

HELP WANTED

Are you passionate about the Arts?

Your skills and experience can strengthen the Arts and Cultural activity in this community.

The Fort St. John Community Arts Council is seeking an **Executive Director.**

The role of this position will involve:

- Delivery of Arts Council programs and events.
- Day to day management of the Arts Council office.
- Updating the Arts Council website.
- Compilation, printing and distribution of "The Reflection" newsletter.
- Liaise with community groups regarding local arts and culture activity.
- Distribution of minutes and reports of board meetings.

The position is open to someone with experience working in fine arts, communications, media, languages or music, or has experience working in the non-profit sector or other management position. A previous connection with the arts would be an asset.

The start date for this position will be April 16, 2007 at the earliest.

The position is 20 hours/week at \$20/hour.

Please fax, e-mail or send resume to:

Fort St. John Community Arts Council, Box 6474, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4H9
Fax 250-787-9781, fsjarts@telus.net.

The closing date for applications for this position will be March 28, 2007.

The FSJ Arts Council thanks all applicants in advance; however only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

NEWS MARCH 14, 2007



"Shaping Today, Inspiring Tomorrow"

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ANews Fri, MAR 16, 2007

ARTS

Movies that strike a chord

The art of depicting artists in film

I've been told on a few occasions that when you're an artist, you're worth more dead than alive. It must be true since yet another of Andy Warhol's Marilyn Monroe screen prints was just auctioned off for millions of dollars once again.

There also seems to be a growing interest in film depictions of artists that have long since shuffled off the mortal coil. From last year's *Fur: An Imaginary Portrait of Diane Arbus*, to the upcoming *Goya's Ghosts*, it seems as though filmmakers are eager to share their vision of how certain artists lived their lives and what made them tick when it came to their art.

One such film portrays one of my favorite painters and does an amazing job of telling her story. *Frida*

(2002), which won two academy awards, is about Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, and the trials and tribulations that made up her life.

From the accident that left her unable to have children and nearly crippled, to her tumultuous relationship with artist and philanderer, Diego Rivera, this film combines Kahlo's very personal paintings with live action as they blend seamlessly into the film, using them as a set-up point for each stage of her life.

Chronicling the accident, her marriage to Rivera, her miscarriage, even her death, *Frida* is one of the better representations of how much one can sacrifice in order to get where they want.

Not to neglect a male artist, this film is on many people's top ten list as the number one movie about an

artist; it is the portrayal of Jackson "Jack the Dripper" Pollock in the aptly titled *Pollock* (2000). Many believed that Ed Harris should have won the Best Actor Oscar that he was nominated for for his interpretation of Pollock that he spent ten years preparing for.

This film focuses on the hard work Pollock put into his unique drip paintings, and how they were his only reprieve from his unhappy, bipolar, and hung-over existence. But despite Pollock's apparent depression, the film is not; it has all the hype and buzz surrounding the New York art scene in the years after the Second World War. Any fan of Pollock's work should see this movie if they haven't done so already.

Honorable mentions go to *Basquiat* (1996) which semi-followed the rise and fall of 'primitive' graffiti artist Jean-Michel Basquiat as he made his way through the drug soaked 1980s New York art scene. It also has David Bowie playing Andy

Warhol – what more could you want?

Vincent and Theo (1990) receives a plug here as well for showing us the hardships Vincent Van Gogh faced as he struggled to become a famous artist, while his brother Theo became a success as an art dealer with a name in the art world – the irony of which is the opening scene of the movie, where Van Gogh's painting 'Sunflowers' is auctioned off for \$15 million.

You can't help but feel for Vincent when watching his frustration, especially when you know that he will be the one to be remembered when all is said and done.

For another cinematic treat, be sure to come out to Monday Night at the Movies, brought to us by the Fort St. John Film Society. This month's film will be *The Queen*, which shows us how the death of Princess Diana affected the members of the Royal Family. This great film will be shown on April 16, at 7 p.m. at the Aurora Cinema.

