



PLRAC arts beat

"Shaping Today, Inspiring Tomorrow"

April/May 2007

TUMBLER RIDGE CELEBRATES

Arts and Culture Week

Each year the Assembly of BC Arts promotes a week-long celebration of arts and culture across BC. Tumbler Ridge has been active in this province-wide initiative for many years.

Please come out and support the events the Tumbler Ridge Community Arts Council advocates, in joint effort with the District of Tumbler Ridge and several other partners. BC Arts and Culture Week is officially April 23-28, but TR kicks it off early.

Java Jive Coffee House: April 14, Community Centre Room 5 - Come and enjoy the local musicians and vocalists in town. \$2 admission.

TR Junior Idol: April 21, Community Centre - Kids aged 5-18 vocally compete in several age categories.

Tumbler Ridge Artists: This visual arts group creates with and for the community in a yet to be announced project benefiting Tumbler Ridge.

Quilter's Show: The Ridge Ripper Quilt Guild have beautiful quilts that they work on throughout the year. Quilts will be on display either in room 3 or within the gallery space during Arts & Culture Week.

Art History of Euphemia McNaught: An artist who has captured the earliest impressions of the Tumbler Ridge area. This is the starting point for a larger, more extensive display of her work. This is a joint effort with the Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation.

Youth Artists: This creative group of young people have spent a year working on different mediums. Tumbler Ridge Community Arts Council celebrates their initiative in developing their artistic selves.

WRITING AND WALKING STICKS WEEKEND

If you have an interest in writing and the outdoors, the Tumbler Ridge and Chetwynd Public Libraries have partnered to offer workshops on May 25th - May 27th at Guillim Lake Outdoor Education Centre that will simultaneously address both those interests.

The writing workshops will target four genres: non-fiction, poetry, song and travel while the backcountry skills workshops will include reading topographic maps, bear awareness, trip preparation and no trace camping.

The location also offers recreational opportunities for hiking, canoeing and outdoor activities. The intention of the weekend is

to have more people comfortable and excited about writing about their experiences on the land, and in building skill levels for traveling through the backcountry in this extraordinarily beautiful region. The fee for the entire weekend is \$50.00 per person and that includes accommodation and meals!

Funding support for this weekend has come from the Paul Dampier Endowment Fund/NLC Foundation, Chetwynd Community Arts Council, Tumbler Ridge Arts Council, Peace-Liard Regional Arts Council, and The Canada Council for the Arts. For more information contact Michele Burton at (250)242-4778, or Marcie Fofonoff at (250)788-2559.

PHYSICAL THEATRE PROGRAMS THRIVE REGIONALLY

GREEN FOOLS PHYSICAL THEATRE SOCIETY OFFERS CIRCUS NORTH PROGRAMS



CHETWYND

For the fifth year in a row, for five full afternoons after school Chetwynd and area youth will have fun and focus with the Green Fools Physical Theatre Society. This program has received on-going support from the Chetwynd Community Arts Council along with numerous other partners including the District of Chetwynd, Sauleau First Nations and West Moberly First Nations, and produced numerous performers. Chetwynd youth have gone on to perform in Ft. St. John at the Trade Show, in Tumbler Ridge, in Hudson's Hope, at Moberly Lake and are accustomed to being

called upon in Chetwynd.

This year, with support from the Chetwynd Community Arts Council, and Northern Lights College Foundation, we are on the cusp of finalizing logistics to bring a costume design workshop to the area.

The tentative date for the workshop is for the first weekend in May with either Marina Szijarto, or an instructor from Public Dreams Society. The workshop is open to everyone in the region, and it presents an opportunity to have the public performances of Circus North go up a notch in terms of theatrics.

Check out www.msdeamnour.ca or www.publicdreams.org for more information on the facilitators.

With limited spaces for participants contact Marcie Fofonoff at (250)788-2685, for more information, or to register, as soon as you can.

DAWSON CREEK

The South Peace Community Arts Council is pleased to announce that Green Fools Theatre Co. from Calgary, AB will be offering the Circus North Workshop here in Dawson Creek during the week of April 16-20. This after school workshop, located in the South Peace Secondary School Gymnasium is for all students, ages 11-18, who are interested in developing skills in the circus arts and is full of fun exercises and professional training including juggling, acrobatics, stilt walking, unicycle riding, costuming, gigantic puppetry, and interactive clowning. You really don't have to run away from home to join the circus! Join today by enrolling at the DC Art Gallery or call 782-2601. Enrollment fee is just \$20.00.

