



Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

WRAC NEWS

FALL IS FOR ART! IT'S THE TIME OF YEAR TO SETTLE IN AND ENJOY!

The Winnipeg River Arts Council has worked hard to get our new organization established and we are very excited about our progress so far. But we want to hear from you – input, ideas, and suggestions for programs or partnerships. Let us know about your upcoming arts events or activities. You can share, connect, instruct, or promote. HELP US grow a strong arts community in our region. WRAC is working for you!

ARE YOU AN ARTIST?

One comment we have often encountered as we make connections and build awareness of the local arts scene is “Oh, I don’t really consider myself an “artist.” Some might think WRAC exists only for visual artists, that is, people who paint or sketch or sculpt. They don’t realize many others can be “artists” in the broadest sense of the word. If, when you describe yourself, you can insert “writer, potter, dancer, carver, videographer, knitter, quilter, musician, knife maker, photographer,” or any other art form identifiers you can think of, then you can call yourself an “artist.” Try it; you will be surprised how it feels.

Best of all, you don’t have to be a “professional,”(meaning you get paid to make art), to call yourself an “artist”. You can be working at any level, for fun, for relaxation, for decoration, for stress relief, for learning, or for hopes it might develop into something bigger. We want to help you at all these levels, with instruction, support, promotion, marketing, assistance with finding grants, connections with professional organizations, and introductions to other artists with whom you can learn and grow.

Also, you may have friends who make art and they also may need to be told they can call themselves “artists.” For example, the talented quilter friend you have gotten together with for years to stitch and visit with, the teenager next door who loves to make funny videos for YouTube, your work colleague who takes incredible nature photos, the teacher who puts on amazing plays and musicals for her school, these are all “artists.”

So let them know they are “artists” and let them know about WRAC.

INSIDE:

- Story Telling Magic
- Author Visits
- Writing Workshop
- EMCA Celebrates Year of the Songbird
- and much more!!

WRAC Contact Information

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Phone: (204) 340-0889

Storytelling Concert

On November 2 at 7:30 pm, a sold out audience of 43 people assembled in Lutheran Church in Pinawa for an evening of spellbinding Celtic and Norse stories. The ambiance in the room had been carefully altered to set the mood, with soft chairs, plenty of candles, ornate rug, and lush fabrics spread over furniture. After a call to assemble by Tom Roche, and a warm welcome from event organizer Irene Friesen, Esme Boone played her harps and sang Celtic ballads, Mary Louise Chown told Norse stories of great gods and great loves, and Tom Roche captivated the crowd with vivid tales of long ago days. The audience, ranging in age from teenage to seniors, listened with rapt attention to every word and note. During the break, home baking and delicious teas were served. WRAC thanks the story tellers for their great skills and good humour, and event organizers, Irene Friesen and Karla Haugen for a truly fascinating evening. Audience members said they would love another storytelling concert.

Lac du Bonnet Library News

On November 2, patrons met in the library to listen to writer Ches Carver read from his work. He read a piece called "Contentment," describing his outlook on life in at his riverside home, published in *Experience Lac du Bonnet*. He also read from his two self-published books called Murky Water and Mystery at Bird Lake. After the reading, Ches answered questions and library guests enjoyed his wife Dorothy's delicious cookies and some coffee and other beverages. Ches has his books for sale in various locations around town.

On November 21, the library once again invites people to listen to a local author. Brenda McKenzie from Pinawa will be sharing excerpts from her book, *Loving You*, a novel about a retired couple trying to find help for a family member dealing with dementia.

Member News - Minnedosa Creative Writing Workshop

On November 24, Donna Besel will lead a creative writing workshop in Minnedosa, from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. Cost is \$60.00 per person. Number of participants will be limited to eight. Workshop will be held at Fairmont Bed and Breakfast, owned by Susan Proven, who has offered to provide overnight accommodations and meals for out-of-town guests. On November 25, the group will host a pot-luck lunch and discuss Donna Besel's published writing. Anyone interested can contact her (phone 1-204-345-8513 or email dab3@mymts.net) for more details, and transportation, if needed.

Rural Youth Mentorship Program 2013

Once again, ACI (Creative Manitoba) has asked that Eastman be included in their Rural Youth Mentorship Program. This year, the mentor will be Anita Drabek from Pinawa, a photographer, editor, writer, and visual artist. Pinawa youth, ages 16-24, interested in becoming professional artists, interested specifically in photography or water colour painting, and interested in working on their art, can contact Winnipeg River Arts Council, who will be administering this program. Please see ACI website for guidelines.

