



Alberta
Foundation
for the Arts

November 2023

EAC

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cover photo by Rob Guetre

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EDMONTON ART CLUB
edmontonartclub.com

CRITIQUES



Meet Allen Ball, critic for the November meeting.

BORN IN LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, Allen completed his undergraduate training at the Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts (achieving First Class Honours in Painting and a commendation in Printmaking). As a Commonwealth Scholar, he graduated from the University of Alberta Master of Visual Arts program. An active visual artist and researcher, Allen has been honoured to receive awards from the Killam Trusts, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and Canada Council of the Arts, among others, and is a Canadian War Artist, having served in the Sinai Peninsula in 2007. Allen's works can be found in public and private local, national, and international collections, and have been featured in galleries throughout Canada, the United Kingdom, and Korea.

Allen's painting practice is marked by discrete series that arise from conceptual and discursive ideas, particularly relating to subjectivity and representation. Always drawing on personal experiences and resisting a "signature" painting style, he consistently seeks methodologies that realize the crux of conceptual ideas. His projects reference photographic sources, often incorporating visual cultures beyond the Western canon of art, from decorative arts and abstract symbolism to religious iconography. This exploratory approach has driven him to screen-based projects, public art, photography, film, video, and digitally-mediated imagery. Across his works, Allen embraces collaborative opportunities to experience art as a socially intrinsic process.

He is currently Associate Dean of Student Programs in the Faculty of Arts, and Professor of Painting in the Department of Art & Design.



LEXI ZHU

A nice scene and the gold fish are thoughtfully positioned revolving as they are around the quietness in the centre of the composition.



RHEA JANSEN

I enjoy this painting and your artistic licence in the use of blues. A captivating work.



MARY FITZGERALD

Vibrant, lively, and enjoyable. Nice palette.



FRANCES HESSELS

A powerful piece capturing a moment in a child's life. Adding a touch of blue in the shadows of the hair will play off of the red.

CRITIQUES (continued)



NOLA BUKVI

The boat is the highlight! A little more definition in the forward waves would serve to place the main subject. Beautifully painted.



MARG SOMKUTI

A very familiar scene in Hawrelak Park. The two hats in the foreground are adorable providing a counterpoint to the more abstract treatment of the crowd.



DONNA CHAMBERLAND

Beautifully rendered background and powerful composition with the diagonal lines. The foreground towards the bottom could use increased tonal temperature by adding darker values of blues leaving the lighter areas. It's a good idea in general to darken the darks, leaving the lighter areas and then they will resonate more.



LINDA NELSON

The middle ground is powerful and draws you in. You could darken the darks to build up intensity. Painting around the sides is a good idea.



JANET FRASER

Nicely rendered movement in this tree, magical. Reminds me of Van Gogh's Orchard paintings. You really captured life.



HELENA BALL

Reminds me of Europe and the pigeons of Trafalgar Square. Perhaps darken the top part of the painting a little to add some weight.

◀ RUTH BAKER-BAILY

A beautifully composed arrangement. The colour shift is skillfully done.



CRITIQUES (continued)



GAIL FAREWELL

The graphic quality of the composition is half of a painting. A very good choice of material used to show off the work. The use of white space is elegantly done.



ADA WONG

A successful painting which could be divided up into separate paintings. The upper left quarter could be a picture on its own.



RICHARD ST. AMANT

This theatrical sculpture reminds me of the Cycladic sculptures of ancient Greece. Because of its simplicity, also reminds me of African stylized sculptures.



DIANA PANIZZON

This group of pictures tells a story. Pictures within a picture. Compositionally, simple shapes within shapes work and have real power.



KERRI HASKELL

This drew me in. Very developed artistically. The viewer's eyes are drawn nicely throughout this piece. I hope to see more of this style and perhaps bigger. Your signature was well done and unobtrusive.



YVONNE BILAN-WALLACE

Sophisticated, complex, and concrete. A lovely piece. Nice simple powerful shapes with a great story.



◀ **JANI GALARNEAU (WIP)**

A pleasing personalized theme. I love the idea of the resin coating after completion.

ANDREW BEDINGFIELD ▶

The obvious lyrical lines and curves draw you in. The figure moves and dances. The orange and green in your palette is a good choice.



