



2018

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Take Note

- Just \$10 gets you a membership good Jan. to Dec. Yup, the price of three Tim Horton's Iced Capps supports local artists.
- We gave out over \$8000 in grants to local artists last year. Are you eligible?
- Are you a musician? We can make beautiful music together.
- Could you use the help of a mentor?
- Planning to study arts at university? Apply for our scholarship.
- Like us on Facebook.



Drones, Kilns, Videos and Whirligigs

In 2017, SCAC made four grants totally \$2950 through its Community Arts program, supporting an exceptionally wide variety of arts activity in Shelburne County.

As it turned out, one of those grants helped support a project funded in the previous year. SCAC awarded HarbourTone Productions with a grant of \$750 to purchase a drone outfitted with an HD camera for the intention of improving the studio's capacity to make videos.

The first project taken on by HarbourTone employing the drone was the making of a music video for local folk music duo, Naming the Twins (pictured) of Robbie Smith and Kathleen Glauser.

"Why Can't We?" was shot on a rocky shore near East Jordan and on Louis Head Beach. With the use of the drone, HarbourTone was able to create effects that would otherwise have been impossible, including a stunning final scene high over the beach. (Search for the video on YouTube or the Naming the Twins Facebook page.)

When the Osprey Arts Centre in Shelburne came to the Arts Council to request support for its community project to create a mosaic mural (pictured left), the board was eager to participate.



Over a period of several months, the Osprey contracted artist Janet Moore to design a mural that was built by the community. She came up with a stunning design of birch trees that would require over 250 individual 5" X 5" tiles to be painted by participants.

Moore held public painting sessions at the Shelburne Farmers Market, the Osprey and her own studio. Over 150 individuals participated. The project is a great example of the positive influence on a community of public art. The Arts Council is proud to have supported the project.

The Arts Council is also proud to support a young artist relatively

new to our community. NSCAD grad and working artist, Melissa Strachan received \$1000 to help her purchase a pottery wheel.

For many years, the Arts Council has supported Shelburne's award winning Whirligig and Weather-vane Festival. This year, SCAC's grant of \$200 helped buy materials so that ten artists could decorate their own whirligigs.

Any person or group can apply for a Community Art grant. SCAC will consider applications any time. There is no application form. Anyone can make a request by writing a letter to SCAC that explains the importance of the project and the financial need.

Gifts Dedicated to Gloria, Vicki and Joan

As reported in last year's newsletter, SCAC lost three close friends – Joan Oliver, Vicki Huskilson and Gloria Hanief. The latter were board members when they died – Vicki was Secretary and Gloria Treasurer. Joan was a former board member.

The Council wanted to create lasting arts memorials for these women who were so passionate about and so important to the arts in our community.



"Tides of Time" by Lio Lo was commissioned by SCAC, dedicated to Vicki Huskilson and donated to the Town of Lockeport.

Gloria was a beloved high school English teacher who made literature come alive for her students. In her name, the Arts Council is creating a poetry section in the McKay Memorial Library by purchasing and donating books of poetry.

Vicki operated a wonderful little gallery in Lockeport called *Tides of Time* where she championed many local painters and other artists. The Arts Council commissioned her friend and

Children's Author/Illustrator Doretta Groenendyk Visits

Children's author and illustrator Doretta Groenendyk visited three Shelburne County elementary schools in November as the guest of the Shelburne County Arts Council.

Doretta has written and illustrated over a dozen picture books for children. One of her best known is entitled *A Harbour Seal in Halifax*.

Some of Doretta's work is based on historical events, including her books *A Blue-nose Twelve Days of Christ-*



mas and *Fiddles & Spoons: Journey of an Acadian Mouse*. Others like *Bully 101* and *Step Outside* address current issues as they relate to children.

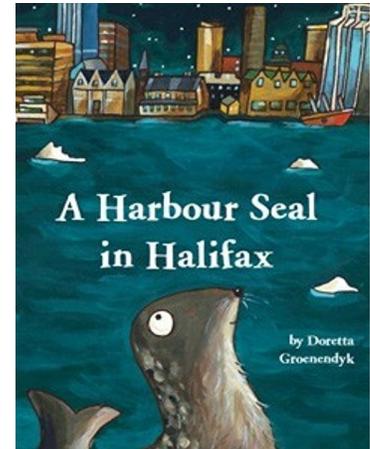
Kids love the whimsy of Doretta's illustrations and are inspired during her workshops, which focus on creativity. Over her career, she has visited many schools and created many short- and long-term workshops and creative programs for kids in schools.

