



Shelburne County Arts Council

2019

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Shirley Crockett's work at The Art Coop Gallery

Take Note

- Just \$10 gets you a membership good Jan. to Dec. Yup, the price of three Tim Horton's large triple triples supports local artists.
- We gave out nearly \$10,000 in grants to local artists last year. Are you eligible? See our website.
- Are you a musician? We can make beautiful music (and videos) together.
- Planning to study arts at the post secondary level? Apply for our scholarship.
- Contact SCAC about any other arts related project, training or work.



Artist Co-op Created + Four More Worthy Causes

The Arts Council supported five artists and arts activities in the county last year with a total of \$2870 in grants through our Community Arts Fund.

Perhaps the most exciting grant SCAC approved was for \$1170 to The Art Coop. A co-operative group of a dozen local artists created an art gallery at 135B Water Street, Shelburne. Painters, ceramic and fabric artists, a wood carver, a jeweler and a metal artist created The Art Coop, holding their grand opening on June 1.

In addition to serving as a retail cooperative art gallery, the group hopes to animate the space in the slower winter months with workshops, art events and collaborative projects.

At the time of opening, The Coop included Therese Cruz, Janet Moore, Alison Stanton, Rachel Yellin, Rob Buckingham, Lio Lo, Melissa Strachan, Amanda Pedro, Judy Matthews, Darryl Swaine, Val Atwood and Shirley Crockett.

The Arts Council supported other projects throughout the

year. On April 6, visiting artist, Ashely Marshall offered a specialized ceramic workshop on various surface decorating techniques. These included wax resist, carving and methods of illustrating on clay. Over a dozen signed up for the workshop, and all were very pleased with the experience.

Once again this year, SCAC



supported the Harmony Bazaar Festival of Women and Song in Lockeport on July 26-27, and the Whirligig and Weathervane Festival in Shelburne on September 21-22. At Harmony Bazaar, SCAC sponsored the Youth Stage. For the Whirligig Festival, SCAC supported the creation of Art Gigs or hand painted and decorated pre-formed shapes made into whirligigs.

SCAC also approved applications from artist Janet Moore for

arts supplies and from Shelburne High School to purchase bullet journals for their students. Bullet journals are a combination of journal, diary, planner and sketchbook. Bullet journals are used to promote creativity and mental health.

Any person or group can apply to SCAC for a Community Art Grant. While the Arts Council encourages applicants to submit requests for funding by the two annual deadlines of March 15 and October 15, SCAC will always consider applications that require timely responses. There is no applica-

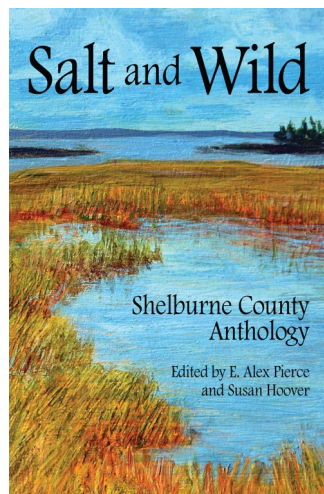


Amanda Pedro

tion form. Anyone can make a request by writing a letter to SCAC that explains the importance of the project and the financial need.

Salt and Wild: Shelburne County Anthology

The writer in residence project that the Shelburne County Arts Council began in 2013 finally came to fruition with the publication of *Salt and Wild: Shelburne County Anthology* by Boularderie Island Press. The book—published in a trade paperback format—was launched on November 1 at the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre. Of the 27 writers featured in the anthology, 22 attended to read from their work, with publisher



Douglas Arthur Brown and editor E. Alex Pierce hosting.

The cover of *Salt and Wild* is a painting by local resident and artist Janet Moore. Inside is a hearty mixture of poetry, short fiction and non-fiction. It includes writers from all over Shelburne County, both professional and emerging. E. Alex Pierce and Susan Hoover edited the anthology. Pierce is a poet and longtime writer-in-residence for SCAC. Susan Hoover is a playwright and a member

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Musings a Success: There Was Dancing and More

SCAC holds an annual variety show called "A Musings," this year on November 16. Ben Holmes – now a radio personality and past recipient of a Peter and Joan Oliver scholarship – emceed the event, which the Olivers originated over 20 years ago.

