

2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Morning, Bonjour, Tansi;

Thank you for inviting me into your humble abode, where we celebrate our 20th year at GPAG in a new economy (and recession). This has made us tighten our belts like many others. On-going challenges of administering a non-profit arts organization with a full calendar of exhibitions during a continuing pandemic has not deterred us but enhanced our focus.

RoseAnn Janzen has continued to build on the foundation of our Gift Shop and produced yet another record year in sales. Great work RoseAnn!

Originally our summer student, Ingrid Hansen is now employed part-time to work in the Gallery and she is an asset to the Gallery, volunteers and management.

Thank you to our Curatorial team, now expanding, which continues to deliver a very high standard of art at GPAG.

We continue to have a keen group of members and we appreciate the dedication that Christina, Ingrid, Del Lobo, RoseAnn and all the volunteers give to make our Gallery model a success.

Running a non-profit organization is not easy and I'd like to thank Stewart Stinson for his continued work and support, Joan Fallis for her ability to make sure our numbers are always in the positive, Carol Carr-Andersson and the rest of our Board for putting together a great 20th Anniversary line up.

Our 2022/2023 Board of Directors (BOD) includes Carol Carr-Anderson and Carol Doyle as Vice Presidents, Joan Fallis as Treasurer, Stewart Stinson as our Curatorial Committee lead, Paula O'Brien as website developer, Jesse Tanaka our computer advisor, Jeff Amiel our fashion designer, and our newest director Lesley Bullard who joins us with extensive experience in grants. My admiration to the current Board of Directors for working closely together with just one aim: the Gallery's wellbeing. My thanks go out to all of them on a job well done. We continue to look for future directors for the Gallery.

Our 2023 exhibitions have been extremely popular with some of our highest attendances ever. Coming up, our annual members' exhibition, Present Tense will end 2023 on a high! The launch of our revitalized library continues to attract an audience and we thank our librarian Janet Ritchey and her team for their commitment.

Due to the gracious legacy gift received from the Joe Peters Estate, the BOD has recently renamed the library lounge to *Joe's Lounge*, which will be made available to GPAG members as a new venue for salon-style exhibitions.

As we continue to adapt to a new reality, we find that we are welcoming more visitors than ever. We are grateful to the Government of Canada, Community Services Recovery Fund, and the Sunshine Coast Credit Union, Canada Council for the Arts, and BC Arts Council for their special project grants, COVID-relief funding, and sponsorships.

Gallery manager Christina Symons is reaching her third anniversary of working for GPAG and has been an incredible addition to the team. Christina, you continue to make us proud.

Our 2024 exhibition year is turning out to be a vibrant lineup and work continues to attract sponsors, who are more important to us than ever before. For this support we are very grateful.

My congratulations to founding members Pat and Murray Drope on winning the Sunshine Coast Arts Council Frances Wasserlein Award for community leadership in the arts this year. We are so proud of you both! GPAG also received the Sunshine Coast People's Choice award for favourite art gallery for the third year in a row!

Of course, I'd like to finish off by acknowledging the huge contribution made by volunteers at all levels of the organization. From board members to our gallery wall painters; from the curatorial committee to our gardener, we could not open our doors without you, and we are ever grateful.

With your help we continue to look forward to emerging even stronger in the future. On that note we are updating our bylaws and constitutions at this AGM to streamline with the times.

Over the next year I will continue to offer guidance to all, working closely with our manager and our GPAG volunteers. We would also like to invite all artists on the Coast to share their ideas for the future of GPAG. I look forward to supporting the work of the Board for the benefit of all members. From our gallery family to yours, I wish you well!

Leslie Thomson

On behalf of the GPAG Board of Directors 2023

As we celebrate community arts and culture at Gibsons Public Art Gallery, we respectfully acknowledge that the lands we gather upon belong to the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation). Our work also extends throughout shísháhlh (Sechelt Nation) territory, and we pledge to honour and strengthen relations with all Coast Salish peoples by deepening understanding, collaboration, and decolonization.

