

2022 Art Council of Surrey

Activities Report

President's Message

2022 was the 55th year of the Arts Council of Surrey (ACS). It started off with the ACS Gallery in January featuring the Burnaby Artists Guild at the Newton Cultural Centre (NCC) from January 5 - 28.



The ACS Gallery in February featured our Annual JUST Series themed juried art exhibit "JUST Pets!". We invited current members to submit their original artwork related to the theme, and they did not disappoint! Artist were free to interpret the theme as creatively as they liked, using whatever mediums they felt best



expressed their idea. Accepted artists pieces were on display Online and at the Newton Cultural Centre February 2 – 25.



Things began opening up again in March and the Newton Cultural Centre was full of activity. The ACS Gallery featured Mohammed Munir El-Kadi's exhibit "Phases – An Artist with Roots From the Middle East" and Bran Vrbaski's exhibit "Pixels of Surrey". Pivot Theatre's very first production, My Blue Heaven, was in the Theatre.

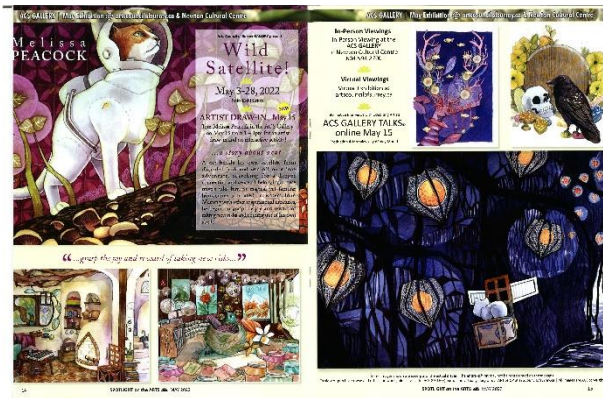
Youth Arts Council of Surrey (YACOS) held a Call for Youth Artists using the prompt: What does Climate Justice Mean to You? Youth Artists were encouraged to send in visual art or a poem, with the full exhibit being featured online, and a selection of chosen pieces being featured on the YACOS page in the June, July/August, and September Spotlight on the Arts magazines.





Surrey ArtsWest Society was in the ACS Gallery for April. Their exhibit “New Start” featured artists from their collective, and ran from April 2 - 29.

Surrey Festival of Dance celebrated its 55th annual event and was virtual for the second year in a row. The Festival ran from March 29 – April 30, with the Honours Awards event taking place in-person on May 14th.



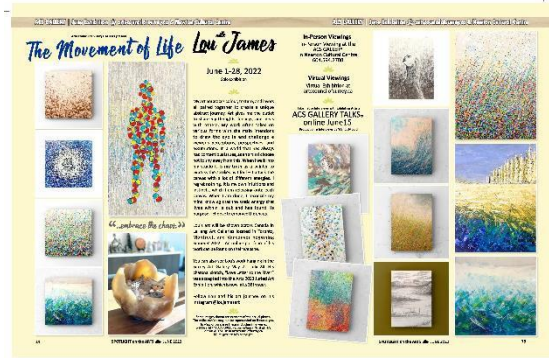
May’s featured Artist was Melissa Peacock and her show “Wild Satellite!”. This was Melissa’s first solo show and it was well received by gallery visitors. Melissa held an “Artist Draw-In” in the Gallery on May 15th, and connected with visitors over an interactive activity. The exhibit ran from May 3 - 28. The centerfold spread for Melissa’s exhibit received the most positive feedback from ACS members and the community.

Arts 2022 is our Annual Juried Art Exhibition, put on in partnership with the Surrey Art Gallery. This year we had well over 200 entries into the exhibit and our professional jurors had the daunting task of choosing 50 for the gallery exhibition. 52 works were chosen, and from those, 1st/2nd/3rd/Honourable Mention and People’s Choice were awarded. The exhibit was on display at the Surrey Art Gallery May 7 – July 24. A special recognition event was held at the Surrey Art Gallery on June 19.



2022 saw many of our yearly events return, and we started off with the Cloverdale Market Days. ACS and some members had tables at the annual event, connecting artists with the community of Cloverdale. The Market ran May 28, June 25, July 23, August 27, and September 17.

June's featured Artist in the ACS Gallery was Lou James and his show "The Movement of Life". The cover of our Spotlight on the Arts Magazine featured the work of carver Bruce Kleeberger and his piece "Think Outside the Box".



July brought back Fusion Festival at Holland Park with huge success. ACS, in partnership with Alliance Francophone et Francophile Greater Vancouver & Fraser Valley and Tin Lizzy Concessions, again hosted the Canada Pavilion. Local businesses, artists, and community members really went above and beyond donating money and/or goods for our hourly prize draw. The Canada Pavilion won the Community Builder Award along with India.

RSVP
by July 29

Artist "Hi!" Tea

HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND.
BRING YOUR GIFT, BRING YOUR IDEAS,
AND BRING YOUR CREATIVE SPIRIT!