The 2019 edition of A Musings was organized by a team of SCAC board members and other volunteers led by Sue Deschene, Therese Cruz and Susan Hoover.

The most colourful presentation of the evening was the South Shore

Radio Dancers. Performing an improvisational style of belly dancing, Peggy O'Malley, Linda Harris and Emily Stewart brought energy, grace and joy to the stage.

It was just his second public performance, but Kenny Cunningham mustered his courage and, accompanied by Ed Benham, played original songs from his recent record made with a SCAC Records grant.

Nigel and Ingrid D'Eon also performed a few tunes, and metal artist Rob Buckingham presented a slideshow of his work. Ingrid D'Eon returned to the stage with Basement Theatre pals

Therese Cruz and Naniya Trevors to perform pieces from *Love Lost and Found*, a play by Diana Finegold presented last spring.

Denise Reashore and Rob Stork read from their works included in the new book *Salt and Wild: Shelburne County Anthology* published by Boularderie Island Press in partnership with SCAC.

The evening wrapped up with a performance by two musicians—Rod Mossman and Kathleen Glauser—from a group that played Monday afternoons all summer at the Ross Thomson House.

Alex Buchanan served as sound and video tech for the event which raised \$1141 in donations. The funds go to support the Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship and other SCAC programming.



Peggy O'Malley, Linda Harris, Emily Stewart

Lockeport Student Awarded Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship

The 2019 winner of the Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship is Madison Lyle. This year, the scholarship was worth \$750.

The graduate of Lockeport High School is enrolled in the Screen Arts Program at the Nova Scotia Community College, the Irvany Campus in Dartmouth.

In his letter of application, Lyle wrote, "Becoming a filmmaker has always been my lifelong dream. I have been working diligently over the years towards my goal of obtaining a career in the film industry."

He's already won two awards through the Community College, both in the NSCC Skills Competition, Video Production category. In 2018, he won the silver medal. In 2019, he took gold. Check out his Facebook page, Madison Lyle Films, where he has been posting his own short

films for several years now.

The scholarship is named for Joan and Peter Oliver who were involved in theatre and the arts all their lives. Peter worked as a professional actor and director. Peter and Joan worked hard to increase artistic activity in their adopted community of Shelburne. Basement Theatre is the best known of their local projects.

Joan and Peter are considered important figures in the founding of British alternative and fringe theatre. They led a generation of actors, writers, directors and musicians who went on to become household names like Salman Rushdie, Athol Fugard, David Hare and Pierce Brosnan.

The Arts Council awards the Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship to assist local students entering post secondary education

in the arts, but also to celebrate the Olivers' lifelong working relationship, their love for each other and their commitment to the arts in Shelburne County.



Madison Lyle is this year's winner of the Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship

Sidewalk Public Art Animates the Streets of Shelburne

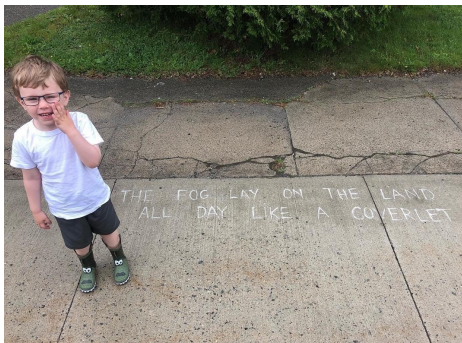
Local artist Blanka Dlouhy completed a project SCAC started last year with assistance from the Town of Shelburne. In June, she painted poems in rain paint at ten sidewalk locations throughout the town.

Rain paint is nearly invisible on dry days, but when things are damp, the images and words created with the paint shine through.

The ten locations were chosen in part to encourage people to explore the town. They included locations on Water Street near the old post office, on King Street,

and near Guild Hall.

Most of the poems were fragments from works written by local poets. Others



were from internationally known writers.

Nova Scotia poet Harry Thurston composed these lines from his poem, "Fog."

The fog lay on the land
all day like a coverlet

Other local and Nova Scotia poets included Kathleen Tudor, Sue Goyette, Elizabeth Pooley, Sheree Fitch, Marion Goyette and E. Alex Pierce.