Eve Smart,
GPAG Legacy
Benefactor



FINANCIAL UPDATE

The Gallery had an exciting and encouraging financial year. The financial highlight was the legacy gift from the estate of Joe Peters in the amount of \$164,000. This has been invested for current and future benefit to GPAG.

We are, once again, most grateful for the wonderful support of our many community sponsors, grants from the Town of Gibsons, the SCRD, District of Sechelt, and the very generous contribution from Sunshine Coast Credit Union.

Our gift shop, under the dedicated care of RoseAnn Janzen, increased sales this year by \$1,000 to \$37,150. The gift shop sales, along with sale of art from our regular gallery shows resulted in payment to local artists of \$45,316.

Despite positive gains in our legacy account, securing ongoing operating funding is a necessary focus as we are still operating at a deficit of approximately \$35,000 per year.

Our financial statements have been prepared by Nelson Alvarez & Company Ltd. Copies are available to all. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincere thanks to our members and hardworking volunteers whose efforts make it possible to provide valuable programs and services to our community.

Joan Fallis
GPAG Treasurer



The kids painting station during our 20th Anniversary week

GIFT SHOP

Gift Shop sales remain steady this year and up from last year.

To date, the Gift Shop carries the work of 62 artists. All of the artists are Sunshine Coast or Squamish Nation residents. Their work includes paintings, prints, photographs, sculptures, pottery, jewelry, books, cards and various crafts.

A big thanks to the front desk Volunteers for their help in handling sales from the Gift Shop. Also, thanks to Susan Janzen, Ingrid Hansen, Joan Fallis & Christina Symons for their support.

The Gibsons Public Art Gallery is a non-profit society and the money generated by the Gift Shop helps to run the gallery. Please shop locally and hopefully in our beautiful Gift Shop. All GPAG members now receive a 10% discount on Gift Shop purchases. The Painted Lady Art Supplies and Framing also gives GPAG members a generous 15% discount. Be sure to show your current membership card.

RoseAnn Janzen
Gift Shop Manager



GPAG Gift Shop sales are up again

TOTAL VISITS

**SEPTEMBER 2022
- AUGUST 2023:**

16,438

VISITS FROM SEPTEMBER 2021 – AUGUST 2022 **15,789**

VISITS FROM SEPTEMBER 2020 – AUGUST 2021 **11,130**

CURATORIAL COMMITTEE

The work of the Curatorial Committee continued this year with an exhibition calendar that featured the first GPAG Sunshine Coast Pride exhibition, our second Black History Month exhibition, and displays of paintings, drawings, photography, sculptures, carvings, textile work, video projections, and mixed media.

Our efforts to promote Indigenous cultures in 2023 included the invitational arrangements for Margaret August's participation in the Pride exhibition, developing a consultant relationship with Squamish Nation member Cory Douglas, and continuing our ongoing project work developing an online cultural guide in collaboration with the Squamish Nation, IM4 Lab, and Digital Museums Canada. One of the related next steps we are working on is identifying how to reach out and connect with the Squamish Nation art community and share best practices for creating local public art opportunities for Squamish Nation artists.

Our recent call for artist members to join the Committee was very successful and we are fortunate to be moving ahead with an expanded team that will bring new skills, experiences and perspectives to assist with future planning. The annual call for submissions this year (for 2024 exhibitions) was the Gallery's largest to date. It took members of the Curatorial Jury an average of two full days each to review all the submissions, in addition to the time for the in-person jury meeting. It looks like we will have another interesting and diverse year of art ahead!

Stewart Stinson
GPAG Curatorial Committee



Shout Out youth art installation, 2023



Celebrating with cake served up by volunteer Mary Cavanagh at our 20th Anniversary party

FUNDRAISING

Wow!! What an exciting year GPAG has had. We were thrilled to welcome over 900 guests to our 20th Anniversary celebrations this July. We packed nine days with art exhibitions, artist workshops, our first "Luck of the Draw" painting event, children's art walls, live entertainment and food vendors. A great time was had by all.