Doretta visited Hillcrest in Shelburne on December 4 and Clark's Harbour Elementary on December 5.

SCAC board chair Michelle Blades coordinated the visit and reports that Doretta was a big hit with the kids and with teachers.

Every year, the Arts Council works to enrich the lives of the county's children

by placing an author in our classrooms at no charge to our schools. Past visiting authors include Kate Inglis, Donna Morrissey, Jan Coates and Sheree Fitch.



Tyler Peck Awarded Joan and Peter Oliver Scholarship

The Arts Council named Tyler Peck as the most recent recipient of the Joan and Peter Oliver Scholarship. Tyler was accepted into the theatre program at Acadia University. The amount of the scholarship was \$1500.

SCAC renamed the award the Joan and Peter Oliver Scholarship to commemorate their lifelong working relationship and their love for each other.

Tyler is an avid movie buff. He attended the Osprey's summer video camp and was involved in several film projects with the Shelburne Film Expo. He also performed several times with Basement Theatre.

The Arts Council believes that Tyler has a great deal of potential and a bright future

in theatre, film and performing arts. His love and enthusiasm for the movies is exceptional, making him an ideal candidate for the Joan and Peter Oliver Scholarship.

Joan and Peter Oliver 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 the community.

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

The Arts Council awards the Joan and

Peter Oliver Scholarship to recognize the great contribution the Olivers made to the arts in Shelburne County and to assist students entering post secondary education in the arts.



Mentorships Galore

Krista Oikle, a young and enthusiastic artist interested in many genres, received a \$500 mentorship grant from SCAC.

A graduate of Shelburne Regional High School, Krista returned to her home community after working away for several years. She approached the Arts Council to discuss her need for training in photography to bring her many ideas to life.

The Arts Council paired Krista with Lockeport photographer and photography instructor Cheryl Graul. Krista worked with Cheryl through her Level One Photography course.

Starting with a familiarization with her SLR, Cheryl taught Krista the fundamentals

of photography such as shutter speed, aperture settings and depth of field, moving on to concepts like lighting and white balance.

Krista learned the basics of black and white, colour, landscape and portrait photography, developing a portfolio of work as she completed assignments.



Krista Oikle. Photo by Cheryl Graul

A second mentorship was through Studio 138 in Shelburne. Owner and artist Cindy Hagen offered personal mentoring to several young people in the making of visual art. The Arts Council awarded Cindy \$200 for her work.

The final mentorship supported Lockeport's Write On! writing group with \$750 for future workshops with professional writers at the Lockeport library on themes like poetry, short story and editing to publish.

Anyone in need of arts instruction or with putting a portfolio of art together or preparing a grant application can contact the Arts Council to be paired with someone who can help. Simply write a letter to SCAC explaining the need.

Writer in Residence Program

2017 has been a great year for SCAC's Writer in Residence program. In the spring, our writer in residence E. Alex Pierce gave a six week workshop at the McKay Memorial Library in Shelburne entitled "Feeling into Words." Seventeen people attended this workshop, and on June 14th they gave a well-attended reading at the Osprey Arts Centre.

SCAC received confirmation that an anthology of Shelburne County writers will be published by Boularderie Island Press of Cape Breton. Boularderie's project will be supported by a grant from the province. The book will be edited by E. Alex Pierce and Susan Hoover, a SCAC board member, and published in the Spring of 2019. In the coming months, Pierce will give a "polishing up" workshop for those who will be submitting their work to the anthology.

Some of the writers in the workshop have news about their work. Jana Traff took a

six week workshop with Sue Goyette, whose book *Ocean* was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize in 2014. Ginny Boudreau attended a story structure workshop given by Rob Stork, which she found very helpful.

Pierce's students organized a new group, the Shelburne Library Writers Group, meeting the third Thursday of the month starting 6 pm.

Brenda Storrie says of the group, "We are literary and commercial fiction writers, memoir writers, poets and non-fiction writers building a support network. Several of us are actively seeking publication and a bigger audience for our work. We give each other constructive feedback at our meetings, we discuss our writing life and we take each other's progress seriously."

