



February 2023

Issue 2



De-Ann Holmes

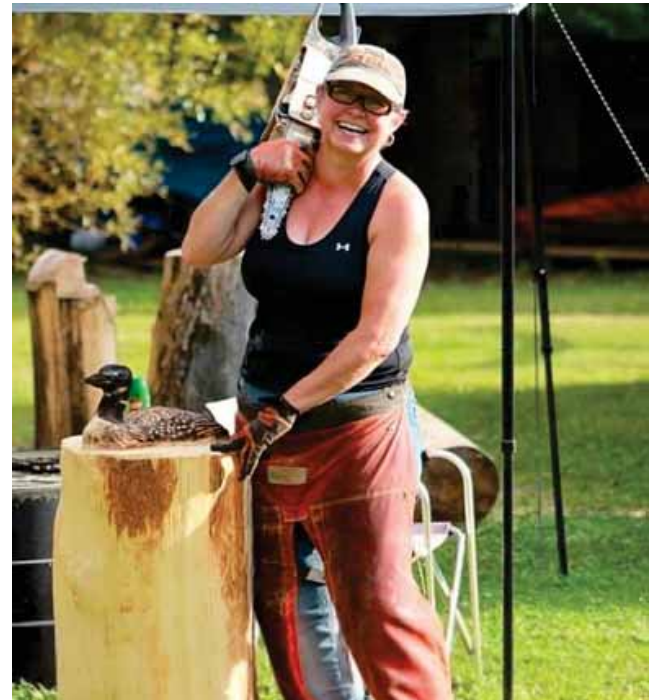
WRAC Featured Artist

For this month, Winnipeg River Arts Council features De-Ann Holmes, a carver who works with both wood and ice. She grew up in Winnipeg's inner city, but now lives at Seddons Corner and has been a resident of the area for twenty-six years. Although she spends a lot of time on her carving, she has a full-time day job at Beausejour Dental Centre and previously served as a councillor in the Rural Municipality of Reynolds.

In the past, Holmes used to create small hand carvings and duck decoys. She was even good enough at small scale wood carving that she won prizes at Prairie Canada competitions. But, at 50 years of age, she picked up a chainsaw and found a new way to express her artistry, and quickly made an impression as a fearless and seriously talented artist.

Her carving styles range from traditional to contemporary and her pieces reflect Canada's wilderness, in both nature and history. Also, as one of the few female carvers in Canada, she really stands out.

A proud Metis, forager, mother, and grandmother to four grandchildren, Holmes has lived in unison with the land for many years.



When asked what inspires her passion for chainsaw carving, she said, "Life!"

Walter Keller, a well-known builder and carver from Elma, taught Holmes the art and basics of chainsaw carving, and Cheryl Laschuk and Ron Jackson taught her how to work on the finer details. At present, she's an established member of the Manitoba chainsaw carving community and her work in this medium is admired across the province and beyond. She said, "I'm blessed to be a part of this crazy carving family."

Holmes has demonstrated her chainsaw skills at Festival du Voyager, 4-P Festival, Ducks Unlimited, and many other events. She said, "I have lots of commissions and requests for my work. I'm busy with grandkids and visits to my mother in Dominion City, but I have more time for carving now, after I decided not to run again as a councillor."

One of her favourite events is Arbour Day, located in city parks such as Kildonan, St.Vital, Assiniboine, and The Forks. She said, "I love this event. Each year, it's held on a Saturday in a different park, and kids show up with their parents. They love watching the arbourists and their machines, and they get to plant trees and participate in all kinds of activities related to trees. Then we do a small chainsaw carving to demonstrate how it's done."

In the upcoming months, she will be featured at a Winnipeg dinner and show sponsored by Fish Futures in May, will be exhibiting her work at Beausejour's Breezy Oaks Carving Bash on Canada Day, and will hang out with world class carvers in Saskatchewan at Manitou Beach's Maple Madness in August. Pictures of her work can be viewed on Pinterest, under "De-Ann Holmes - Carving."

Her motto: "Attempt the absurd; achieve the impossible!"



Assassinating Thomson
Sunday, February 26, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.
\$25.00 - ticket / \$20.00 - ticket for members
Great Falls Community Centre



Assassinating Thomson is a one man play written and performed by Bruce Horak, a well-established theatre and visual artist who lost 90% of his vision after a childhood battle with cancer. In 2011 he wrote and began touring the show. The play is named for an unsolved mystery in Canadian art history - the mysterious drowning in 1917 of Group of Seven precursor and iconic painter Tom Thomson in an Ontario Lake. The mystery takes you from the tiny community of Canoe Lake to our nation's capital, and eventually to the world stage. Art, politics, greed, ambition, love and murder are intertwined. Tom Thomson's story is a tangled one, but we're in the hands of a brilliant storyteller. Bruce captures the mystery in a stunning monologue about Canadian art and artists, and during the performance he also paints a group portrait of the audience before him.

Email Deb at winnipegriverarts@gmail.com or call 204-340-0889 for tickets.



"Artist Corner" . . .



"Calling All Artists"

- 1) Would you be interested in giving paint classes in Lac du Bonnet in the spring.