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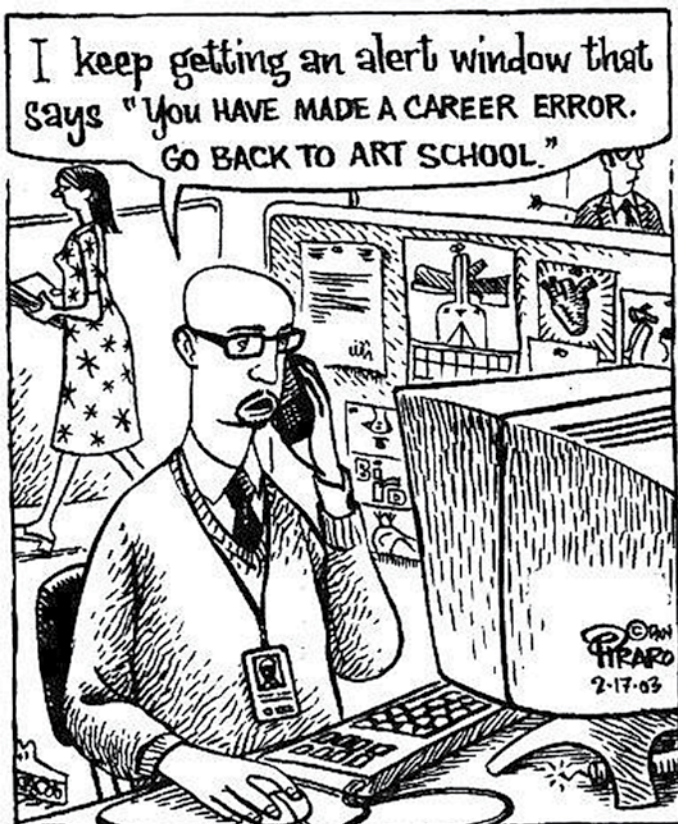
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Diana Panizzon
Secretary

Inspired by Artists

M F Fitzgerald



Kudos to the Famous Art Mentor, Bob Ross!

I MAGINE MANY OF YOU HAVE FAVORITE art websites. I know that during my art journey, I have explored and learned many art techniques and ideas from Facebook and YouTube. As I share some of my favourites, I hope you will share some of yours; as well as inspiring artists and their sites in upcoming newsletters.

I am introducing Nicholas Wilton who is the founder of the *Art2Life Creativity workshops and classes*. This highly effective system of teaching returns authenticity, spontaneity, and joy back into the creative process. Nicholas has also established the *Creative Visionary Mentoring Program*, which offers artistic, business, and creative coaching to artists. He speaks and writes extensively on the subjects of creativity, purpose, and inspiration. I always thought my work was an abstract style, until I began taking art seriously. I then learned and realized while always exploring his paintings and processes. He often meets with other artists and his blogs and vlogs are informative. The feedback on his courses is always informative and full of great learning.

For example, this term I teach a University Foundations



course and we explore topics such as Discipline, Synthesis, Respect, Ethics, and currently Creativity. As part of Nicholas's vlogs, he invites creative people to explore their ideas with him. My students will be introduced to Nicholas and his guest Dawson Church, author of *Bliss Brain*, who discusses neurobiology and creativity. Here, Dawson discusses universal brain waves, brain patterns, and brain wave signatures. Dawson references the term FLOW. FLOW was coined by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi and is simply stated as "a state in which people are so involved in an activity that nothing else seems to matter". Dawson states that during flow our Gamma brain waves are active and are involved in *binding*, which means "binding together disparate pieces of information to create something". In my University course we call this "synthesis".

I suggest that artists of all types experience a level of flow/binding. We usually have a set of goals giving direction and structure to our work in progress. We receive immediate feedback on our work by pausing and checking on our progress. This way we naturally adjust to the evolving nature of how satisfied we are with our work. Finally, we find challenges within our personal artistic tasks and enjoy observing our skill set and product. Yes, often we do not feel our work is finished or complete however, yet we can let it rest until we are ready to continue.

