



Newsletter 2024 Issue 4

Fire & Water MUSIC FESTIVAL

WRAC FEATURED ARTIST

FIRE AND WATER FESTIVAL
LISTENING ROOM

For this month, Winnipeg River Arts Council features Lac du Bonnet's Fire and Water Music Festival. Held on the August long weekend, this annual event showcases a varied program of unique, high-quality performers, including some of the best music Manitoba has to offer. Along with attracting people from across the region and far-flung places, it provides a chance for artistic collaborations and a boost to the local economy.



The festival's roots can be linked to the Old Pinawa Dam Jam, a music festival held in 1997, at what is now known as Pinawa Dam Provincial Heritage Park. Some key organizers of that event, which ran for 2 years, included Victor Lange, Rudy Klassen, Karen Augustine, Sean Keith, Anthony Kost, Clint Chaboyer and Claude Deveau.



In 2007, Sheldon Sveinson and several local volunteers initiated a rebirth of the Dam Jam and created the Fire and Water Music Festival. The newborn version emerged on a small Third Street stage in Lac du Bonnet, during the Canada Day weekend. For thirteen years, this festival, held in and around the Lac du Bonnet Community Centre, presented a variety of musical acts, related artistic events, and markets.



In 2019, Marie Hiebert took over, with help from a totally new board of directors and “old” volunteers. They put on the last festival held behind the community centre. For the next two years, they staged smaller events, just enough to keep the organization alive.

In 2022, the board decided to relocate to the former site of the Lakers’ Water Ski Club. This spot proved to be a better fit, with access to the river, trees and grass surfaces, and more room for parking, stages, food trucks, vendors, tents, and children’s activities.

Hiebert said, “We have no paid staff. We are a hard working group, consisting of a board of directors and over 100 other volunteers. We put in approximately 2000 hours of time to ensure high quality music programming for the weekend and throughout the year.”



Fire and Water is funded and supported by various government agencies, the RM and Town of Lac du Bonnet, and numerous local businesses and volunteer groups. There are no membership requirements and the event(s) are open to the general public.

“Throughout the year, the festival hosts open mic sessions at the St. John’s Heritage Church,” Hiebert said. “And we present a concert series, three to five times a year, bringing in musical performances from far and wide,”

Stated goals include: promote and support Manitoba artists, strengthen and grow each year, provide cutting edge, high-quality programming, and entice audience members to discover amazing artists at a family friendly and inclusive outdoor festival.

In the future, Fire and Water wants to attract 600 -1000 people through the gates, become more self-sufficient with stable revenues, own more of its own equipment and physical assets, increase pre-sales, and commit to ongoing planning for the future.



AUGUST 2ND - 4TH, 2024
STAY TUNED
WE ARE WORKING ON DETAILS!
Fire and Water Music Festival



Looking ahead to next summer's event, Hiebert said, "Our board transition this year is really exciting. We have a great year planned with a new marketing strategy and, of course, a fantastic line-up. We book mainly Manitoba talent and try to stay as local as possible. And we are very aware of the wide range of talent right here in the Winnipeg River area. Currently we are working on additions to Sunday's program that will be super cool, and we have new and fun food trucks. Another feature of our festival is that camping (tents and RV's) is so close to the site, a joy in itself."



Falcon Trails Resort is happy to announce that we are hosting the 5th annual Wild Writing in the Boreal, Women's Writing Retreat Weekend this April 19-22,

FALCON
TRAILS
RESORT



Renowned authors Donna Besel and Lauren Carter are leading the sessions along with guest author Lorri Neilsen Glenn.

This class is open to anyone who identifies as a woman and is interested in exploring, exercising and developing their writing skills.

The retreat will begin on Friday evening and run through to mid Sunday afternoon. The price includes your cabin stay for the weekend (with an option to stay for the Sunday evening at no additional charge), a dinner on Friday evening, 3 meals on Saturday, 2 meals on Sunday, and all of the writing support with your leaders.

Sunday evening we will host a book launch by Lorri Neilsen Glenn celebrating her hybrid memoir, *The Old Moon in Her Arms*.