AJC 7 2022
1 - 3 PM
NEWTON CULTURAL CENTRE
13530 72 AVE. SURREY

Our July/August issue of Spotlight on the Arts included a Public Art & Mural challenge for our readers. We asked readers to seek out and find Surrey's over 100 public works of art and send us a photo through social media or email.

In August, we held our first Artist Hi! Tea social event, in which we gathered a number of local artists and artisans to discuss new ideas and plan future events.

ACS Public Art & Mural Challenge!

Share your photos of Public Art & Murals with us on social media this summer and win a prize!

#ACSPublicArt&MuralChallenge
Questions? Email us: info@arts.councils.surrey.ca

Belinda's Connection Café
Join us!

September 22 10am-12pm
October 27 10am-12pm
November 24 10am-12pm

A free monthly event for those who are 55+, to socialize with neighbours and participate in art-related activities.

At the Newton Cultural Centre
13530-72 Ave, Surrey BC

Register with Lyn
lyn.verra.lay@gmail.com
or 778-879-4097

Spots are limited

September's featured Artist in the ACS Gallery was Steven Robinson with his show "The Articulation". His exhibit ran from September 2 - 28.

In September, Belinda's Connection Café, a program aimed at people aged 55 and above, officially started in partnership with ACS. The program's coordinator Lyn Verra-Lay went on to win the Surrey Board of Trade's Cultural Ambassador Award, with support from ACS.

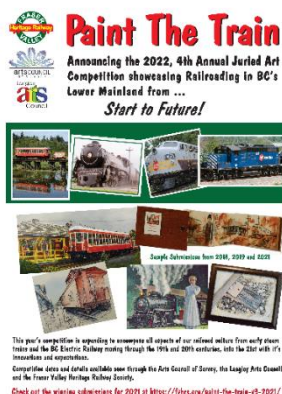
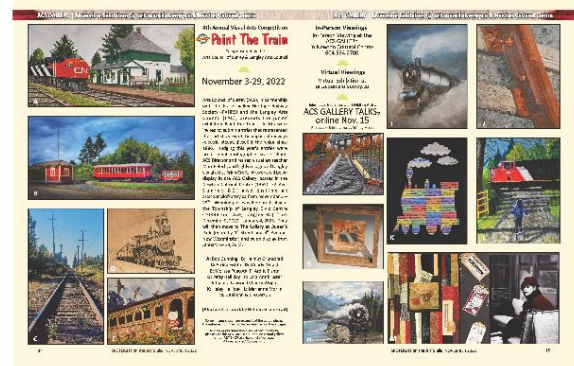
For the entire month of September, ACS held its first Back to School art challenge. A weekly prompt word was given out on our Instagram page, inspiring young artists from ages 4 – 9 (primaries) and ages 10 – 12 (juniors) to create artwork to share with us. At the end of each week, a winner from each age group was drawn and presented with a small gift basket of art-based goodies.



October was our second issue dedicated to the Literary Arts and we once again featured a compilation of some of our 50-word challenge entries. We asked readers to submit an excerpt from a novel, poetry, or an original work to share with our readers. We continue to be impressed by the talent of our membership. Studio 73 was in the ACS Gallery for October. Their exhibit “A Community Collective” featured artists from their group, and ran from April 2 - 29.

On October 23, ACS was devastated to hear of the passing of Geoff King, who was not only a huge supporter of the Arts in general, but was an invaluable part of making things happen throughout Surrey and beyond.

ACS, in partnership with the Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society, the Langley Arts Council, and the Arts Council of New Westminster presented the annual Paint the Train juried art exhibition. This year, a Junior category was included, allowing young artists age 10 – 17 years a chance to participate. Entry fees for the Junior category were waived to allow for greater inclusivity and reduction of barriers to youth art engagement.



All of the accepted artwork was on display in the ACS Online and In-Person Galleries from November 3 - 29. The winning pieces then travelled to Langley where they were on display at the Township of Langley Civic Centre from December 9 – January 4, 2023. These same pieces would then continue on to The Gallery at Queen’s Park, to be on display from January 6 – 29, 2023. The show received even more interest as it moved, leading to the Cloverdale branch of the Surrey Public Library asking to have it on display for the months of February and March.

In November, ACS officially announced the NCC Tiny Art Gallery. This is a small display on the wall across from the main gallery, inviting visitors to add their own miniature (6in x 6in maximum) artwork, or swap their piece for one already on the board.



ACS invited artists and writers to submit 2D images of their original artwork or up to 8 lines of poetry or prose for a juried competition to be featured on our annual Christmas Card. First place for both visual and literary entries received 25 Christmas Cards with their image printed on the front of the card or their words printed on the inside, as well as their bio and headshots on the back of the card. The Christmas Cards were also mailed out to members to wish them Happy Holidays. All accepted works were on display in the ACS In-Person and Online Galleries December 2 – 15.

In December, ACS also hosted a Holiday Craft Sale event. We invited ACS members to sell their artisanal wares in the spirit of the holiday season. Entry was by donation, and the turn out was great. A total of 13 ACS Member artisans and community members participated with us to end the year.

