



ISSUE 18

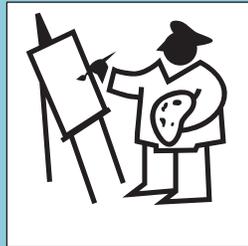
MARCH 2014

Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

WRAC NEWS

WRAC Contact Information

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- please help spread the news about **WRAC**
- connect, instruct, promote
- make arts come alive in Eastman
- libraries and schools - please add WRAC news to your newsletters and print out WRAC newsletter for students and library patrons to enjoy!

INSIDE:

1. Local arts events
2. Featured artist
3. EMCA season
4. Report on Miracle On South Division Street
5. Rural Youth Mentorship
6. Opportunities and news for artists
7. Member news

EMCA Season Continues - Exciting line-up includes:

Lizzy Hoyt - Celtic March 21

The Pelletier Family - Country Jazz & More April 25

* All concerts start at 8:00 P.M. in Pinawa

Community Centre/ High School Gym at 8:00 PM

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

- *Help us connect Eastman artists and arts organizations.
- * If you know about any arts related events, programs, products, services or opportunities, email info@winnipegriverarts.com.
- *Artists, arts organizations, schools and libraries - Please send us your arts news!

MEMBER NEWS: Winnipeg Public Libraries and Manitoba Writers' Guild hired Lac Du Bonnet writer and WRAC board member to lead five months of "Critiquing Circles" for writing groups at Henderson Library in Winnipeg.

PHOTO EXHIBIT COMING TO LDB

In June of 2014, Lac du Bonnet Library will bring **Mike Grandmaison's Prairie and Beyond II** photography exhibit to their library for the whole month. The exhibit will be co-hosted with Winnipeg River Arts Council. Mike Grandmaison is a Manitoba photographer and he has published worldwide in magazines, calendars and books. Manitoba Arts Networks has produced two traveling exhibitions with custom printed photographs from Mike's recently published book **Mike Grandmaison's Prairie and Beyond**.

Winnipeg River Arts council hosted Manitoba Theatre Centre's Regional Tour Performance of "Miracle on South Division Street"

On February 19, an appreciative audience of over 100 in Great Falls Hall enjoyed the antics of the four professional actors from Manitoba Theatre Centre and gave them a standing ovation to thank them for bringing this touching family comedy to Eastman. Dozens of positive comments after the play indicated that WRAC should try this again and WRAC would definitely like to make it an annual event. If you were there and enjoyed the play, please tell your friends. WRAC would like to thank the actors, stage crew, volunteers who set up stage, sound system, lighting and chairs, the bus driver, and all the kids who showed up to help out. A special big thank you goes out to Lori Vialoux from Victoria Beach, Karen Munn from Pinawa and Gail Davey from Lac du Bonnet for taking care of all the pre-show organization, and promotions.



MTC actors (left to right): Stephanie Wiens, Marina Stephenson Kerr, Cory Wojcik, Tricia Cooper



MTC stage crew (in middle line) and two helpful employees (one behind and one in front) from one of the play's many sponsors - MB Lotteries

News for rural teachers and performers interested in theatre, music, dance, and media arts

Symposium for the Performing Arts in Rural Communities takes place on April 25 and 26, 2014, in Haliburton, Ontario.

Deadline for reduced registration is March 14. Check out details and register for this symposium at this website:

<http://www.sparcperformingarts.com/symposium/registration/>

Manitoba Arts Network is asking people to forward the link to this survey to as many Manitoba Indigenous artists (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) as you can. <http://fluidsurveys.com/s/ACIIndigenousArtSurvey>. If you can send it to any Indigenous artists in your area, band councils, organizations, and individuals, you will help ACI Manitoba provide the kind of training needed in the Indigenous arts community. In addition, ACI is offering you a one year, FREE membership in the organization (\$25 value) in exchange for the 15-20 minutes it takes to complete the survey. They ask that you respond by **February 28, 2014**. If you have any questions, Email: leah@creativemanitoba.ca
Phone: 204.927.2787; Toll free: 866.802.1104

On February 19, 2014, Joan Chase, a well-known and inspirational artist died at Grace Hospital. She will be missed by many artists in the Eastern Manitoba art community. Joan lived in the Whiteshell and often invited artists to her home to teach them her spontaneous and free-flowing style of painting and creating art. She also gave art lessons at Lac Du Bonnet Farmers' Market. She was a WRAC member and very active in Pinawa Art 211. We offers condolences to Joan's family.