Triple cabin occupancy - \$640.00 (or 4 people for the Boreal Lodge)

Double cabin occupancy - \$700.00

To reserve your space for this workshop please contact Stephanie at groups@falcontrailsresort.com or by calling 204-792-0893



Winnipeg River Arts is hosting EJAE this June



 **Calling All Artists**

Eastman Furiel Art Exhibition

2024

June 1, 2024
Great Falls Hall, Great Falls, MB

*For more information visit the Winnipeg River Arts Website at
www.winnipegriverarts.com*

manitoba **arts**
network

Please call 204-340-0889 or email
winnipegriverarts@gmail.com to receive a
package with all the details



Office Space Available

Now Renting | Starting April 1

Attention small organizations seeking a cozy yet functional workspace! Your search ends here! We have the perfect space to rent, ideal for three to five people to establish an office. With plenty of natural light, this secure unit is divided into four parts, including two closed rooms accessible via elegant french doors and a larger area segmented by a pony wall, suitable for administration or collaborative projects.

Don't let our suggestions hamper your imagination though, this is a great space with shared kitchen and reception amenities, suitable for a range of activities! Please visit our website to get our monthly rental rates and find out more about this excellent space.

<https://creativemanitoba.ca/rentals-245-mcdermot/>

Moons and Mosaics Workshop



**Sunday, April 21st
2-5 p.m.**

**L.d.B Youth Recreation Centre
55 McArthur Ave
Lac du Bonnet, MB**

Join us for another magical Moon and Mosaic Workshop and discover the Anishinaabe Thirteen Moon Teachings with Indigenous Knowledge Keeper, Diane Maytwayashing.

Contribute to LdBSS' Mosaic Moon Teaching Tables project by collaborating with local artists, Annie Bergen and Serene Alexander, to create Maple Sugar Moon, Sucker Fish Moon, and Corn Moon mosaics.

Enjoy a snack and foster friendships as we gather to experience culture, connection, and creativity.

We look forward to sharing this experience with you.

R.S.V.P. ausackis@sunrisesd.ca



In Partnership With
Manitoba Arts Council, Winnipeg River Arts Council, Lac Du Bonnet Senior School



BUZZ BRASS



Lips may be great for kissing, but combined with expert breath control, they're **DYNAMITE** for producing the most exciting and wonderful music! This splendid globe-trotting brass quintet has been doing just that for over 20 years, piling up awards all along the way. With their amazing range of styles, from light Classical to Gershwin to Folk, clever fast-paced arrangements and amusing stories/introductions, you'll be captivated by the **VERY BEST** of everything! They're in huge demand, so no matter what your age or musical preferences, get up off your Brass for this top-quality group!

<https://www.emcaconcerts.com/events/buzz-brass>

Friday, April 19TH, 2024
Pinawa Community Centre - 20 Vanier Ave

Doors open: 6:45 pm
Show starts: 7:30 pm

Individual tickets subject to availability.
Tickets are \$15 - \$30 each

To get tickets:

- **Visit the website www.emcaconcerts.com**
- **Purchase at the Pinawa Solo**
- **Call 204-213-0290**



The 2024 Provincial Budget:
A Historic Investment in Arts and Culture

Manitobans for the Arts, on behalf of the vibrant community of patrons, artists, and arts and culture organizations, extend our thanks to the Province of Manitoba for the significant investment announced in Budget 2024. The 10.3% increase to funding for culture and heritage programs, including more than \$4.5 million in new funding for the arts, culture, and sports sectors, marks a historic investment in the things that enrich the everyday lives of Manitobans and connect communities.

The allocation of significant new funding to the Manitoba Arts Council, Manitoba Film and Music, the Manitoba Centennial Centre Corporation, and Le centre culturel franco-manitobain (CCFM), among others, represents a real shift towards a fair and inclusive support system that mirrors our province's diverse demographics. It not only promises to enhance the sustainability and growth of existing organizations but also paves the way for nurturing future generations of artists and cultural contributors.

As we celebrate this investment, Manitobans for the Arts looks forward to collaborating with the provincial government, our members, and all stakeholders to make sure these resources are used effectively to foster a healthy and vibrant community. And, as the creative sector continues to recover, we will keep advocating for additional operating funding with the goal of doubling arts funding in Manitoba and for the creation of a revamped capital fund for major improvements.

We thank Premier Wab Kinew, Minister of Finance Adrian Sala and Minister of Sport, Culture, Heritage, and Tourism Glen Simard for their commitment to strengthening our communities through the power of arts and culture.



Artist Submissions Now Open!

Apply Now to Perform at the 2024 Manitoba Showcase

Manitoba Showcase is an annual visual & performing arts conference that features some of the best Canadian artists from a wide range of genres, connecting them with future opportunities and collaboration with 150 delegates.

Selected by a jury, artists will perform for an audience of arts presenters seeking to bring artists to their communities. In addition to booking their own seasons, presenters from Manitoba & Northwest Ontario often turn to MAN to help coordinate block booking tours, sharing resources and extending touring possibilities for artists.

