



spotlight on

Princess Pete	2
Scholarship Winner	2
New Art Book Collection	1&3
Hip Hop, Folk & Rock	3
Your Scholarship or Prize	4
Budding Artist, Chetwynd	4
Members, We Need You	4



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.
- Are you eligible for a SCAC grant to learn from a mentor, buy supplies, or take training? 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.



"A Musings" Rolling Out on Social Media in 2021

Every year, SCAC holds an annual variety show called "A Musings." It's a show designed to celebrate local artists and the work they've created in partnership with SCAC. As an annual fundraiser, it also supports our Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship and other educational initiatives.

"A Musings" was first created by Peter and Joan Oliver many years ago to raise funds for local causes, including supporting programs for young people and to provide a stage for local artists. While the annual variety show has shifted focus over the years, it continues to support the needs of young people in the arts.

In 2020, Musings fell victim to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was no way we could safely present Musings in a public venue. So, like countless music, theatre and dance productions, gallery exhibitions and public readings that had to be cancelled, we were forced to shelve Musings this past year.

However, the challenges posed

by the pandemic have led to creative responses. Many performers, visual artists and writers turned to the Internet as a way of sharing their work with the public. We came up with a similar solution for Musings.

In the winter and spring of 2021,

In keeping with SCAC's values and mandate of fair pay for artists in Shelburne County, each participating artist will receive a stipend. Their videos will be posted on our SCAC social media pages.

Rather than using this Musings as a fundraiser, we plan to promote SCAC membership and also our scholarship program, with the goal of attracting as many scholarship applicants as possible in 2021 and in the hopes of sparking the creation of new arts scholarships and art prizes.

We also want to bring attention to all our other programs, especially those that have continued to be active during the pandemic. These include our public library program through which we are building collections of books in various artistic genres, SCAC Records, our Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship and, of course, we want to build our membership.

Be sure to follow our Facebook and Instagram pages for upcoming announcements of our virtual Musings program. Find us on

Facebook and Instagram at
shelburnecountyartscouncil



A work like this one by local filmmaker Madison Lyle will be part of the on-line Musings rollout.

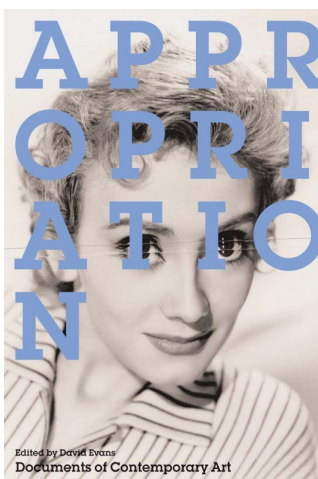
we will be rolling out a series of videos by local artists, many of whom have received funding from the Shelburne County Arts Council to create original work. We are planning a series that, as with our usual Musings production, features work in a wide range of artistic disciplines such as paintings by Janet Moore and film by Madison Lyle.

New Art Book Collection Dedicated to Vicki Huskilson

Former board member Vicki Huskilson will be remembered with a new SCAC project.

Building on our recently completed poetry collection at the McKay Memorial Library in Shelburne, the arts council is now working on a collection of art books to be housed at the Lillian Benham Library in Lockport.

SCAC built the poetry collection and named it in memory of Gloria Hanief, our long time Treasurer and beloved high school English teacher, for her dedication to the arts and the organization. In 2018



*Edited by Dorel Evans
Documents of Contemporary Art*

and 2019, the arts council celebrated the collection with a couple of poetry slams held at the library in Shelburne.

Now, the arts council has dedicated funds to building a similar collection in Lockport, but this time on the topic of the visual arts. It will be called "The Vicki Huskilson Collection for the Visual Arts."

Vicki served on the arts council board from 2014 to 2016. She worked hard at sharing her love of the visual arts through service on the board and at her shop in Lockport called Tides of Time Gallery and Gifts. The shop was always chockablock full of art by

Susannah Dedrick Awarded Oliver Scholarship

The 2020 winner of the Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship is Susannah Dedrick of Barrington Passage. This year, the scholarship was worth \$760.