The Town of Shelburne supported this project with a grant. It is committed to the commissioning and installation of public art for the many benefits it brings.

Salt and Wild Continued

of the SCAC board.

Salt and Wild is dedicated to Kathleen Tudor who died in July, 2019. She was instrumental in encouraging people from Shelburne County to write. She founded both Roseway Publishing and Community Books, and she ran workshops at the Lockeport Library. The anthology features several poems and a short story by Tudor.

The anthology includes work by a number of SCAC members, including Sue Deschene, Darcy Rhyno and Susan Hoover. Prominent writer and Lockeport

resident Jane Alexander contributed some diary entries about birds of the area, and recent university graduate Rachael Hanowski wrote a piece about growing up with a physical disability.

Copies can be purchased through Amazon or at Charlotte Lane Café and Crafts in Shelburne. The three county libraries also have copies. Because the first edition sold out, a new printing is on its way so *Salt and Wild* will be available to anyone with an interest in writing from Shelburne County.

Poetry Project Completed

Following on the heels of last year's successful poetry slam, SCAC held a second slam on May 7.

The poetry slam was held last year to celebrate the official launch of the Gloria Hanief Poetry Collection at the McKay Memorial Library in Shelburne. About 25 people attended this year's event.

Many read either from their own work or from the work of favourite authors.

Two things were surprising about the slam, first the sheer diversity of Shelburne County poetry and second, the importance of poetry in the lives of those who write and/or read poetry.

Cash donations to the collection were used for the purchase of new

books by authors such as Margaret Atwood, Shane Koyczan, Tanya Davis, Don Domanski, Carole Langille and Janet Barkhouse, as well as poetry anthologies and criticism.

While the Arts Council considered the creation of this memorial poetry collection a wonderful success now completed, SCAC may still purchase more books and hold poetry slams in the future.



Readers at the Poetry Slam

Salt and Wild

Artists From Both Sides of County Get SCAC Records Grants

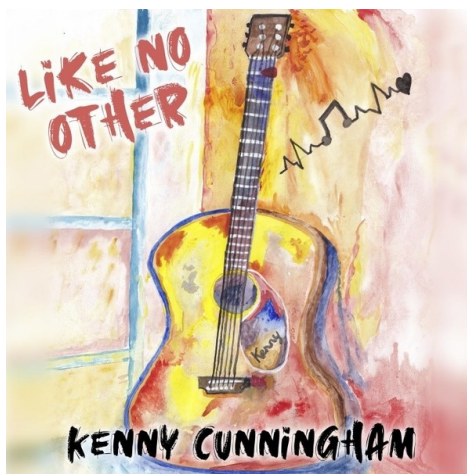
SCAC supported two very special music recording projects in 2019, one by Kenny Cunningham of Doctors Cove and the other by Julie Balish of Lockeport.

Kenny Cunningham wanted to cut an album of eleven original songs. One of the songs is about the life of a lobster fisherman. While he's been playing guitar and singing for over 30 years, this is Kenny's first record. He's already working on his second.

Julie Balish came to SCAC requesting assistance with her project to record her seven minute ballad, "Storm of '61." The song tells the story of the 1961 tragedy in which three Lockeport based fishing boats were lost in a winter storm, taking all hands with them. About 65 children were left without fathers, including Julie's three brothers,

and others without husbands and sons.

Julie made a video for the song, which is available on You Tube. It



includes vintage film footage from the 1950's of fishing boats in Lockeport, as well as footage of the town from that time. A CD of the song is available at the Town

Market in Lockeport or on line.

A number of local musicians and singers lent a hand during the recording sessions, including Alex Buchanan on accordion, Pat Melanson on whistle and Andy Kelly on drums. Backup singers included Cathy Cook, Seonaid Dorey Wambach, Leslie Stephen and Terri Dean McNeil. In the credits for the video, Julie thanks HarbourTone Productions in Shelburne and the Harmony Bazaar Festival in Lockeport for helping make the project happen.

There are two annual deadlines for musicians to apply for support to record music or make videos: April 15 and September 15. There is no application form, but musicians can check the SCAC website to see what is required for submitting a request for funding.

SCAC is ...