Does your arts group or board need this workshop?

Effective Boards and Committees

March 18, 2014, 09:00 AM to 04:00 PM **Cost: \$50.00**

Sunovo Room, Sun Gro Centre 360 Veterans Ln Beausejour
Facilitator: Sharalyn Reitlo, Community Futures Winnipeg River

Learn the principles to strengthen board governance and group work!

RURAL YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM IN EASTMAN

For the fourth year in a row, Winnipeg River Arts Council has partnered with ACI Manitoba to organize rural youth mentorships for Eastman area. This program, funded by ACI, gives interested youth (16-24 years of age) an opportunity to work with a professional artist and explore the possibility of pursuing their art practice. The program runs from January to May. In the first year, it took place in Powerview and two students interested in writing worked with Donna Besel from Lac du Bonnet. In the second year, two writers from Lac du Bonnet worked with Besel. In the third year, three students from Pinawa Secondary School worked with Pinawa photographer Anita Drabyk. This year, the program has returned to Powerview-Pine Falls where Lori Pachkowsky, a professional photographer from this town, is mentoring Haley Alarie and Blaze Sammons.

Sammons is a grade 11 student at École Powerview School. She enjoys everything in the arts, from painting, theatre, film and photography. "I wish I had taken this course before I went on a trip to Scotland, for drama. I would have loved to use the techniques Lori has showed us in my photos." Sammons plans on using her newfound skills to pursue a career in the arts.

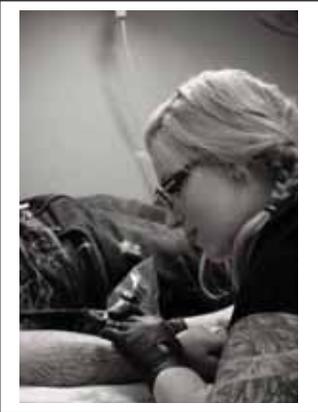
Alarie is a grade 12 student at École Powerview School. She loves the arts, and is involved in theatre, dance and fine arts. She plans to attend the University of Manitoba in the fall and hopes to pursue a career in either environmental or medical sciences. She has always been interested in photography. "I never knew how to take such amazing pictures. This mentorship class has given me skills that can be useful in my future in the arts." She recently participated in a spoken word project in Winnipeg with five other students from Winnipeg schools and created a film about youth being part of positive change around the world. They presented it live at the legislative building for international development week.

Mentor Pachkowsky is a member of the Winnipeg River Arts Council. She has been interested in photography since she received her first film camera when she was five years old. In 2007, she decided to expand her passion and take photography classes in Winnipeg. She currently takes family, wedding, group and sports portraits in her free time. She said that the students have been enjoying the class workshops and they have a great eye for photography. She says, "We've had a lot of fun experimenting with our cameras - painting with light, creating "ghosts" and testing our skills at panning photography. They are picking up the manual functions quickly. We have great projects planned for the next few months and can't wait for the weather to warm up so we can get outdoors and shoot."



ACI Rural Youth Mentorship Program participants Haley Alarie (left) and Blaze Sammons (right) who are working with their mentor, professional photographer Lori Pachowsky, in and around Powerview-Pine Falls, from January until May.

February
Featured WRAC
Artist:
Jodie Wentz from
Lac du Bonnet



For February, Winnipeg River Arts Council featured tattoo artist Jodie Wentz from Lac du Bonnet. At a very young age, from the moment she first saw them on the television show “Happy Days,” Wentz knew she wanted to create tattoos.

The dancing hula girl tattoo shaking her hips with the flex of a muscle on “Happy Days” fascinated her, as she realized drawings that lived in the skin and on the body could add life to art. This allure carried on through subsequent artistic choices.

In the 1980's, in small town Manitoba, one simply didn't speak of tattoos. The response from the adults and their reaction to the TV episode was clearly negative, so Wentz simply told those who asked that she wanted to be an artist.

It took time and confidence to search out an apprenticeship in tattooing. A stickler for rules, the young artist didn't tackle this learning independently. In April of 2004, she started her apprenticeship in Winnipeg and has been tattooing full time for eight and a half years.

In late 2006, she opened Rock Road Tattoo, just outside of Lac du Bonnet.

Wentz continues to develop her skills as the industry changes. She attends seminars, does diligent research and states, "If a tattoo artist ceases to strive and improve, he or she may as well stop. What can be done with inks and machines is advancing so quickly that, if one does not keep up, he or she will become a fossil."

