the back at her easel, from Hannah Maynard's playful photographs of her



multiple selves to Pitseolak Ashoona's sly comment on her participation in the Inuit art market, this publication brings to light a rich but unexplored aspect of women's lives in Canadian society. Drawing upon our fascination with self-portraits, The Artist Herself expands the genre's definition by moving beyond the human face to propose other forms of selfrepresentation, from both settler and Indigenous perspectives. The result is a thought-provoking selection of works by 42 women artists in a range of media, including paintings, textiles, photographs and film. Both renowned and lesser-known artists are featured. notably, Pitseolak Ashoona, Simone-Mary Bouchard, Emily Carr, Paraskeva Clark, Alice Egan Hagen, Frances Anne Hopkins, Pauline Johnson, Maud Lewis, Pegi Nicol MacLeod, Hannah Maynard, Daphne Odjig, Princess Louise, Mary Hiester Reid, Shawnawdithit, Martha Eetak, and Margaret Watkins.







Nancy Recommends:

Painting and Understanding Abstract Art by Leonard Brooks (Call no. 751.4 b791)

Published in 1964 was a meaningful read in which I gained a lot of insight into the complexity of contemporary art and I believe will greatly improve my gallery experiences.

The book is a combination of instruction techniques, history of the schools of abstract painting from its classic roots, and even has a year's organized study plan. Abstract art often invokes the questions why and how and this book is filled with pictures and diagrams to help answer those questions. The author explains the dynamics of abstract art as it started and developed over time up until 1964 providing examples of surrealism, expressionism and cubism. This book was written so that both the layman and practising artist will deepen their understanding and appreciation of abstract art.

The author was born in England but came to Canada at a young age and he was educated here as well as receiving his early art training. He was made official war artist for the Royal Canadian Navy in World War II and after the war he moved to Miguel de Allende, Mexico. His art is found in many galleries and private collections throughout North America. ◆



PARIS by Leonard Brook



Programming & Events

Summer Camps -NOW SOLD OUT

Unfortunately, Summer camps are all sold out for the 2024 season. To be put on a wait list, give us a call at 250-493-2928

Young@Art - Last date before Summer Break is June 20th

This is a drop-in after school art program for youth ages 10-16. It happens every Thursday from 3:15-4:30 in conjunction with the academic school year. In this program youth are encouraged to explore their artistic interests and socialize with other budding young artists. Snacks are generously provided each class by Safeway.

Topics & Tea with... YOU?

Topics & Tea is an ongoing speaker series that occurs in the PAG Tea room on the last Wednesday of the Month. The theme that we have attempted to adhere to with the Topics & Tea speaker series is Creativity. In addition to artist speaking about their own artistic practice, past topics have included: Fashion, writing, photography, Okanagan Art Review, The Jealous Curator, art & mental health, art curation, textiles, art history, the spirituality of art, architecture, artists' collectives, book collecting, storytelling, creative living, music history, improvisational theatre, theatrical costuming, creative up-cycling, and the creative process.

We are on the hunt for more speakers! If you have a topic you are passionate about, we want to hear it! Contact Chelsea Marketing@pentictonartgallery.com or call 250-493-2928 to sign up!





Penticton & District Community Arts Council Corner

APOTHECARY

T. Williams / @knottedword

People like us ought to know, how fragile we lay bare we follow the calls of invisible threads, red trails of reverie, we go blind by the mile and hold our stars to anyone and nobody.

People like us ought to know, that we burn bright and go dumb always running from ourselves like an enemy,

and who taught us to be a pretty bird in a cage, beady-eyed and looking for a gracious hand to trace your feathers and tell us to speak as though you never had the chords.

People like us ought to know, how to savour our energy, let it glare like a candle wicks flame, then watch it sigh out, we grow our souls like an apothecary using our hands of divine creation using our tongues as fiery spits, these are gifts not meant to be misused we are remedies built of mineral offer your mind and safeguard your heart, because people like us will not be torn apart.





WRITTEN BY MANAGING DIRECTOR OF PDCAC, TRISTAN BOISVERT

Often, we think of art as pretty pictures or something that resembles as closely as possible the thing it's meant to resemble. A photograph, not taken by a camera, but brought to life by the hand.

But art is simply the thread that connects us. A single strand breaks easily but weave them together and you have a rope. The power of that rope, in all its formats and disciplines, has the power to move impossible heavy and difficult objects.

Art comes in an infinite number of strands. It's the poetry that makes our heart beat, a falling leaf on a golden autumn day, the sharp cry of a magpie telling its kin that there is danger in the woods.

And there is danger. The rope is strained.

Since time immemorial, art has been the catalyst for movement; the witness and the instigator. It questions, it defines, it pulls apart and pieces back together societies from the rubble of tyranny.

In the face of adverse political events across the world, we want to shine a light on Toomaj Salehi, a situation brought to our attention by a speaker at the third iteration of snpinktn Speaking, a by-donation open-mic poetry night held on Sundays, once a month, at the Dream Café.

Toomaj Salehi is a 33 year-old Iranian If you are interested in speaking your poet, rapper, and activist. When he released rap music and videos supporting protests for the death of a young woman, Mahsa Amini, he was sentenced to six years in prison. After one vear in prison, after much alobal outcry, he was released. Outspoken about the abuse he suffered while detained, he was re-arrested and is now on trial for death.

No matter our individual beliefs, we believe it would be difficult to find one person who believes in a world where we can't create, inspire, and challenge injustice without fear. As Salehi faces a death sentence for his activism, his story serves as another call-out for the protection of free speech.