[Apply Here](#)

EAST BEACHES SOCIAL SCENE

Writing Memoirs and Stories from Your Life

Have you ever wanted to write about your life before it gets forgotten? How can you get started and keep going, to record your stories or give children and grandchildren the gift of family memories?

Sessions will include: writing exercises and tips, challenging discussions, imagination-openers. Find fun and inspiration in our memoir writing class.

Date: Thursday, May 16th

Time: 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Cost: \$55/person

Donna Besel:

Donna 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.

Her two books, a collection of short stories and a memoir, were both bestsellers at McNally Robinson Bookstore. In 2021, Manitoba Arts Council awarded her their Rural Recognition Prize to acknowledge her writing career and volunteer work to promote the arts. The forests of Eastern Manitoba, where she has always lived, provided endless ideas and settings for her "boreal stories".



Lac du Bonnet REGIONAL LIBRARY



Hours of Operation

MONDAY	CLOSED
TUESDAY	10:30 AM - 7:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	10:30 AM - 5:00 PM
THURSDAY	10:30 AM - 7:00 PM
FRIDAY	10:30 AM - 5:00 PM
SATURDAY	10:30 AM - 2:30 PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED

PINAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY HOURS

Sunday:	1 PM - 4 PM
Monday:	6:30 PM - 9 PM
Tuesday - Thursday:	9 AM - 4 PM and 6:30 PM - 9 PM
Friday:	9 AM - 4 PM
Saturday:	Closed

April Showers 2024 with THE PINAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Volunteer Appreciation Week April 14th - April 20

Did you know that the library has 30+ volunteers that help make our library the library with the highest circulation in our region? Seriously...we LOVE all you do to make us as awesome as we are!

LOOKING BACK AT MARCH!

A MAGICAL MUNSCH EVENT!
Thank you so much to Karl for reading and all the kids for participating in a super-fun, extra hilarious, massive-fantastic, Robert Munsch Story Time.



STORY WALK
The Story Walk has a new, fabulous, book about *The First Notes of Spring* by Jessica Kulekjian. Throw on your splash pants and rubber boots and help us wake up SPRING!



FEATURING OUR AWESOME KID LIBRARIAN(S) FOR MARCH!
A huge thank you to the Ikonen family for sharing their favourite books with us and being our first, ever, kid librarians! Want to be the kid librarian for April? Stop in and apply!

EASTER STORY TIME and ACTIVITIES
Easter might have been a wee bit early this year, but we still managed to capture the spirit of the bunny!



SPRING AHEAD TO APRIL

April 2nd - 7PM - Kelly Leask
Cofounder of the Winnipeg Wildflower Project and owner of Prairie Originals in Selkirk, will join us to share her knowledge about Establishing Native Plant Gardens in Public spaces. Come and learn more about how we can grow and support our pollinator population!

April 23rd - 7PM - Book Club Meeting
Register soon for our next Book Club meeting with our new book "The Mountain Story" by Lori Lansens. We only have a couple spaces left!

April 5th - 6:30 PM - Bluey Story Time
Join our student librarians as they go down under to share stories about our favourite Aussie pup Bluey and Bingo. Wear your best Bluey-themed attire.

April 6th - 10:30 - 12:30 PM - Book Club
Drop-in, eat some snacks, and build yourself up with our monthly LCC club. There's no need to feel blue this month!

April 19th - 2pm - Earth Day Story Time
Looking for ways to spend your April PD day? Come to the library and explore the wonders of earth and how you can celebrate our home planet.

April 28th - 2pm - April Shower Story Time
Help us bring the May Flowers by stopping in to read, paint flower pots and plant seeds.

(204) 756-2043



ALLARD LIBRARY
Bibliothèque Allard Regional Library
Discover the Possibilities!

Hours of Operation:

Tuesdays 10:30 to 5
Wednesdays and Thursdays Noon to 8
Fridays Noon to 5
Saturdays 11 to 4:30

LIBRARY ALLARD'S
Make your own Gnome!
Workshop

SAT, MAY 4TH
1:00-3:30PM
\$30 FOR
2 GNOMES
register at allardlibrary.com

Victoria Beach Branch

204-756-2043
victoriabeachbranch@allardlibrary.com

Lower Level, East Beaches Social Scene
3 Ateah Road
Victoria Beach, MB R0E 2C0

Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 10 to 2
During summer hours, the branch is open on
Saturdays 10 to 4 (between May long weekend
and until September long weekend)