Wentz is interested in other arts – throwing pottery on a wheel, making jewelry, and working on a series of gender bending fantasy creature illustrations for fun. She is also co-artistic director of Fire & Water Festival and vocalist and co-writer in the band “Carnival Bride.”

To sum up her creative talents, she says “I am a maker. But, of all the things I have made, my daughter is most certainly my proudest achievement.”

Visit www.rockroadtattoo.com for more information.



Shirley Kurian Abstract Photo Display

Pinawa Art Gallery Presents Lac du Bonnet Artist

The Pinawa Art Gallery welcomes a new display from Lac du Bonnet artist, Shirley Kurian. The photographer manipulates lenses and focal range and then plays with colour (or lack of) to produce thought-provoking pieces. Her work presents a new perspective on her environment. Shirley is known for her "Crocus" series of photos in The Gallery. This new display expands her repertoire as an exciting abstractionist. The Pinawa Art Gallery is open Fridays from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM or by appointment (204 753 2412). Purchases may be made using cash, cheque, VISA or MasterCard.

Do you live in the Town of Lac du Bonnet or Victoria Beach area? WRAC is looking for BOARD MEMBER from either of these communities. Contact info@winnipegriverarts.com. Board meets once a month on second Monday. (4:00 – 6:00 pm)

DEADLINE EXTENDED - OPPORTUNITIES FOR VISUAL ARTISTS: Interlake-Eastern RHA has walls in offices and facilities that would benefit from some local art, and their patients and clients could enjoy viewing artistic talent from our region. A group of IERHA staff and board members will review and select art for display. The RHA is prepared to rent pieces for 4-6 month period. Artist contact information will be posted with the pieces, so if people are interested, they can purchase the piece. **New deadline for submissions is March 7, 2014.** Anyone interested in submitting wall hanging artwork for consideration needs to:

- 1) Submit images of pieces via e-mail to kgaudry@ierha.ca or CD-ROMs can be mailed to Kelli Gaudy, 589-3rd Ave. South, Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0. **Please ensure all pieces have a title that includes the artist's name and the artwork name (if one applies).**
- 2) Include a name, phone number and mailing address where we can contact you. Please also identify dimensions of any oversized pieces.
- 3) Identify a monthly rental fee (per piece if the fee varies from piece to piece).
- 4) We are requesting that artists be self-insured, the Interlake-Eastern RHA will not be responsible for insuring any art.

Artists of selected submissions will be notified by phone.

Starting Points: Community Collaborative Arts Master Class w. Ruth Howard April 10, 11, 12, 2014, (18 hours of instruction)
Dates: Thursday to Saturday, April 10, 11 & 12, 2014 **Time:** 9:30 am to 4:30 pm **Location:** ACI Manitoba Classroom, 245 McDermot @ Arthur Street; wheelchair accessible **Cost:** ACI Manitoba Members \$225 | Non Members \$275 includes lunch and materials**Funding for this professional development may be available through Manitoba Arts Council (for artists) and The Winnipeg Foundation (for community groups). **Registration Deadline:** March 28, 2014 – hurry, seating is limited! **Register by email:** admin@creativemanitoba.ca or by phone: 204.927.ARTS (2787) or 1.866.802.1104. This course counts as credit toward the Community Collaborative Arts Certificate through the Manitoba Institute for Artists + Community Collaboration at ACI Manitoba. **More information:** Carol Finlay at ACI Manitoba: carol@creativemanitoba.ca | 204.927.ARTS

Manitoba Arts Network, with support from **Manitoba Arts Council, Canadian Heritage and CAPACOA**, is offering a 6-hour workshop about audience development, presented by Inga Petri, who just completed one of the most thorough looks at arts presenting in Canada today, **The Value of Presenting**. The workshop will explore a number of facets of cultivating an audience within your community. It's designed to "explore what you can do so your audiences and your community truly care about you; and what you can do to show that you love your audience back." The event is slated for **March 25, from 10 AM to 4 PM** at the **William Glesby Centre** in Portage la Prairie. Lunch will be provided. Registration is **\$25 for Arts Network members** and **\$40 for non-members**, and payment can be made by cheque to the Manitoba Arts Network. Space is limited; please pay in advance to secure your spot at the workshop. Register by calling **204-943-0036** or by email at info@mbartsnet.ca.