We encourage you to do further research on Toomaj Salehi, make a social media post, or speak with people in your circle about injustice and creative freedom.

Together we can amplify voices like Salehi's and uphold the universal value of artistic expression.

truth through poetry workshops, critique sessions, and open mic events, please email info@snpinktnspeaking.com

For more information on the next snpinktn speaking event, visit Instagram: @snpinktnspeaking



Upcoming Exhibitions - Bateman & Beyond

WRITTEN BY CHELSEA TERRY

Penticton Art Gallery is set to captivate art enthusiasts with its diverse and thought-provoking exhibition schedule for the remainder of 2024. From rediscovering renowned artists to celebrating emerging talents, the gallery's upcoming showcases promise to offer a rich tapestry of artistic expression and creativity. So let's give a sneak peak at some of the best for the rest of the year shall we?

July - September 2024

Kicking off the summer season, Penticton Art Gallery presents "Unexpected Bateman," an exhibition dedicated to the legendary Canadian artist, Robert Bateman. Running from July 5th to September 14th, 2024, this retrospective invites visitors to delve into Bateman's multifaceted artistic journey spanning over nine decades. While Bateman is widely celebrated for his realistic portrayals of wildlife and nature, this exhibition aims to unveil lesser-known facets of his oeuvre, challenging preconceptions and inviting viewers to reevaluate their perceptions of his work. From his early explorations in representational art to his later forays into abstraction, "Unexpected Bateman" promises to be a journey of discovery, shedding new light on a Canadian icon.

September – November 2024

As autumn approaches, Penticton Art Gallery welcomes visitors to immerse themselves in the mesmerizing world of Tsuneko Kokubo with "Of Light Itself." Running from September 20th to November 2nd, 2024, this retrospective showcases the remarkable career of Kokubo, a prolific painter and performance artist whose work transcends boundaries and genres. Born in Steveston, BC, and raised in Japan, Kokubo's artistic journey is marked by a profound exploration of identity, belonging, and the natural world. Through vibrant paintings, performance pieces, and set designs, "Of Light Itself" invites viewers to embark on a visual and emotional odyssey, where each brushstroke serves as a testament to the connection of all things.

In the Project Room, Alexandra Bischoff's "Homesick" offers a poignant exploration of family history, memory, and belonging. Through multimedia installations and durational performances, Bischoff delves into the intricacies of colonial notions of homemaking, inviting viewers to reflect on their own inherited narratives and cultural identities. With a blend of archival materials, performance art, and personal storytelling,

"Homesick" promises to resonate deeply with audiences, sparking conversations about the complexities of home and heritage in contemporary society.

November 2024 – January 2025

Closing out the year, Penticton Art Gallery presents a dynamic duo of exhibitions designed to engage audiences of all ages and backgrounds. In the Main Gallery, "Recent Donations to the Collection" offers a glimpse into the gallery's ever-growing repository of art, showcasing recent acquisitions and hidden gems that have yet to be publicly displayed. From established masters to emerging talents, this exhibition celebrates the diversity and richness of the gallery's collection, inviting visitors to discover new favorites and reacquaint themselves with old classics.

In parallel, the Young Collectors Club introduces children aged 5-12 to the joys of art collecting, empowering them to curate their own unique collections free from external influences. With a selection of 150 original works of art specially curated for young collectors, this immersive experience encourages children to explore their artistic tastes and develop a deeper appreciation for the world of art.

Additionally, the Project Room and Toni Onley Gallery will host the 18th Annual Under \$500 Exhibition and Sale, showcasing affordable artworks from a diverse array of artists. From paintings to sculptures, this beloved annual event offers art lovers the opportunity to discover hidden treasures and support emerging artists while staying within budget.

As Penticton Art Gallery continues to enrich the cultural landscape of the Okanagan Valley, its upcoming exhibitions promise to inspire, provoke, and delight audiences of all ages. Whether you're a seasoned art aficionado or a curious newcomer, there's something for everyone to enjoy at this vibrant hub of creativity and expression. \blacklozenge





PAG AGM: Join a Committee!



Penticton Art Gallery ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday May 29th starting at 5:30 pm Penticton Art Gallery



(light refreshments to follow) Pre-registration is requested: (250) 493-2928 Email: reception@pentictonartgallery.com

Join A Committee!

We're on the lookout for passionate individuals with experience in sales, business, or finance to join our various board committees. Your expertise could make a real difference! Key Details:

Roles: Committee Members **Experience Needed:** Sales, Business, Finance **Contact:** president@pentictonartgallery.com

No need to send in lengthy resumes or cover letters. We prefer to meet candidates in person to discuss the role further. So, if you're ready to roll up your sleeves and get involved, drop us a line at president@pentictonartgallery.com

Looking forward to having you on board!

THANK YOU

P C

VOLUNTEER, SPONSOR, DONOR & FUNDER RECOGNITION

In recognition of our amazing, dedicated, generous, and valued contributors, we are truly grateful!

MAJOR FUNDERS:









Supported by the Province of British Columbia











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HELP US IMPROVE! GENERAL SURVEY

Thanks for attending Ignite the Arts 2024! We are constantly looking for ways to improve the event experience and would love to hear your honest feedback on what we're doing well, and areas for improvement. Event feedback helps us find out what to repeat and what to avoid repeating. Scan below to complete our survey – you are vital to the growth of our Festival.





or visit: shorturl.at/cwL45



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