Two members of Pierce's last workshop are working on a book, *Poems from the Heart*. It's written by Joan MacAdams Page with photographs by Eva Romanczak and is due to be published in spring.

Musings Amusing Again

It was another great year for "A Musings" held on November 18, thanks to all those who supported, attended, made desserts and performed, and to Ben Holmes who emceed.

This year's Musings entitled "For Vicki" was a tribute to the late Vicki Huskilson, former SCAC Secretary, gallery owner and artist. Lockeport mayor George Harding paid tribute to Vicki. The Arts Council presented Lockeport with a gift dedicated to Vicki – a Lio Lo painting of Lockeport's famous Crescent Beach named for Vicki's art gallery, *Tides of Time*.

The audience enjoyed a performance by over a dozen members of The Sound of Men, a local choir from the Barrington area. They performed spirituals, accompanied by guitar, keyboards and sax.

Also from the westward, musician and former lumberjack Lee Keating performed two original numbers from his recently released album, *Songs of a Riverman*, supported with a grant from the Arts Council. Karen Geerligns and Keating's grandson Liam Weare accompanied.



More music followed by Lockeport's Jazz Dabblers – Auri Frattura on guitar and Cheryl Graul on sax and vocals. Later, Lockeport's Little House performed songs from their upcoming album, a project supported with a SCAC Records grant.

Artist Janet Moore gave a slide show about the Osprey Arts Centre's project to create a community mosaic mural. The Arts Council contributed \$1000 to the project. SRHS teacher Chett Buchanan presented a slide show about the work of students in his art classes.

Basement Theatre veteran Steve Walsh read a story by CBC's Stuart McLean. Writer Darcy Rhyno read from his recent novel for children, *The Underworld Magician*.

Finally, the Arts Council played a music video by Naming the Twins called "Why Can't We." It was made by DnA Design House (Alex Buchanan and Darcy Rhyno) with the support of a SCAC grant. See it at the twins website here: namingthetwins.com.

This year's Musings was produced by SCAC board members Sue Deschene, Melissa Strachan and Michelle Blades, grossing \$809 in donations at the door and for desserts. All funds raised help pay for SCAC programs, including the Oliver Scholarship.

Three Awarded SCAC Records CD and Video Grants

SCAC Records supported three recording projects in 2017, all from the western side of the county. Lee Keating and Lynne Crowell each received \$550 to assist with the costs of recording full CDs. Ghost Town Heroes received \$1000 to record their song Madolyn and make an accompanying video for it.

Lee Keating recorded a solo album entitled *Songs of a Riverman*. Lee's album commemorates and celebrates the life of the men and women who work the woods and paddle the rivers of sou'west Nova Scotia.

He performed songs from the CD like the popular and catchy "Paddlin' Mama" at events like the Woolsock Music Festival in Barrington on August 26. The album

was recorded and designed by Alex Buchanan at HarbourTone Studios in Shelburne.

Lea launched his new CD at the Wesley Heritage Community Centre in Barrington on June 10.

Opening for Lee that night was longtime, beloved country crooner and songwriter, Lynne Crowell. Lynne, who is a Nova Scotia Country Music Hall of Fame inductee,

launched her



own CD entitled *Music for Life: My Journey*.

Quoted as saying the 15-track CD—including many originals—is the biggest project she have ever taken on, Lynne launched her record at the Osprey Arts Centre on November 4. Many of the musicians who appeared on the CD performed with her, including her daughter and granddaughter.

Much of the album was recorded by Matt Swim, although Robbie Smith recorded one song and Alex Buchanan recorded four. All songs were mixed and mastered by Alex Buchanan at HarbourTone Studios in Shelburne. Alex also did the graphic design.

SCAC is ...

Chair - Michelle Blades
 Vice Chair - Melissa Strachan
 Treasurer - Susan Hoover
 Secretary - Sue Deschene

Board Members

Suzy Atwood
 Rachel Yellin
 Rachel Ritcey

Executive Director

Darcy Rhyno

**SCAC
MEMBERSHIP**



Ten bucks – what can you get these days for \$10?

Answer – you can buy support for artists and the arts in Shelburne County. \$10 is all it costs to become a member or to renew your membership in SCAC.

