



GIBSONS PUBLIC ART GALLERY ANNUAL REPORT 2013 - 2014

Following a decade of hopes, dreams and hard-working volunteers, GPAG's first year in its purpose-designed street-level space has proven its potential and earned its reputation as the cultural hub of the Sunshine Coast!

What a productive year this has been for Gibsons Public Art Gallery! After a decade of working hard to achieve the hopes and dreams of the founding members for a vibrant public art gallery in Gibsons and one year of residence in the new gallery space, realized by Eve Smart's generous bequest, GPAG has demonstrated the positive results of having a vision and working together to achieve an acclaimed new level of performance.

A testament to GPAG's value to the community is seen in the stunning quality of its exhibitions, submitted by artists of the Sunshine Coast and beyond, and demonstrated by a significant increase in membership (311 members) and in attendance records which have increased by 46% over the past year.

The Gallery wrapped up its fiscal year and began its new decade with the 10th Anniversary Exhibition and celebration. See page 4 of this report to recall all of the exhibitions in 2014. Such diversity and appeal makes it difficult to single one out, but I would suggest that Hiroshi Shimazaki's "Around the World in Watercolour" was uniquely memorable. His exhibition went beyond a two dimensional appreciation of art on the wall by enhancing the viewer's experience with his highly illuminating and evocative artist's statements. In addition to this, was his gracious presence in the Gallery every weekend throughout the exhibition. Another highly popular exhibition was "Balance" which garnered an impressive 3,250 visitors. Unfortunately I must stop, space prevents the continuation of reports, in a similar vein, about all our 2014 exhibiting artists.

Other events in the Gallery enjoyed strong support. They include talks and workshops associated with artist's exhibitions, lectures, book launches and readings, art classes and poetry readings. GPAG staged a very successful Art Stroll, float in the Sea Cavalcade parade and the "Lights on the Landing" Christmas event in collaboration with the Landing Association.

Meanwhile, behind the scenes the Board of Directors was diligently managing the affairs of the gallery and, in



President Jeannie Harlow, Artist Hiroshi and Bev Shimazaki

accordance with its mandate from the 2013 Annual General Meeting (AGM), worked on revising policies and procedures where necessary to meet current requirements and needs brought about by the new space. I bring to your attention three issues from an extensive list: the hiring of an Office Manager, Michael Aze; developing a revised Artists Submission Policy document; and consolidating the Bylaws which will be brought to the 2014 AGM for adoption by GPAG members for subsequent submission to the BC Societies Act Registrar for approval and registration.

None of the achievements could have been brought about if it were not for our outstanding volunteers. The Board followed a collaborative policy which relied heavily on volunteers to realize its project or review initiatives; all committees were composed of one or two Board members plus GPAG volunteers. The front desk volunteers continue to be the back-bone of the Gallery, providing the welcoming face and information resource as well as being sensitive to security issues. They continue to successfully respond to a myriad of unexpected questions and situations on a daily basis. We are also very fortunate in our fine crew of exhibition installers whose commitment and flexibility result in GPAG's consistently high standard of installation.

All in all, Gibsons Public Art Gallery is operating well, making successful incremental advancements, and living up to its reputation as the "cultural hub of the Sunshine Coast".

President,
Jeannie Harlow

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS ... because ART IS FOR EVERYONE!

Your membership and support make GPAG's commitment to artists, exhibitions and education for all possible.

Gibsons Public Art Gallery yearly membership: Individual - \$20. Family (up to 4) - \$35. Student - \$10

RENEW NOW for 2015 ... JOIN NOW ... GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Gift Shop Report

As the shop completes its second fiscal year, gross sales have grown from \$3369.20 in our first (partial) year to \$14,151.92. (Net income \$5660.77) The increase in sales is substantial as we showcase more artwork and the GPAG Gift Shop becomes more well known. With each year we are working to increase our important function of promoting local art and to realize a financial benefit for the Gallery. Our most popular selling item is the art card, so we have increased our selling area by adding a new rack. (We plan to expand in this area so if anyone could donate another card rack we would gladly accept it.) Second in sales is pottery which generated more dollars than the cards. There too we have made a concentrated effort to keep the stock up and acquire new artists.

This year saw an increase in artists who are showing their work. Careful monitoring of sales and contacting of our artists enabled fast selling artists to replenish their stock. Artists were contacted in a very timely manner told that their art was selling and asked to bring in more. We are looking at having back up

stock from our artists so as not to lose sales at the peak of our selling year which has been summer when we have a very busy gallery full of tourists.

Christmas season sales were mostly cards and revenue not as high as anticipated. This year we will concentrate on showcasing 'gift' items at a reasonable price point. With time the community will consider our shop as a gift destination for the 'artsy' persons in their life.

We also were able to use shop space very effectively for many exhibitions. Selling cards, books and other items handcrafted by the exhibiting artists provided a mutual benefit to the gallery and the artist.

As our little shop matures local artists are coming to realize that we respect their submissions and that their work is safe in our gallery. We have paid them in a timely manner and thank them for spreading the word through the artist's community that GPAG's gift shop is a great venue to sell their art.

