



Youth Arts Council of Surrey 2021

Like so many of us, YACOS has been challenged by the multiple PHO changes this past year, but we strived to support youth in participating in arts opportunities. As always, we appreciate of the continued support of the Arts Council of Surrey and their mentorship of youth aged 13-21 living and/or attending school in Surrey, especially through the pandemic.

Try Something New Challenge

Our first event in March, was an online visual arts event, called the Try Something New Challenge. Partnering with Opus Art Supplies, we created an online opportunity for youth to share their visual art talents. Each week, two prompts were posted on Monday and the participants would create an artwork for both prompts by Friday of the same week. ACS staff created sample artwork there were posted with the prompts each week. We had 9 participants and throughout the 5 weeks in March, and all those that posted, were eligible for the draw to win one of two prize baskets worth \$100. We are grateful to Opus Art Supplies and the Arts Council of Surrey for providing the prizes!

Take The
YOUTH ARTS INSTAGRAM CHALLENGE
And Win!

#youthartsca, @youthartsca, #opusdailypractice

Youth Arts Council of Surrey (YACOS) would like to invite all youth ages of 13 – 21 in the Lower Mainland to join us for the, “Try Something New Challenge” on Instagram. In partnership with Opus Art Supplies Langley.

Two art prompts will be posted each Monday for the month of March on @youthartsca. Artists will have until the following Friday, 12:00 noon to post completed works on Instagram.

The winning artist will be selected on Friday April, 9. Winning artist will receive Gift Basket which includes Opus Gift Card and art supplies.

- Lower Mainland youth artists between the ages of 13 – 21 yrs
- Artist must register to info@artscouncilofsurrey.ca by Sunday, February, 28 with their user name on Instagram.
- Must be following @youthartsca and @artscouncilofsurrey on Instagram.
- When posting artists must tag: #youthartsca, @youthartsca, #opusdailypractice. You can also include #artscouncilofsurrey, @artscouncilofsurrey & #artspot.
- Artists must complete all prompts listed for the month of March to be eligible to win prize.

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Street Art

Arts Council of Surrey board director, Ken Bradshaw, asked YACOS co-ordinator, Lyn, if youth could be invited to create large art pieces for display in outdoor, public locations. The purpose was to give youth artwork some exposure and for the public to enjoy local youth artists' work. Funding came from a Local Love Fund micro-grant from United Way Lower Mainland; Arts Council of Surrey alternate board director, Anna Hall, is also a United Way Community Builder in Newton/Whalley, and collaborated with Ken and Lyn on this project.

The theme for the artwork was Surrey's Geographic and Natural Features, and the artwork was fabulous! The final decision was that the artwork was displayed in four COVID vaccination centres in Surrey, so that people waiting in line had nice artwork to view.



Surrey Steps Up

Our third event on March 6, was Surrey Steps Up, an annual showcase of the positive impact youth has on the city. YACOS set up a table in the atrium of City Hall, with our display board, Spotlight magazines, YACOS membership forms and some visual art pieces by member, Desmond Tompkins. We had quite a few opportunities to engage with the public to let them know about YACOS and the ACS. There was a great turnout and we are planning on making this an annual event for YACOS. We also had a free draw for a Tim Hortons gift card.

Something To Celebrate

YACOS was nominated and became a finalist in the Arts & Innovation Category for the Surrey Board of Trade's Arts and Business Awards! We are very thrilled with this honour and thank the Surrey Board of Trade for the nomination.

Much appreciation goes to the youth, past coordinators, mentors, and community members who have participated in, and supported this organization since 2004.

Special thanks to Barbara Gould for the dream and the Arts Council of Surrey, whose ongoing contributions help Surrey youth experience opportunities in literary, performing and visual arts.



Looking Ahead to 2022:

We are looking ahead to, hopefully, more in person events in 2022. If we still need to safely stay apart, YACOS has a few ideas in the works that can happen either virtually or in person:

- * Mixed media collage workshop: Send out PDF of printable collage page and have youth create their own work on zoom.
- * Have a film showing through zoom. Youth can vote on a diverse film to watch.
- * Do an art swap where we mail each other drawings/paintings.

Many thanks to everyone for supporting YACOS in 2021!