It's vitally important that SCAC has a healthy membership base both for financial support and to demonstrate to funders that it has broad community support. SCAC has about 50 members. We always hope our membership will grow larger.

As you can see from the contents of this newsletter, your membership supports the arts in many ways. It helps give work to local artists by paying them to mentor others and by commissioning them to create original new work. SCAC brings authors to County schools and offers scholarships to graduating students bound for higher education in the arts, archives the artistic history of the County, works with other community groups to record and publish musicians and writers, and provides other grants.

All of these activities are carried out by a board of dedicated volunteers with a small budget. Please support their efforts by becoming a member or by purchasing a gift membership, which are 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



Barrington's Lobster Art

Last year, the Arts Council created and launched a public art policy for use within the organization and for adoption and adaptation by others.

The Town of Shelburne now has its own public art program and the Municipality of Barrington is working on its own projects. The Arts Council supported one of those projects – people-sized lobsters painted by local artists.

When Barrington came to SCAC to request assistance, the board and staff were very pleased to be able to offer support. SCAC awarded Barrington's project a \$1000 grant to be used to purchase arts supplies to paint lobsters like the one to the right by Richard H. Brannen.

In the coming months and years, the Arts Council hopes to create projects through its own public art program. To that end, SCAC created the Public Art Working Group last year made up of members of the public and representatives from the board.

The Council hopes this committee will be behind the creation of more great public art for the county.



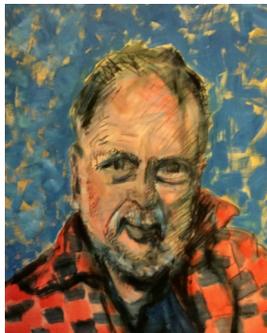
Artist Profile: Dennis Teakle

When Dennis Teakle was eight, his aunt gave him a set of oil paints. He fell in love with painting and was encouraged from the start by his artistic family. At 18 he went to the Ontario College of Art. His early influences were Van Gogh, the Impressionists and the Group of Seven.

Dennis has had a varied career in art, beginning as an illustrator for children's books. When the magazine *Toronto Life* began, he became the art director. When children came along, Dennis took a practical direction and taught high school art for four years.

Later he moved back to the Muskokas, where he painted and dealt in antiques. When his children grew up, he moved to Nova Scotia. The South Muskoka River area was becoming crowded and Dennis felt its wildness was being corrupted. Nova Scotia still felt wild to him.

For Dennis, drawing is the basis of good painting. He laments the lack of respect for drawing in many younger artists. He always begins with drawing. The next important skill, he says, is design. This became clear when he took summer courses in printmaking



at Sir George Williams (Concordia today).

After several moves to different parts of southern Nova Scotia, Dennis and his wife Diana moved to Shelburne four years ago. He likes this area – the feeling of the bush on the Upper Clyde for example – and enjoys the quietness of the town. Even Liverpool was too busy for him.

Although he began as an impressionist, he moved toward what he feels is more expressionistic, as could be seen in his recent show at the Osprey. His self-portrait in that show demonstrates his point. The Osprey show is only the most recent. His first show was at the Toronto Central library shortly after he finished art college. He has had shows in many of the towns in Southwestern Nova Scotia, but finds it hard to get a show in Halifax. If you did not attend NSCAD, you are out in the wilderness.

To see his work, meet Dennis in his studio at the Humphrey House (corner of Water and George Streets, Shelburne) in winter by appointment, in summer most days.

Dennis enjoys life drawing and wants to start a group of like-minded artists for a weekly session. He is also interested in teaching an advanced drawing class. Contact the Arts Council if interested.

Gifts for Gloria, Vicki and Joan... (continued)

fellow artist Lio Lo to create a painting in Vicki's name.

Lio painted waves rolling into Crescent Beach in Lockeport and entitled it "Tides of Time." At Musings, the Arts Council's annual fundraiser held last November, the Council donated it to the Town of Lockeport, accepted at the event by Mayor George Harding.

To honour Joan's considerable contributions to the Arts Council and the arts in Shelburne County, the scholarship created by the Arts Council for Peter Oliver was renamed the Joan and Peter Oliver Scholarship.

The Arts Council wishes the families and friends of our beloved friends healing and good memories and hopes our efforts to remember their importance to us, to their community and to the arts help in some small way.