We hosted our first ever Eve's Tea, sharing the story of our benefactor, Eve Smart. It was lovely to see Eve's friends and share how her legacy has enabled GPAG to exist, grow and evolve. We received feedback from many who attended that considering a giving legacy for GPAG as part of the estate planning is now top of mind. As a non-profit supporting the arts in our community, this type of thinking and action will be so valuable for our future. We thank all who are currently supporting us and those who are considering GPAG as part of their annual giving or estate planning.

Our community engagement boards and architectural renderings displayed during the anniversary celebrations were designed to engage guests to start dialogue regarding the next 20 years of GPAG, exploring much needed improvements to the building and gallery spaces. The energy and interest for this period of time was so appreciated. We are so thankful for the support of our generous sponsors, donors, volunteers and GPAG team for making all of this happen.

As your public gallery we want to hear from you. We recently conducted a deep dive into the future of GPAG through focus groups, outreach and an online survey, asking the community to share their experiences at GPAG and thoughts on our future community planning. We look forward to sharing the learnings and feedback in 2024.

Thank you again to all of our volunteers, our administrative team, members, sponsors, donors and all the artists who apply annually to show their work at GPAG. We could not exist and flourish without each and every one of you.

Carol Carr-Andersson
Fundraising Committee Chair

THANKS TO OUR 2023 SPONSORS



WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM:



GPAG LIBRARY

Did you know that GPAG has one of the largest collections of fine arts books (1600 titles) on the Sunshine Coast? Anyone can access this fabulous and broad ranging collection for reading in the library lounge (soon to be called Joe's Lounge), and members may borrow books for up to three weeks with two possible renewals. The library collection can also be browsed remotely by keyword or collection at <https://libib.com/u/gpag> . Check it out!

Special thanks to all volunteers who support the library borrowing process and to Jennifer Love for curating our library alcove art program.

Janet Ritchey
GPAG Librarian

RIGHT:

Black History Month 2023 in the library lounge with GPAG Director Lesley Bullard, Sunshine Coast Black History Collective's Valerie Mason-John and featured artist Teri Ejere

BELOW:

Librarian Janet Ritchey next to her art in the library alcove



MANAGER'S REPORT

The GPAG team is a wonderful mix of dedicated people — almost entirely volunteers, plus two part-time employees. I believe I speak for all of us when I say that GPAG is a labour of love.

From founding volunteers Murray and Pat Drope to the new members of our Curatorial Committee, our front desk attendants, librarian, patchers n' painters, installation gurus, graphic designers, gardener, and poster people, we count on this team to keep the Gallery going strong. Leading the charge is our volunteer coordinator, Del Lobo and gallery assistant Ingrid Hansen. Thank you both for keeping the shifts filled and the Gallery running smoothly.

GPAG's Tiny Art Gallery, a free exchange in the front window, as well as a feature space to sell tiny art, is curated by volunteer Ellen Heale and continues to be endearingly popular, making community art accessible to all. Member artist and library volunteer Jennifer Love curates the art in our library alcove. And soon we'll have more opportunities to curate and exhibit members' art in the new Joe's Lounge. Our Gift Shop is an inspiring mix of local art, curated by RoseAnn Janzen and our membership administration and daily accounting is artfully taken care of by Susie Janzen. Three cheers for our incredible team and volunteers including GPAG's highly supportive Board of Directors.

Christina Symons
Gallery Manager



Painted Lady Framing and Art Supplies owner (and GPAG sponsor) artist Vanessa Tomada and volunteer coordinator, Del Lobo



Luck of the Draw talented art model Wanda Nowicki



Member artists Kasia Krolikowska and Nadina Tandy teaching collage courage, summer 2023



GET TO KNOW OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Amiel has strong family roots on the Sunshine Coast and is the friendly owner of SWISH Boutique in lower Gibsons, a popular fashion shop he connected deeply with through his late wife Kim, when they first discovered it in 2012. When he's not at the shop helping customers "Swishify" themselves, you might see Jeff, who is a former mechanic, up or down the Coast in his classic vintage car.