For more information email
winnipegriverarts@gmail.com and/or call
204-340-0889

and/or

- 2) Would you like to be part of a fundraiser to support Winnipeg River Arts Council & have the opportunity to showcase your art piece on one of the eight two-inch slabs approximately ten inches in diameter? It will be spring/summer special event. For more information email Deb at winnipegriverarts@gmail.com or call at 204-340-0889.



Please join Winnipeg River Arts Council in congratulating Donna Besel with regards to her new position as the Manitoba Arts Network Board Member, Eastman Regional Rep.

Donna Besel loves writing of all kinds, and does presentations for schools, libraries, universities, conferences, and retreats. Her work has gained recognition from CBC Literary Awards (three times), won national contests, and appeared in literary journals, magazines, and anthologies. A collection of short stories, "Lessons from a Nude Man," earned nominations for various awards and a spot-on McNally Robinson Booksellers' annual bestseller list. In 2021, Manitoba Arts Council awarded her their Rural Recognition Prize (worth \$10,000.00) to acknowledge her writing career. It also recognized her volunteer work to promote the arts in Eastman and develop the Winnipeg River Arts Council. In the same year, University of Regina Press published "The Unravelling: Incest and the Destruction of a Family." For seven years, along with author Lauren Carter, she has organized and hosted "Wild Writing in the Boreal," an annual retreat for women writers, held at Falcon Trails Resort in Whiteshell Provincial Park. The forests of Eastern Manitoba, where she has always lived, provide endless ideas and settings for her "boreal stories."



Grant Writing 101

Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2023
Location: Online - ZOOM meeting
Time: 2pm - 3:30pm CST

Grant Writing 101 for Tourism Businesses
FREE Workshop

Gain tips and tricks on how to ensure you have the best chance of being successful in your future fundraising efforts. All workshop participants will also have the unique chance for a free 1:1 consultation with the trainer to discuss their individual questions and scenarios.



THE GALLERY

Located in the picturesque town of Pinawa, Manitoba, Pinawa Art Gallery showcases the work of local artists from Pinawa and surrounding areas. Our artists range from novice to emerging and established artists. Our interests are just as diverse as the mediums we choose and include: painting (oil, acrylic and watercolour), pottery and sculpting, photography, fibre art and jewelry.

We welcome visitors to drop by, have a cup of coffee* and a chat, or just browse. If you're looking for more, it's a great place to find unique artwork or pottery for your home or cottage as well as one-of-a-kind pieces of jewelry and fashion accessories. We also offer a range of art and photography cards....beautiful for giving or framing. Want a souvenir from your trip or a memory of the area? We're kind of known for that!



Pinawa Art Gallery

We are located at
24 Aberdeen Ave in the WB
Lewis Business Centre in
Pinawa, MB.

When heading east on Hwy
211, turn right at the big ART
GALLERY sign at the first
entrance to the town.
Continue down Aberdeen
until you arrive at the
Business Centre.

The gallery is at the south
end of the building, second
entrance to the building off
the road.

EMAIL:

pag211inpinawa@gmail.com

PHONE: (204) 340-3404

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 456, Pinawa, MB,
R0E 1L0

*We offer local, artisan-roasted,
specialty coffee from Trail's End.
Enjoy a cup with friends in the
gallery or take some home to
brew!

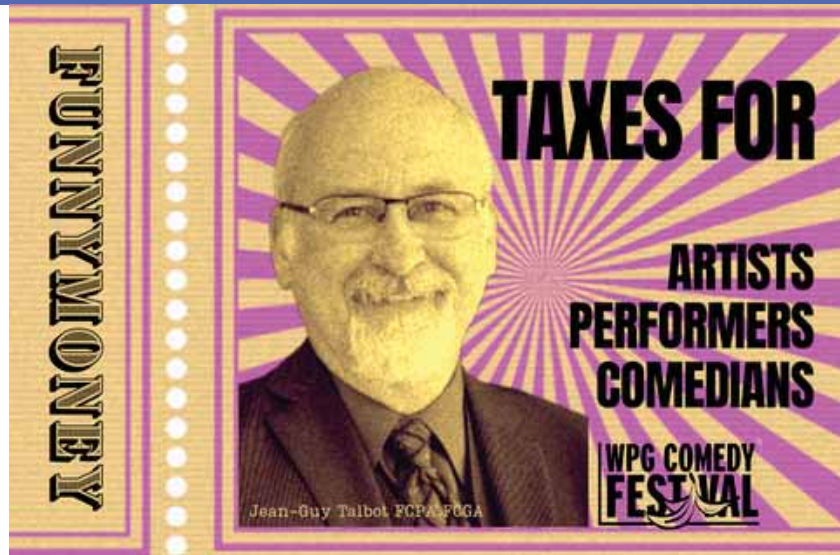


245 McDermot Ave #300, Winnipeg
Phone: (204) 927-2787
www.creativemanitoba.ca

Business of Comedy:
Funny Money – Taxes for Artists,
Performers and Comedians!
Wednesday, Feb 15, 6-8pm | Online

An accountant walks into a bar...It's
that time of year folks! TAX SEASON is upon us!