Chair - Michelle Blades
Vice Chair - Terese Cruz
Treasurer - Susan Hoover
Secretary - Sue Deschene

Board Members

Braden Chetwynd
Cathy Doherty
Sandy Hunter-Chang
Melissa Strachan
Rachel Yellin

Executive Director

Darcy Rhyno

**SCAC
MEMBERSHIP**



SCAC says thank you to long time supporters who renew their memberships annually and to new supporters for buying their first memberships. At just \$10 a year, a membership in SCAC remains a great deal. It's an inexpensive and effective way to show your support for the arts community that makes our county such a rich place to live.

And by the way, it's vitally important that SCAC has a healthy membership base both for financial support and to demonstrate to our core funder that we have broad community support.

As you can see from this newsletter, your membership supports the arts in many ways. It helps give work to local artists by commissioning them to create original work and engaging them to mentor others. SCAC offers scholarships to graduating students bound for higher education in the arts. We archive the artistic history of Shelburne County and work with others to record and publish musicians and writers. We also support with small grants efforts by individuals or other organizations to carry out arts activities.

All of these activities are carried out by a board of dedicated volunteers working with a small budget. Please support our efforts by becoming a member or by purchasing a gift membership for someone else. Memberships are good from January to December. Send a cheque for \$10 (add a donation if you wish) to the address on the back of this newsletter.

Contact Us ...

Shelburne County Arts Council
P.O. Box 365
Shelburne, NS, B0T 1W0



Remembering Kathleen Tudor

Kathleen Tudor passed away on July 19, 2019. She was 94.

Kathleen was the author of six novels, two collections of short fiction and a book of poems. She founded Roseway Publishing and Community Books. She was a fierce activist, a caring teacher and a champion of other writers. Shortly before she died, she published a collection of poetry called *Undercurrents*. She was scheduled to launch it on July 28 at the Lillian B. Benham Library in Lockeport. Although she didn't get to host that event, the book stands as a testament to her many roles and talents.



Kathleen Tudor at SCAC's 2018 Poetry Slam

She taught English at St. Mary's University where she founded the creative writing program. She also taught in The Gambia and China. With her good friends Peter and Joan Oliver, she hosted several Equinox Extrava-

ganzas at her home, always with a compelling theme, and she served on the Shelburne County Arts Council.

Born to a fishing family in 1925 in her beloved village of Pleasant Point near Lockeport, Kathleen retired to the house she grew up in where she lived until her death. The house and village played an important role in her work as an author and as a publisher and mentor.

As her obituary says, "Kathleen was her own woman.... She was a visionary, a committed socialist, a staunch atheist, a compassionate humanist, a beloved teacher, and an inspiring mentor. She was strong, loving, generous, creative and fun.... She was a force of nature and she will be deeply missed." The board and staff of the Arts Council wish to express their condolences to her family and friends.

A Jewel in Our Crown: Profile of Artist, Therese Cruz

Therese Cruz has committed completely to her adopted town of Shelburne, so much so that the Town named her Volunteer of the Month for April, 2019.

As the award announcement from the Town's Community Participation and Volunteerism Committee said, "Her positive energy and enthusiasm show in all that she is involved in." Therese also volunteers to support the Whirligig and Weathervane Festival, Art Day, and the Guild Hall Summer Arts Series. She's an actor with Basement Theatre and one of the driving forces behind The Art Coop Gallery that opened this year in Shelburne.

Seen here working on one of her funky, contemporary jewelry pieces, Therese's

work is in demand. Earlier this year, she was invited to participate in "The Earring Show," a project of the Craft



Council of British Columbia.

Her artist profile with The Art Coop says, "Her love of jewelry and metal started in

her dad's car repair shop, where she was intrigued by the manipulation of the metal and the sparks coming from the welding torch. Therese fostered her creative and technical interests at the Jewelry Arts program at Toronto's George Brown College where she earned an Advanced Degree in Goldsmithing and Jewelry Design. While living in Toronto, Therese worked for prominent Canadian designers such as Jennifer Shigetomi of Matsu Jewelry and Emmanuel Belliveau of Floro where her artistic gifts were encouraged."

SCAC is pleased to say that the volunteer extraordinaire, jeweler, awesome mom and mighty fine cook also serves as the Vice Chair of the Arts Council.