The graduate of Barrington High says she's always had a love for the arts, starting in Sunday school. She says, "I even narrated 'Goldilocks and the Three Pigs' when I was ten years old with strep throat. Nothing was going to stop me." Upon her Grade 6 graduation, teachers presented her with "the Oscar award" for her acting chops.

Music is another love for this budding young artist. Because music wasn't offered at her high school, Susannah had to pursue opportunities to learn and perform elsewhere.



Susannah is attending Music Business Management at Durham College in Oshtawa, Ontario. By approaching the study of music in this way, Susannah hopes to give herself a better shot at making a living in the arts.

"Playing and just being surrounded by music always keeps me happy," Susannah says.

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 arts related projects. At its height,

dozens of people were involved in each Basement Theatre production.

Susannah says that her mother was involved as a teenager in Basement Theatre when the Olivers managed it. Her grandmother often talked to Joan about Susannah's early involvement in the arts.

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 and their support for young people in Shelburne County.

Community Arts Grants Support Local Music and Theatre

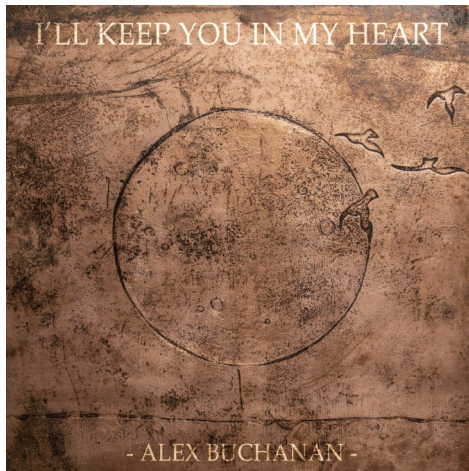
As with so many arts organizations, the arts council's activities were scaled back in this unusual year. Our Community Arts Grants program is usually our most active. However, in 2020, many of our projects were those that supported on-line performances by local musicians in the spring during Nova Scotia's stay-at-home period.

The Osprey Arts Centre requested \$600 from SCAC to fund two performances by local musicians, one by Jessica Jurgenliemk and another by Matt Bone.

On our own Facebook page, we presented the work of two visual artists. The first was Erin Smith, a painter from the Barrington area who works in oils and acrylics. She shared a painting entitled "Causeway Beach." It reached 6290 people and was shared 92 times. The other artist was Catlin Perry of Shelburne who works in a variety of media. One of his strengths is portraiture. He presented a portrait of a child called "Miss Avery." It reached 6250 people and was shared 75 times.

Musician and owner of HarbourTone Productions, Alex Buchanan, presented an original song called "I'll Keep You In My Heart." The post of his song reached 1040 people and was shared 42 times. All three presentations resulted in a big boost for the artists' visibility. Some of the extra atten-

tion resulted in sales for the artists. SCAC paid each artist \$300 for sharing their work.



Artwork by Melissa Strachan for Alex Buchanan's single, "I'll Keep You in My Heart."

The Locke's Island Players of Lockeport were just as busy. They recorded, published and sold a CD recording of a fairytale written by troupe member Elizabeth Pooley and her daughter Meg Goodmanson. The result is a dramatic recording of "The Adventures of Princess Pete," which the troupe used as a lockdown project and a fundraiser. SCAC supported the project with a \$465 grant to help with the cost of

printing the CD and the cover, both at local businesses.

Any person or group can apply to SCAC for a Community Arts 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



The CD cover of the Locke's Island Players audio play, The Adventures of Princess Pete

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

Vicki Huskilson Art Book Collection, Continued

local painters, fabric artists, jewelers, photographers and writers. We hope that this tribute to her memory in some small way helps preserve her legacy.