TELL ME MORE! TELL ME MORE!

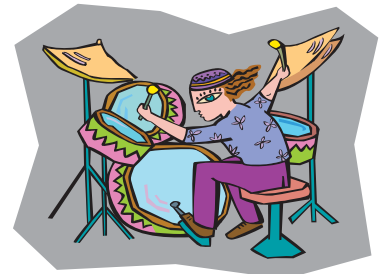
Powerview high school drama class presents “Grease” from Monday, November 19th to Saturday, November 24. Monday to Friday shows (evening) will open doors at 5:15 and curtain call is 6:00. Saturday matinee will open doors at 1:15 and curtain call is 2:00. Tickets will be sold at school office and cost \$8.00. Three casts will play in many roles and each group does an incredible job of bringing their characters to life. Come see Sandy and Danny fall in love, watch the Greasers be cool and enjoy teenage fun from the fifties.

**Please note: script contains adult content. Tickets sell out quickly so get yours today.



CLASSIC ROCK BAND PLAYING IN PINE FALLS

On November 17, Red Rock, a local band will play a WRAC fundraising concert at the Legion. Tickets cost \$10.00. Come out and hear some live music with your friends! Contact Don MacLellan, WRAC President, at 204 367-2627 for more info.



ARTS NEWS AND EVENTS

JOAN THOMAS

NEW AUTHOR IN RESIDENCE AT
THE WINNIPEG PUBLIC LIBRARY
October 2012 to March 2013

THEATRE SEASON STARTS!

Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre
Warehouse Theatre
Manitoba Theatre for Young People
Prairie Theatre Exchange
Theatre Projects
Jewish Theatre

MANITOBA WRITERS GUILD IN DIALOGUE READING SERIES

at Winnipeg Free Press News Café, see
Manitoba Writers' Guild website for lineup

ARTS AND CULTURE DAY AT THE LEG

Thursday, November 13, 2012

WINNIPEG ART GALLERY CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

POWERVIEW STUDENTS WILL TAKE HIGH ROAD (REALLY HIGH ROAD - BY AIRPLANE) TO SCOTLAND

In June, Powerview drama students will travel to the island of Lismore, Scotland as part of a cultural exchange. This trip will happen after the May visit to Powerview by Sadie Dixon-Spain and the Walking Theatre Company who will work with Powerview students on a play about the fur trade and its legacy.

Along with their performances in Scotland, students will sing, hear stories, taste local treats, fish, tour the countryside, make felt, build rafts, visit beaches, explore caves, and meet a rescue dog. Further information regarding this trip can be obtained by contacting Mrs. Kovachik or Mrs. Magnost at the school.



HELP WANTED

As of the September 24 Annual General meeting, WRAC has three vacancies on the board. If you want to make a difference in the arts development of Eastman, please join our board. WRAC also needs volunteers to join the fun subcommittee of **Programs and Partnerships**. With this group, you can meet interesting people and make amazing arts events, workshop and instruction happen. If you would like to make a difference in the future of the arts in Eastman, please share your skills and expertise. Help make partnerships and programs happen! Call Don at 367-2627 for more information or to express your interest in either of these roles.

EMCA'S "YEAR OF THE SONGBIRD" SEASON CONTINUES WITH XMAS SHOW

On Friday, December 7, you can enjoy a "holiday classic" concert with Evie and Jeff Sawatsky. These talented singers will perform vocal treats for the whole family, accompanied by a four piece band.



This is the November view of the big rock outside the windows, on the south wall of Library Allard in St. Georges. What a great place to sit and read!

Pinawa Players Dinner Theatre

November 22, 23 and 24 at the Pinawa Community Centre (performance only November 21).

For more information call 204-753-2389 or visit www.pinawaplayers.com

STOMP! STOMP! STOMP!

On October 12th, the high energy Asham Stompers entertained a crowd at Lac du Bonnet Community Centre. They danced the traditional Aboriginal dances of the Red River, a combination of square dance and jigging. They have performed all over, from Dauphin's Countryfest to the 2010 Winter Olympics and they always look as if they're having a lot of fun. Be sure to check them out if they come again.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

As WRAC continues to develop and gain more members, it becomes increasingly important to provide a central communication link within the region to tie artists, arts organizations and arts enthusiasts together. **WRAC will distribute a monthly newsletter that you will receive via email (or mail if preferred).**

The WRAC newsletter provides a venue for members to share their news. If you have an arts related event, program, product, service or any other opportunity you'd like fellow members to know about, please email your information to Donna Besel, Communications Subcommittee Chair, by the third Friday of each month at dab3@mts.net.