FACE PAINTING WORKSHOP

The South Peace Community Arts Council will also be offering a Face Painting Workshop with artist Shannon Fennel on Sunday April 15 at the Dawson Creek Art Gallery from 9am to 4pm.

\$35 registration costs include a face painting pallet. For ages 12+. Phone the Art Gallery for more information at 782-2601.



Peace-Liard Regional Arts Council *Shaping Today - Inspiring Tomorrow*

DAWSON CREEK COMMEMORATES LAINE DAHLEN

Throughout an artist's career a number of experiences can have a profound influence on their life in general and their work in particular. Central to those experiences can be the presence of a mentor that will lead the artist through the fundamental considerations: the materials, the techniques, the styles, and the ability to see and feel your subject matter in a new and innovative way.

The Dawson Creek Art Gallery has chosen to honour Laine Dahlen, for inspiring many artists throughout his 30 years at Northern Lights College in the



"Under the Influence" drawing by Donna Kane

Visual and Graphic Communication Arts program. Laine also taught programs in Fairview and throughout the BC Peace Region. Past students were invited to submit work to a "retrospective" exhibit in which they could express the various ways his mentorship has inspired their creativity. The work that comprised this exhibit draws from the worlds of the imagined to the real, the representational to the illusory. In addition, many of the students donated pieces to a permanent collection started by the Art Gallery for Northern Lights College.

ARTIST ALERT: DEADLINE LOOMING

Attention Visual Artists: The deadline for the 2007 Peace-Liard Regional Juried Art Exhibit is approaching quickly! This year, the show is hosted by the Phoenix Theatre in Fort Nelson, and your original art is welcome.

Artist Carrie Klukas from Grande Prairie, Alberta is the juror for the show, and the cash prizes are substantial, with a \$1000 Distinguished Award, a \$500 Recognition Award, a \$200 Student Award, all sponsored by EnCana, and a People's Choice Award sponsored by the host committee.

Deadline for entries is April 18, and all work must be received in Fort Nelson by May 4. If you have not received your call for entry by mail, visit the PLRAC web site www.peaceliardarts.org or phone 782-2601 to have one sent to you.

CHETWYND'S PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Laura Filgate and the students of Chetwynd Secondary School are transforming the community of Chetwynd with public art.

Heartfelt Exploration, a project funded by the Chetwynd Community Arts Council and ArtStarts in Schools took place in early March under the direction of guest artist Robin Wiltse. Students not only created felted pieces for themselves but also pieced together large format felted art pieces that will be displayed in public buildings in the community.

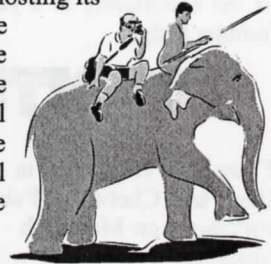
This project follows the very successful floor cloth project, and the installation of mosaics throughout the community. As you drive through Chetwynd the vibrant mural on the East wall of the Thrift Store was also created by the students.

Art from the school also has transformed the waiting area and halls of the local hospital, and new mosaics will also be produced for the Healing Garden project to be installed on the hospital grounds this summer.



OUT OF AFRICA ART AUCTION

The Dawson Creek Art Gallery will be hosting its 26th annual Art Auction on May 4th at the Kiwanis Arts Centre. Each year the gallery themes this event and this year the auction will be "Out of Africa". Local South Africans will be providing the authentic cuisine and over 60 pieces will be offered on the live auction block. The evening will also include silent auction, entertainment, and good fun.



M-K TOURS REGION

The Muskwa-Kechika Artist Camp show will open in Fort St. John on April 4th at the North Peace Art Gallery and in Fort Nelson on May 11th at the Northern Lights College campus. The show features the work of the 14 artists who attended last summer's Muskwa-Kechika Artist Exploration Camp.

Applications to this year's artist camp are now being received. For an application or further information, please visit <http://www.donnakane.com/communityevents-mkcamps.php>.

LITERARY EVENTS

Acclaimed and much-loved poets Lorna Crozier and Patrick Lane will read at the Dawson Creek Art Gallery on May 16th and in Hudson's Hope on May 17th. Support for the readings has been provided by the Canada Council for the Arts. For further information on these readings, please contact Donna Kane at dkane@nlc.bc.ca.