Board member Braden Chetwynd is

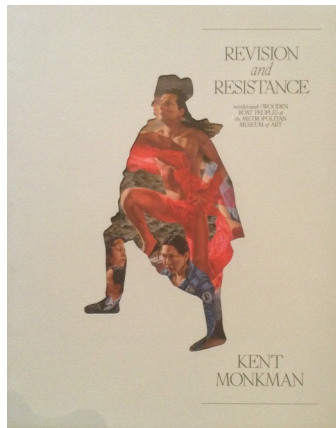


Vicki Huskilson supported local artists, but she also painted. This is one of her watercolours.

heading up the work of identifying and purchasing the volumes that will make a broad and balanced collection. He's working with other board members and the library to build the collection.

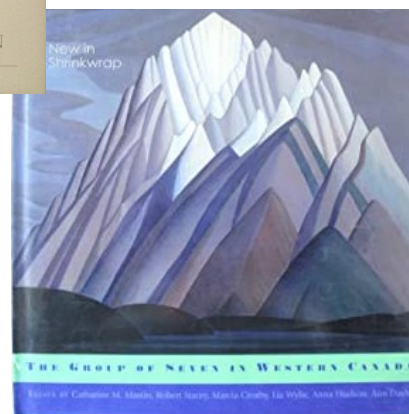
Some of the books selected for the collection are big, colourful coffee table-type books that are fun and inspirational to browse, books like Kent Monkman's *Revision and Resistance: mistikôsiwak (Wooden Boat People)* at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Martha's Vineyard: *An Affectionate Memoir* and *The Group of Seven in Western Canada*.

Other books focus on specific topics in the visual arts such as *The Rural* and *Appropriation*, both in the Documents of Contemporary Art Series from MIT Press. There are even a few illustrated



artist biographies in the form of children's books. *Little People, Big Dreams: Louise Bourgeois* tells the life story in colourful pages of the French-American sculptor and installation artist.

Board member George Harding is helping to build the collection by donating some of these books. If you would like to donate to our dedicated fund or to the collection, please contact the arts council using the information on the last page of this newsletter.



Three Local Musical Acts Benefit from SCAC Records Grants

The ever popular SCAC Records program supported three recording projects with a total of \$2500 in funding.

Local hip hop artist (and councillor with the Town of Shelburne) Ben Nickerson performing as JustBen recorded a second album with the help of a \$1000 SCAC Records grant. The album of all original compositions includes songs like "Underground." This project is a follow-up to his 2008 debut album, *Seven Years of Good Luck*.

One of his new songs, "So Long" is in memory of his mother. It features the voice of Erin Dunsworth and what Ben says is "a killer guitar solo" by Cess, who also produced the song.

Common People, a lively local band pictured here recording at HarbourTone Productions in Shelburne, recorded a four-song EP. Members Guy Tipton, the late Matt Swim, Alan Pinn, and Darren Stoddard perform a mix of covers and originals like "Singer in a Rock Band"

and "Poster Girl" for this, their first recording effort. SCAC supported their start as a band with a \$750 grant. Stoddard even used some of the project in his grade four class to help teach his "Sound is a Science" unit.

New to the community, Paul Smeets entered the local arts scene in a hurry. He approached SCAC with a request to complete a full record of songs he's been working on for several years. After hearing his bluesy originals like "You Gave It All" and "Out on the Road," the arts council offered a grant of \$750. That latter song is a tribute to Bob Dylan. His



song, "Manitoba New Year's Eve" is a tribute to indigenous peoples, as well as missing and murdered indigenous women.

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 - Therese Cruz
Vice Chair - George Harding
Treasurer - Susan Hoover
Secretary - Sue Deschene
Board Members
Samantha Brannen
Braden Chetwynd
Melissa Strachan
Executive Director
Darcy Rhyno

SCAC
MEMBERSHIP



The Arts Council thanks our long time supporters for renewing their annual memberships and new supporters for buying their first memberships this past year.