Lesley Bullard has a Bachelor of Arts degree (English Literature); a Bachelor of Social Work degree; a Certificate in Leadership – Indigenous Focus; and a Procurement & Contract Management Certificate. Recently retired from BC Government (Procurement & Contract Specialist), Lesley brings expertise in building relationships; writing policy, funding proposals and reports; negotiation, evaluation, governance, strategic planning, conflict resolution and risk management. She has volunteered on GPAG's Jury and is on the Curatorial Committee. Lesley is currently serving her second year as a Director on GPAG's Board.

Carol Carr-Andersson (Vice-President) moved to the Sunshine Coast 17 years ago and immediately connected with and supported the vibrant arts community. She brings over 30 years experience in sales, marketing and fashion, in addition to her experience as a financial planner for BMO Bank of Montreal. Joining the GPAG Board of Directors in 2019 was another way to share her appreciation of the arts while supporting the community. After retiring from BMO in 2020 Carol is pleased to be able to support GPAG in a greater capacity.

Carol Doyle (Vice-President) has lived and owned several businesses in Gibsons since the 1990's including Gift of the Eagle Gallery. She has a strong background in business, sales, arts and marketing and was previously executive director of the Kelowna District Arts Council. She also serves as Director on the Gibsons Landing Harbour Authority and has been active in the Gibsons Marine Rescue Society, Rotary Club, Gibsons Landing Business Association and Gibsons and District Chamber of Commerce.

Joan Fallis (Treasurer) is a retired CGA (now CPA) with 20 years in public practice and prior to that, 20 years in various accounting roles in private business. She joined GPAG as a reception volunteer in 2011 and has served as Treasurer since 2013 (as both a Board member and a regular member volunteer). Joan helped GPAG negotiate the purchase of our building, established a GPAG endowment with the Sunshine Coast Foundation, and helps with the management of the Eve Smart endowment, the cornerstone of the Gallery's financial support.

Paula O'Brien has diplomas in Fine Arts from CEGEP John Abbott, Montreal and Goldsmiths College, London. With a strong background in textile arts, she has now embraced expressive palette knife oils and digital painting. Her artwork has been shown in solo shows at Sunshine Coast Art Centre (1992, 2009). She arranged two figurative art group exhibitions (2013, 2017) at GPAG and curated The Art of Loss (2018). She joined the Board in 2018 and her website and social media database skills have helped support the Gallery behind the scenes since 2012.

Stewart Stinson (Past President) has a Master of Arts in (Public Policy and Administration), a Bachelor of Arts (Canadian Studies) and employment experience with Citizenship & Immigration Canada and BC Environment, Lands & Parks. He has been a member of GPAG since 2007, had a solo exhibition of his paintings at the Gallery in 2010, and served as President of the GPAG Board from 2016-2019. He returned to the Board to help with the Curatorial Committee and help define the Gallery's long-term governance and strategic planning.

Jesse Tanaka holds a Bachelor's Degree of Business Administration from Langara College and a Diploma in Arts and Entertainment Management from Capilano University. He brings more than a decade of marketing agency experience serving some of the premier artists and arts and culture organizations in Canada. He is currently serving his third year on the GPAG Board.

Leslie Thomson (President) was born in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, and attended boarding schools in Bangalore, Bombay, and Cambridge, England. His passion was flying, and he began his career as a pilot in 1990. After 20 years with Emirates' flight and quality department, Leslie and his partner moved to Gibsons and opened More Café & Bakery which they continue to manage together. Leslie has been on the BOD since 2019 and continues to lead the Gallery as Board President.