Pipeline to the Arts

ART EXHIBITIONS

- The Peace Arts Gallery Society 2007 Art Auction, "Hidden Treasures," April 21, 6 p.m. Quality Inn Northern Grand.

FILM

- Monday Night at the Movies, *The Queen*, April 16, 7 p.m., Aurora Cinema.

THEATRE

- Stage North Theatre Society presents *The Monument*, May 3, 4 and 5, 7 p.m., North Peace Cultural Centre.

DANCE

- Studio 2 Stage presents their Spring Dance Recital, April 22, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., North Peace Cultural Centre.

MUSIC

- North Peace Community Choir, April 26, 7 p.m., North Peace Cultural Centre.
- The Kin Club of Fort St. John presents RockIN' The Peace, April 28, 7 p.m., North Peace Cultural Centre.

FESTIVALS

- The Peace River North Performing Arts Festival, April 12-21, North Peace Cultural Centre.

Aleisha Hendry



STATE OF THE ARTS



FLOWER POTS TO HIT THE STREETS AGAIN THIS YEAR

At left: Nadine Kan touches up one of last year's pots to get ready for the 7th Annual Flower Pot Project, a joint venture between the Fort St. John Community Arts Council and Ecole Central Elementary School. Every year, hand-painted flower pots line 100 St and 100 Ave as a way to help beautify Fort St. John

Above: Stacks and stacks of flower pots are being washed and touched up so that they're ready to show off to the public.



BOOKMARK ART

Celebrating BC Arts and Culture week (April 22-28) in Fort St. John, the Fort St. John Community Arts Council gave bookmarks showing artwork created by eight local visual artists. The artwork was created as part of the Art that Moves You program launched in 2006, which featured artwork panels displayed on the side of city buses. New artwork will soon be displayed as part of Art that Moves You 2007. (L-R) Janice Closson of the Fort St. John Library receives the bookmarks from arts council members Aleisha Hendry, Chandra Wong and Lisa Bush.

New executive director named for arts council

By Melanie Robinson

FORT ST JOHN —

Former Northeast NEWS reporter Chandra Wong has a new job.

This week, Wong will take over the position of the new executive director of the Fort St. John Community Arts Council, replacing Laurie Petrucci, who held the position for the past four years.

Sue Popesku, a director of the council, which holds 23 member groups, believes Wong is well qualified for the job.

"She has quite an extensive arts background, cultural background, is concerned about the environment and is interested in enhancing Fort St. John and that's what the arts council does," she said.

Sonja Butts, treasurer of the council and a member of the hiring committee agrees.

"She's had a lot of life experience as well as good things that I felt would be appropriate for the job," said Butts.

"I've been on various committees with her throughout the community and I liked how she behaved and I liked how she talked and I liked a lot of things about her (so) I think she'll be really good for the arts council."

The job, said Butts, requires Wong to be well organized, self-motivated and able to communicate well to the public.



Chandra Wong

"She will probably be the public voice of the arts council as much as Laurie was before," she said.

"She'll be required to be on various committees dealing with the city employees, plus the councillors and all that sort of stuff so she needs to be professional."

But even with her knowledge of and involvement throughout the community, both women agree there will be challenges in the position.

"There's always challenges," said Butts.

"A big one for us right now is developing yet another new home for the arts council as we will be leaving the arts post because of the new development that's happening on the block where we're located now. So we have to move, we have to set up a whole new space and a lot of that is going to be on her shoulders, plus keeping the ongoing programs functioning well."

Popesku believes these challenges would be no different if Wong were hired last year or next year.

"The arts are always moving, progressive and creative which means nothing stays the same and that's a challenge. It's also exciting and it's an opportunity as well, but it's a big job. She'll be on a steep learning curve as far as the arts council's concerned, but as far as all the skills and organizational expertise that she's got and communications expertise, particularly in writing and in presentation, she's up to

**To place your ad call
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