In such a difficult year, it isn't surprising that membership dropped from 62 in 2019 to 40 in 2020. We would truly appreciate if former members would return in 2021.

At just \$10 a year, a membership in SCAC remains one of the best deals around. It's an inexpensive and effective way to show your support for our arts community and its activities that make our county such a rich place to live. A strong membership base is vitally important for financial support and to maintain broad community support.

As you can see from the contents of this newsletter, even in such a difficult year, memberships support the arts in many ways. It helps this organization give work to local artists. SCAC offers scholarships to graduating students bound for higher education in the arts, archives the artistic history of Shelburne County, and works with other community groups to record and publish musicians and writers. SCAC also supports with small grants efforts by individuals or other organizations to create and present arts activities.

All of these activities are carried out by a board of dedicated volunteers with a tiny budget. Please support our efforts by becoming a member or by giving a gift membership, which is good from January to December. Send a cheque for \$10 (add a donation if you wish) to the address below.

Contact Us ...

Shelburne County Arts Council
P.O. Box 365
Shelburne, NS, B0T 1W0
shelcoartscouncil@gmail.com

Start Your Own Scholarship or Art Prize

We've done it, and we can help you do it.

SCAC has created scholarships and prizes for local artists, and if you've ever dreamed of creating a scholarship or art prize in your name or to remember a loved one, we can help you do it.

Our Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship is a good example. Named for two of the most creative and influential arts figures ever to spin their magic in Shelburne County, SCAC created a scholarship in their names. Hundreds of local people

benefitted from their great work over a long period of time, and our communities were richer for it. This year and in every year into the future, there will always be a scholarship awarded in their names to a Shelburne County student who plans to continue studies in the arts. That will be true even if, for some reason, the arts council discontinued operations. That's because we secured the funds to support an annual award. That

investment will be there indefinitely and can never be used in any way but to earn interest used to fund the scholarship.

SCAC has done the same for its own purposes. We created a second fund that helps support indefinitely the work of the arts council. Some of the funds needed to support the activities you see

in this newsletter come from that second investment.

Over the years, we've also created and awarded art prizes like the Roseway Poetry

Prize we awarded yearly to high school students. Imagine the celebration around an annual literary, painting or music prize named in memory of an important local artist or supporter of the arts.

We know how to do this. We can do it for you.

If you want to create a scholarship or art prize, contact us. If you'd just like to help support local arts in general by helping us build the funds that already exist, please contact us.



From Scholarship Recipient to Board of Directors A Profile of Braden Chetwynd

Braden Chetwynd joined the SCAC board in 2019. Since then, he's been very active, most recently taking on the pleasant challenge of building a new collection of visual art books to be housed at the Lillian Benham Library in Lockeport. You'll see his name connected to other arts initiatives as well. He created the artwork for the delightful cover of the CD recording made by the Locke's Island Players of the original fairytale, "The Adventures of Princess Pete."

Through the arts council's Mentorship Program, Braden was paired with a local visual artist to help him apply to the fine arts program at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick. SCAC also awarded Braden the 2015 Peter and Joan Oliver Scholarship upon his graduation from high school. In 2019, he won the E. J.

Hughes & Zoe (Hughes) Foster painting scholarship as well as the Printly Cup printmaking prize. He graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2019 with a focus on printmaking and painting.



Working in painting, printmaking, and video with a focus on found footage and reference material, Braden uses collage as a method of creating new narratives from existing material.

Many of these narratives revolve around themes of identity, and memory.

His work has been featured in several solo and group exhibitions including Last Dance (Owens Art Gallery, 2019), Purdy is Leaking (Purdy Crawford Centre for the Arts, 2018), For the Love of Judy (START Gallery, 2018) and Tell & Tell Again (START Gallery, 2016).

Braden lives in Lockeport and works at the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre in Birchtown, where he serves as the Program and Outreach Coordinator.