2023 EXHIBITIONS

JAN 12 - FEB 5

MEET THE ARTISTS:
SATURDAY JANUARY 14, 2-4PM

STORIED BODIES
GABRIELA HIRT

A CONVERSATION
ROBIN RIPLEY & ILZE BEHNS

FEB 9 - MAR 5

what.home
MIXED MEDIA
EMILY VAN LIDTH DE JEUDE

MEET THE ARTIST:
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11, 12-2PM

FEB 2 - MAR 4

BLACK HISTORY MONTH
MIXED MEDIA
TERI EJERE (PRINTWORK)

at the LIBRARY LOUNGE

MARCH 9 - 26

SHOUT OUT!
2023 YOUTH ART EXHIBITION

MAR 30 - APR 30

FINDING ANIMUS MIXED MEDIA
KITTY BLANDY

SHADOW BOX
GORDON HALLORAN

MEET THE ARTISTS: SATURDAY APRIL 1, 12-2PM

MAY 4-28

BRIGHT BLACK STARRY SUNNY NIGHT
NEIL MCCLELLAND

ROOM IN FRAME
NATALIE ROBINSON

EMBROIDERY ON PAPER
DONNA GOULETTE

MEET THE ARTISTS: SATURDAY MAY 6, 12-2PM

IN THIS TOGETHER
SUNSHINE COAST PRIDE EXHIBITION
MIXED MEDIA
Curated by Anna Nobile

JUNE 1-29

MEET THE ARTISTS: SATURDAY JUNE 3, 12-2PM

JULY 13-30

DEEP CONNECTIONS:
DAUGHTER, FATHER,
HOPKINS LANDING
MIXED MEDIA
TANNIS HOPKINS

MEET THE ARTIST:
SATURDAY JULY 15, 2-4PM

AUGUST 3-27

SHORT BEAR TALES
LEONARD BRETT

NEW LIFE FROM OLD WOOD
DAVID EVANSON

COASTAL SENTINELS
TATJANA MIRKOV-POPOVICKI

MEET THE ARTISTS: SATURDAY AUGUST 5, 12-2PM

AUG 31- OCT 1

MEET THE ARTISTS:
THURSDAY AUGUST 31, 4-6PM

IN FORMATION
MARCIE ROHR

A LIVED TEMPORALITY
SARA FARIDAMIN

OCT 5 - 29

A MYSTERIOUS ATTRACTION
MIXED MEDIA
EDZY EDZED | PIERRE LEICHTNER | BILL WESTWELL

MEET THE ARTISTS: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 12-2PM

MEET THE ARTISTS: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 12-2PM

THE LANDING ARTISTS

IN AN ALTERED LANDSCAPE
CLAIRE DIBBLE

GPAG MEMBERS' EXHIBITION NOV 30 - DEC 23

PRESENT TENSE

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

GPAG

GIBSONS PUBLIC ART GALLERY

GPAG

431 Marine Drive
PO BOX 1576
Gibsons, BC V0N 1V0
Website: www.gpag.ca
e-mail: info@gpag.ca
TEL 604.886.0531
Gallery Hours: Thurs - Mon, 11AM - 4PM
CLOSED TUES AND WEDS
REG. NON- PROFIT SOCIETY #S-46452

2022-23 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- PRESIDENT:**
Leslie Thomson
- VICE PRESIDENTS:**
Carol Doyle and Carol Carr-Andersson
- DIRECTORS:**
Jeff Amiel
Lesley Bullard
Paula O'Brien
Stewart Stinson
Jesse Tanaka
- TREASURER:**
Joan Fallis

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

- GALLERY MANAGER:** Christina Symons
GALLERY ASSISTANT: Ingrid Hansen
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR and BOOKKEEPER:
Susan Janzen
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Del Lobo
GIFT SHOP MANAGER: RoseAnn Janzen
LIBRARIAN: Janet Ritchey
TINY ART GALLERY: Ellen Heale
GRAPHIC DESIGN: Derek von Essen
SOCIAL MEDIA: Ingrid Hansen, Christina Symons
WEBSITE: Paula O'Brien, Odette Hidalgo
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT: Alvarez & Co.
CURATORIAL TEAM JURY: Denise Brown, Lesley Bullard, Paula O'Brien, Carol Doyle, Del Lobo, Mike Tandy

Thank you to all who contribute to our public art gallery!



Please email us at info@gpag.ca with your ideas.