Gift Shop Manager

Judith Bonkoff

The Art of Hospitality



We have successfully made the transition from our small gallery to our much larger new space. Our receptions for all exhibitions and events have been exceptionally well attended.

Thank you to all our amazing volunteers, Board members, artists and friends. We could not do it without you. You make our receptions and the Gallery a warm, friendly and fun place to visit enjoyed by everyone. Again, a thousand thanks!

Hospitality Coordinator
Sheila Mullen

Volunteers Report

GPAG currently has 69 volunteers. About 51 work on the Reception Desk and/or help out with Openings & Special Events. We have introduced a new training programme designed and run by Bonnie Martens to provide volunteers with one on one help as they learn procedures of reception, memberships and Gift Shop sales. A special thanks to you all. The Gallery would not be able to function without your help.

On April 23 GPAG hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Tea at the gallery. Volunteers received a gift certificate from Quality Farm & Garden. 40 people attended. It was a huge success, an opportunity for the volunteers to get to know one another, and to bid a fond farewell to Yvonne Van Heddegem, who was Volunteer Coordinator since Jan. 2011.

Thank you Yvonne for your dedication and sunny disposition. You'll be missed by all but thank goodness you still come in and volunteer at the Reception Desk!

Volunteer Coordinator

Rose Ann Janzen

Financial Report Highlights

I would like to thank Murray Drope for his help and guidance in acquainting me with the history and policies regarding GPAG's finances. Also to recognize and thank the Town of Gibsons and the SCR D for their continued support of our many community based activities. Specifically the Town of Gibsons has given us a "line item" grant of \$2000, along with forgiving the previous year's property tax. We are grateful to the SCR D for a computer grant of \$750 and \$500 for the Gibsons Art Stroll. Also, we greatly appreciate the generosity of our exhibition and events sponsors.

Gallery and gift shop sales increased substantially in this, our first year in our beautiful new gallery.

This year we established a restricted Eve Smart Endowment Fund within our Nesbitt Burns portfolio of \$700,000. The sole purpose of this restricted fund is to acquire a building to house the gallery. There remains an unrestricted amount of approximately \$260,000 in our Nesbitt Burns Portfolio. Our financial statements have been prepared by Nelson Alvarez, CGA (formerly Esplen & Co.) They are available to all. Mr. Alvarez will be present and answer questions at our AGM. Sincere thanks to our members and hard-working volunteers who make GPAG possible. Treasurer

Joan Fallis

Shout Out 5

Words of Art, March 6 – 31, 2014



The Young People's Annual Art Show featured 128 artists ages 2-18 who submitted 256 artworks, for a collaborative Celebration of Gibsons & District Public Library 100th Anniversary!

Mentor-curator-artists this year were Sara Gillingham, Laurel Sukkau and Jean Pierre Makosso. Sara Gillingham led the Curatorial evening, with a discussion around the submitted art and a playful workshop that created this year's Public Art Piece: "DOUBLE VISION" - our most complex public art piece to date, required the construction and installation of an aluminum frame onto the exterior of the Gallery. This construction process was conceived and completed by Bill Drope. The 14 panels had 12 text letters and 2 emoticon faces. The emoticon faces were created in the workshop by the young artists and are riffs on the ubiquitous simple 'emoji' faces used in phone texting. The mixed up emoji faces of the billboard artwork celebrate the idea of collaboration and creativity within digital language. The structure remains as a permanent outdoor installation space: "The Sky Space Gallery".

Our zero waste reception was a lively full house, teeming with young people and their fans! Sheila and the volunteers held forth a lovely table and fruit punch. All was devoured!

We introduced performance into the reception. Young dancers from the S.C.Y.D.A performed in front of their art collage of multiple little hearts and heart letters forming one big heart representing their collective love of dance and desire to dance in Belgium in 2015. Jean Pierre Makosso and Landseer Enga (drummer) performed the inaugural reading of "Zoe the Dancer", a children's story. A button press was rented and materials purchased to make 200 buttons. The table was very popular with young people creating their own emojis or using the emojis designed at the workshop to create wearable art.

The G.D.P.L spoke about its history and demonstrated the 'box of books' that travelled from home to home

and the 'jar of peanuts' that was sold door to door to raise funds for the Library's first building. Four free special events that occurred through the month: a "Found Objects and Sculpy Art" workshop with Megan Mansbridge; a Little Hands 'Architectural Boxes Workshop-The Library of the Future" with Laurel Sukkau; the "mama's boys" young teen band with L. Enga, R. Fernandez, A. Swann in concert; and finally a "Theshop Songwriting Session" with Lowry Olafson, "open to ages 5 to 105 who love their Library". The song that was written at the workshop was performed for the Library's centennial birthday party. At the close of our show, 7 works of art were chosen by the G.D.P.L. to hang in the Library gallery for the centennial celebration.

All participating artists received a \$10 gift certificate from Lisa's Framing and Art Supplies for participating in the show!

The gift certificates and special events were made possible by our very generous sponsors: GPAG; G.D.P.L; Dr. Mackenzie; Lisa's Framing & Art Supplies. A big thank-you to the Board for supporting this show with hearts and hands. Thank-you to Tamar Kozlov, Jan DeGrass, Paula O'Brien, Rod Olafson, Paul Clancy, Marleen Vermeulen, and Vicoria Rohac for helping in all ways possible to make the show a success.

