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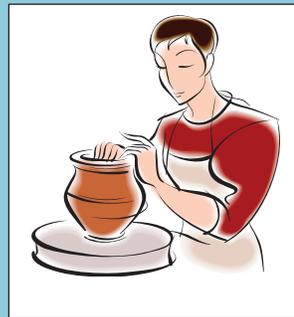
Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

WRAC NEWS

WRAC Contact Information

Box 1199, Lac du Bonnet, MB, R0E 1A0
Website: winnipegriverarts.com
Email: info@winnipegriverarts.com
Phone: (204) 340-0889

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



INSIDE:

1. Featured arts organization
2. EMCA's last show!
3. February, 2015 - WRAC hosts another MTC SHOW
4. Photo Exhibit in Lac du Bonnet Library
5. Photo Exhibit in Pinawa Gallery
6. "Celebrating Stories" at Eastman Libraries

EMCA'S Last Concert! Don't Miss It!

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!

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

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**.

Great News! Winnipeg River Arts Council will host another Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre's Regional Tour Performance – "Armstrong's War" on Saturday February 14, 2015, at Pinawa Community Centre

Plan now for next year's Valentine Day and take your loved one (or loved ones) out for a special evening. "Armstrong's War" was written by well-known Canadian playwright Colleen Murphy.

Here's a summary: Corporal Michael Armstrong is recuperating in a rehab hospital when he's ambushed by an optimistic 12-year-old Girl Guide in a wheelchair. Halley's mission is to earn her Community Service badge by reading to a wounded soldier. In spite of himself, Michael becomes engaged in their sessions. When he gets up the courage to share an explosive story from his time in Afghanistan, the unlikely allies show each other how to stand tall.

Here's a review: "Funny, thought-provoking, heartfelt" – The Vancouver Sun

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.



Shirley Kurian Abstract Photo Display

2014 "Celebrating Stories" in all three Eastman Libraries (Lac du Bonnet, Allard, and Pinawa)

In partnership with Manitoba Writers' Guild, special presentations will be held in Pinawa Public Library, Lac Du Bonnet Regional Library and Allard Regional Library. All three libraries will be hosting "Celebrating Stories." Each library's event will include a reading by the Winnipeg Millennium Library's 2013-2014 writer-in-residence, Meira Cook, question and answer session, and time for socializing. In Lac du Bonnet, Mary Louise Chown, a well-known story-teller from River Hills, will present a few of her stories and a young musician, Cohen Sieg from Whitemouth, will also entertain the audience. Come out and enjoy the talent of all these artists!

Eastman residents will get a unique opportunity to meet the poet and novelist, Meira Cook. Her novel, *The House on Sugarbush Road*, won the 2013 McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award. The book is set in post-apartheid Johannesburg, South Africa, shortly after the 1994 election of Nelson Mandela. Ms. Cook worked as a journalist in South Africa and immigrated to Canada in the early 1990's. She has had four books of poetry published and her poems have also appeared in various magazines and literary journals. She has also published a novella and a book of essays.

March Featured
WRAC Arts
Organization:
Pinawa Public
Library



Pinawa Public Librarian Marg Stokes (second from right) with some of the library's board members (from left): Donna Wuschke, Lynn Ewing, Anne Quinn, Michael Luke, Michelle Long

For March, Winnipeg River Arts council featured Pinawa Public Library, located in the same building as Pinawa Secondary School and Community Centre. Nine volunteers serve on the board and the library draws from a pool of approximately fifty volunteers who work alongside staff, checking books in and out, shelving items, covering new books and doing whatever else might arise.

In addition to attending monthly meetings, board members play a hands-on role in overall operations. In contrast to most libraries, Pinawa Public Library has Adult and Junior Selection Committees who meet, suggest new purchases, and, after often lively discussion, produce a list of books and DVDs to be ordered. Their choices, plus items purchased by the librarian and book donations from patrons, make for a diverse and interesting collection.

Chair Michael Luke also serves on the Selection Committee. Ann Quinn, Chair of Operations, runs meetings when Luke is away. Secretary Anne Shifflett records minutes. Treasurer Donna Wuschke also serves on Adult Selection Committee, chaired by Elaine Greenfield. Michelle Long chairs Junior Selection Committee and helps organize the story time program.

Jenny Peterson, Resident Administrator of LGD of Pinawa, is the liaison with Town Council. Patty Drew coordinates library presentations. Lyn Ewing, Member-at-Large, keeps an eye on the books and identifies those ready for deletion.

Actual weeding of the collection is done through a collaborative process. Besides specific board duties, all of the above contribute to discussions at meetings and guide development of library policy. Staff eager to greet patrons includes Head Librarian Marg Stokes, Library Assistants Audrey Miller and Cheryl Michaluk, and Student Assistants Kaeli Wilcox, Shannon Gibson and Sophie Hanson. Because their combined work week totals just forty-one hours, the library relies heavily on volunteers. Pinawa Public Library Board and staff strongly believe that library services should be free and open to everyone. They welcome all patrons who come through their door, wherever they live, and accept everyone for membership.