As an Artist, Performer, or Comedian you may be self-employed, work as an employee in a 'real' job, or your creative acts may be your side hustle while you're waiting for your big break. Whether it's a contract, a day gig, work or services you've provided for a business, client, or audience, or you may have received a grant or cheque for royalties, you are going to want to know how to keep more of what you earned and pay less taxes.



Creative Writing with Richard Van Camp
Sunday, March 5, 1:00-2:30pm | Online

Come and learn a few new tricks for writing great fiction from best-selling author Richard Van Camp. In our time together, Richard will show you how to design characters and give them conflict to reveal who they truly are. Richard will also share his knowledge about the publishing industry!

Come and join us as we explore the joy and business of writing!.

About the Presenter

Richard Van Camp is an international award winning renowned storyteller and best-selling author. He is a proud member of the Dogrib (Tlicho) Nation from Fort Smith, NWT, Canada from Fort Smith, NWT, who has written 26 books in 26 years.

URBAN SHAMAN

CONTEMPORARY ABORIGINAL ART

290 McDermot Ave, Winnipeg,
Phone: (204) 942-2674
www.urbanshaman.org



Da 4 Seasons - Brennan Mckay **January 13, 2023 to February 25, 2023**

Brennan McKay is a 2-spirit individual from the Minegoziibi Nation of Manitoba. He is a self-taught photographer and has been a Jigger and Square dancer from the age of 13 years. He has performed with multiple groups over the years. Brennan received his first digital camera at the age of 10 but it wasn't until 2019, after graduating from CDI College's Social Media Marketing that his interest in photography was reborn. Brennan loves traveling and capturing the landscape views of Turtle Island throughout the 4 seasons.

Artistic Statement

During the pandemic, Brennan was inspired to cycle around the city and found several nature spots throughout Winnipeg. It was the natural beauty of these hidden gems that had an enormous influence on him to be a photographer.

While capturing images, Brennan had the idea to combine his love of photography with the revitalization of Indigenous languages. In February of 2021 Brennan started "Word of the Day", a nine-month Anishinabe (Ojibwe) and Nehiyawak (Cree) social media language revitalization campaign, as part of The Speech Act Project.

In each language there is a differing philosophy between meaning, the constitution of sentences, concepts, learning, thoughts, references and intentionality. In philosophy of language and linguistics, a speech act is something expressed by an individual that not only presents information but performs an action as well.

"Out in nature, in the real world, away from people, being present in the natural world is the greatest learning space for any language. Seeing the plants and trees, hearing the wind, the sound of the wildlife in its environment relaxes the human mind and soul. It is hoped that transitioning the gallery into a nature space will enhance your ability to learn our Indigenous languages. Being in nature brings peace, being in the right environment, on the land, is the best way to learn languages." -Brennan Mckay

Lac du Bonnet REGIONAL LIBRARY

Check out our Black History Month display. Something for all reading levels at the Lac du Bonnet Regional Library!



NOWW presents...
25th Annual International Writing Contest

THIS YEAR'S JUDGES:

 MICHELLE GOOD Short Fiction	 GEORGE MURRAY Poetry	 ELISABETH DE MARIAFFI Crime Fiction
 LAUREN CARTER Bill MacDonald Prize	 DONNA BESEL Creative Non-Fiction	 SHAUN HATTON Literary Critical Writing

SIX CATEGORIES. \$1,800 IN CASH PRIZES
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT NOWWWRITERS.CA

noww
Northwestern Ontario Writers Workshop


ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO
an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario



104086, MB-11, St-Georges
Phone: (204) 367-8443



LOVE TO READ MONTH
IN FEBRUARY



- FILL A BAG OF BOOKS FOR \$3.00
- WEEKLY BOOK DRAWS
- IN HOUSE GAME FOR THE KIDS!



There is a new story featured along the Storywalk!

The Mitten is a Ukrainian folktale, adapted and illustrated by Jan Brett. In this cute story, Nicki drops his white mitten in the snow, and goes on without realizing that it is missing. One by one, woodland animals find the mitten and crawl in; first a curious mole, then a rabbit, a badger and others, each one larger than the last.



The Beauhead Arts Fest will be back again this year! And we are doubling the fun with a two day event instead of one. Save the date for August 26 & 27. Local area artists let those creative juices flow. We will be opening registration up for this one of a kind art event soon!! Stay tuned for more information or email beauheadartsfest@gmail.com.

Friday, February 10th

EMCA

MANITOBA ARTS COUNCIL CONSEIL DES ARTS DU MANITOBA

arts network

Brennans' Bounty

Fri, Feb. 10th, 7:30 pm | Pinawa Community Centre
Get ready for a 7 person band to entertain you with
Country and Bluegrass!

February is Black History Month

Every February, people across Canada participate in Black History Month events and festivities that honour the legacy of Black people in Canada and their communities.

The 2023 theme for Black History Month is: "Ours to tell". This theme represents both an opportunity to engage in open dialogue and a commitment to learning more about the stories Black communities in Canada have to tell about their histories, successes, sacrifices and triumphs.

No matter where you live, we invite all Canadians to learn more about these communities, and how they continue to help shape Canadian history.