Therefore, next time you are working on your art project, and you realize you have become completely absorbed in your efforts and the time has flown by, understand that you have had a *FLOW* experience. It is great for your mental health and well-being.

Watch this episode: *Sculpting Your Creative Brain – Dawson Church – The Art2Life Podcast Episode 104*

Explore Nicholas Wilton's website at

<https://www.art2life.com/>

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023, the Alberta Community Art Clubs Association held its Executive Meeting in Red Deer, Alberta. As the new Vice President I have been learning about art communities throughout the province. I remember when transferring from Edmonton Public Schools to Alberta Education, I was awakened to the scope of provincial thoughts and practices, versus Edmonton local activities. When thinking province-wide I developed a greater perspective about Education. This pertains to our Art Communities and Clubs throughout Alberta. I am amazed at the variety and number of Art Clubs and groups in Alberta. I've learned so much about organizing and setting up an art show, met numerous Alberta artists, observed master artists jurying and critiquing artworks, and appreciated the community networking. At each of the Zone shows I've seen our Edmonton Art Club members' entries. As an educator I was excited to see a large representation of youth work in the Northern Zone.

Some quick facts:

- Different entry levels into the ACACA: Youth, Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced, Masters and Signature members
- Art Categories include: Painting, Sculpture, Fibre Arts, Digital Art (DA-I: Illustration and DA-M: Photo Manipulations)
- ACACA member Art Clubs may apply for a \$400 grant, see the website for details

- If you are an ACACA member and your art club belongs to the ACACA, your art club will fill out the grant form for you.

Some new ideas for the ACACA are:

- Updating the ACACA website
- Refreshing the Facebook Page
- Including Instagram for publicity purposes
- Formatting a new newsletter
- Developing new promotional material
- Invigorating the idea of "Uplifting Your Art"

Finally:

Individual and Club memberships can be renewed now to meet the deadline of FEBRUARY 28, 2023.

How about an ACACA Virtual Art Show in February 2024? Stay tuned.



ACACA Executive



Our EAC members at work for the Night Of Artists Weekend Event

more photos next page

Our EAC members at the Night Of Artists Weekend Event



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From “Story-Listening” to Personal Narrative

ANCIENT ART FORMS often depicted events and values of cultures. They mostly served as record-keeping—a simple way of telling the stories of the time. As time passed, artists were not content with just keeping record because we all yearn for a deeper level of connection. Story tellers started to present different perspectives and subjects that encouraged the viewers to engage and connect.

Since I started my art journey quite young, I didn’t understand the power of connection. My art was often a retelling of events rather than seeking connection. My journey from “story-listening” to “storytelling” happened when I was given Michael W. Smith’s music album. The words and music were both powerful. What captured my heart was an instrumental piece entitled “Freedom”. It was inspired when he was living in Franklin, Tennessee, where Civil War battles were fought. As the piece progressed, I visualized chains falling off my body and the feeling of freedom enveloped me. Right there and then, I knew I wanted to be a storyteller as a visual artist—sharing my personal narrative in my paintings, seeking a deeper level of connection with the viewers.

Emily Carr was an unusual story teller, she was able to capture people’s mind with both her writings and



paintings. The subject matter of her writings came from her surroundings – people she met and animals she kept.

They were ordinary subjects but there was so much “life” between the lines. The subject matter of her paintings was also ordinary, but her paintings powerfully pulled me into her forest of trees and skies. Her paintings and stories allowed me to enter into her world and her inner sanctuary.

Her art journey was rugged, full of hurdles and challenges, but it didn’t discourage me. In fact, it gave me strength to face the uncertainties. I too had gone through a prolonged period of inactivity with my brush. When my love of art was rekindled, with fear and trembling hands, I picked up my brush and started to work on my personal narrative.



This painting was created after a time of searching for peace and balance. Finally, I found strength from this place of quietness. The image I painted depicts that time of searching.

When I started looking for subject matter to communicate my vision, I realized I was most at peace when I was out in nature. Rocks and water became my favorite subject matter. I always felt anchored when I was painting rocks, and I felt alive when I was painting water. My hope was that the feelings I had about rocks and water would transfer unto the paper and that the viewers would experience the stability of the rocks and the vitality of the water.