Finally, thank-you to the young artists, the teachers and parents who supported them, and all who visited the "Words of Art" show. We will see you next year!

GPAG Vice-President and
Young People's Exhibition Events Co-ordinator

Joanna Mackenzie-Enga



Reg. Non-Profit Society #S-46452

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Gallery Hours:
Thursday - Monday, 11am - 4 pm
Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays

2013 - 14 Board of Directors
President: Jeannie Harlow
Vice Pres: Joanna Mackenzie-Enga
Treasurer: Joan Fallis
Directors: Sheila Mullen Pat Drope
W. Murray Drope Dorothy Gonzalez
Aad Van Den Heuvel

Office Manager: Michael Aze
Membership Co-ordinator:
Bonnie Martens
Volunteer Co-ordinator:
Rose Ann Janzen
Gift Shop Manager: Judith Bonkoff
Librarian: Jone Pane
Hospitality: Sheila Mullen
Property Manager: W. Murray Drope
Photography: Paul Clancy
Chartered Accountant: Alvarez & Co.

Curatorial Team Jury
Jan Adaskin Aad Van den Heuvel
Shannon Woode Kevin McEvoy
Sheila Mullen Dorothy Gonzalez

GPAG gratefully acknowledges
the financial support of



Town of Gibsons SCR D Area E & F



Visit your
PUBLIC ART GALLERY!
enjoy the exhibitions,
renew your membership
and GIFT SHOP!

GPAG annual memberships
make a great gift!

Individual - \$20 Student - \$10
Family (up to 4 adults & children) - \$35

2014 Exhibitions in the Main Gallery

Jan. 09 – Jan. 27 Celebrating African Grandmothers: an international travelling exhibition of quilts and fabric arts. Sponsor: Olson Electric, Inc.

Jan.30 – Feb.28 In Media Res: Jacqueline Rogers & Matthew Talbot-Kelly explore words, collage, paint, film, architecture. Sponsor: Moving Tales Inc.

Mar.01 – Mar. 31 Shout Out (see report page 3)

Apr. 03 – Apr. 28 Conversation with Nature: Marleen Vermeulen's oil-on-canvas inspired by the Pacific Coast. Sponsor: Quality Farm & Garden

May 01 – May 26 A Passionate Vision: Artists, professors of fine art and master printers Bob Evermon and Barry Wainwright collaborate to reveal nature's hidden depths and dreams. Sponsor: Emily Carr U of Art+Design

May 29 – June 30 Around the World in Watercolours: An exploration of culture, history and humanity with Canadian Society of Painters member Hiroshi Shimazaki. Sponsor: Swish

July 03 – Aug.18 Balance: More than 20 renowned Sunshine Coast glass artists are joined by painter Todd Clark in diverse expressions of balance between imagination and reality. Sponsor: Sandfire Scientific Ltd.

Aug. 21 – Sept.15 Our Forest: Visual artists and artisans, feature events and performances express the passions held for the forest that sustains the Sunshine Coast. Sponsor: Three Sisters Farm

Sept. 19 – Oct.13 Restless Fables: Meghan Hildebrand's visual stories of West Coast culture. Sponsor: Sunshine Coast Olive Oil Co.

Oct. 16 – Nov.10 Field Tested: Rick Cepella's reactions to the landscape in which he works, the human form and great art. Sponsor: Allianz

Nov.13 – Dec.15 Video-Still Series: Ross Muirhead uses new image-making technology to address contemporary life and global issues.

In the Eve Smart Gallery

Apr.3–28 Pauline Lawson When Stones Speak– installation, paint on silk

Aug.21- Sept.15 Sherry Cooper Poetry of Branches- paintings

Sept.19-Oct.13 Suzy Arbor This Small Migration-painting daily journeys

Oct.16 – Nov.10 Jacquie Manning My Animal Friends - paintings

Nov.13 – Dec.15 Kelly Findlay The Serene Moments - photography

GPAG events

Joe and Joel Fafard: Oct 13 Lights in the Landing: Dec 14, 15
Canada Day Bag of Books Sale Float in Sea Cavalcade Parade: July 26
Gibsons and District Chamber of Commerce (Business after Hours): Jun 11
Art Stroll in the Landing: Aug 9, 10 Scarf Tying demo: Jun 17
Prepare, Launch & Maintain an Art Career, Kristjana Gunnars: Jul 15, 22

Classes 2014

Spring break art classes: Miyuki Shinkai, Mar 18-22
Painting workshop with Bruce Edwards: May 17, 18
Drawing classes with Bruce Edwards: Jul 28-Aug 1 and Aug 25-29

Events programmed with exhibitions

In Medias Res: puppetry and music: Feb 22
Marlene Vermeulen: demo and dance: Apr 26
Bob Evermon and R.B. Wainwright: seminar: May 25
Balance: 5 events and demos by glass artists, talk by Todd Clark: August
Our Forest: 6 events: Aug-Sept.