Though I truly believe that honing our skills as visual artist are a must, I learned that storytelling is more powerful when the teller is convinced of the message he/she wants to communicate. Speaking from the heart and

From “Story-Listening” to Personal Narrative (continued)

willing to be vulnerable can be risky but worth it!

Finding the right title for my paintings is very important to me. Though I am not very good with words, I still try hard to find a precise description for the moment the image was envisioned. The process of conceptualization doesn't always happen in an orderly fashion.

Destination is tied to arrival, but destination is insignificant if there is no



Destination

story to tell about the journey. I was curious what stories these boats would tell if they had mouths! A couple months after I finished this painting, my siblings and I were grieving the loss of our mother. My mom had lived a full life. It seemed natural that her destiny was to “rest in peace”. When my niece shared her memories about Grandma and some of the life stories grandma told her, I realized that it was the journey she took that defined my mother. So, the painting was somewhat of a prelude to my mother's story.

I grew up in a family of six children and I am the youngest with quite an age gap between my older siblings and me. It seemed like they all grew up together and then left home while I was still quite young. I really don't have a lot of memories of my siblings' grow-

ing up years. When some friends gave me a set of old black and white photos from the 50s, I was captivated by a particular photo depicting three boys finding some small treasures. I have three older brothers and I had no idea



Morning Treasures

how they spent their days. This photo allowed me a glimpse of what might have been their activities. In fact, the photos evoked a desire to find out more about my family and heritage. Maybe someday I will attempt to paint a series of paintings about the time of my childhood. I titled the painting “Morning Treasures” to capture the golden moment the boys were having. (Reference photo credit to Mr. Man Luk Chun)

When I began to do plein air again, as much as I love painting outdoors, it was quite overwhelming. To help me focus, I started to keep a visual journal. Sometimes it was a quick sketch to capture the landscape that caught my eye. More importantly, I recorded my feelings and frame of mind at that moment –why my heart resonated

so much with my eyes and why the scenery spoke so loudly to me. All those bits and pieces helped me stay focused on the message I wanted to communicate.

In our journey of life, there are many touchstone moments. Those are turning points. Some people use words to remind themselves about the important milestones in their lives. Other people use visual images. Whichever method, I believe we become who we are because of those moments. When we go through struggles and doubts, those images, words or music notes become our anchors. They help us remember and refocus.

Some of the visual entries may seem to be just a record but revisiting them proves otherwise...

My paintings reflect the journey I have been travelling. At the beginning, painting was like therapy, a tool to help make up for lost time. As time passed, they reveal my experiences and the vitality of my spiritual growth. I think I have arrived at a point of embracing the idea that my art journey is not all about how well I can paint, but how much I have grown. The final measure is not the approval or praise I receive but how well I have shared the message and celebrated the gift that was given to me.

Ada Wong



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Thanks to Colours, Delta Art and Drafting Supplies, The Paint Spot, and the Strathcona Art Society for their ongoing support in helping to distribute the EAC newsletters!

And thanks to the following businesses who give generous discounts to EAC members!



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8882, 170th St NW, Edmonton



10032 - 81 Ave NW, Edmonton



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Alberta
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We're grateful to the Alberta Foundation of the Arts for their continuing support.

As the primary arts resource and grant-funding body in Alberta, the Alberta Foundation for the Arts helps to unleash the potential of every artist through funding, arts promotion, and capacity-building. We provide behind-the-scenes support to artists and arts organizations, giving them the power to inspire minds, encourage expression, foster creativity, and contribute to Alberta's economy. From story time at local libraries to annual festivals on neighbourhood streets, the arts are active in your community. Albertans celebrate and support the arts as artists, volunteers, donors, and attendees at local arts events and activities. Experience, celebrate, and take pride in the arts—they're all around you!

Read more at affta.ab.ca/home.



CARFAC
ALBERTA

Visual Arts Alberta – CARFAC is a Provincial Arts Service Organization funded provincially and municipally that provide a communications hub between members of the visual arts community and the general public. Visual Arts Alberta – CARFAC is the affiliate for the national arts organization Canadian Artists Representation/le Front des artistes canadiens (CARFAC) in the province of Alberta.

CARFAC Alberta Office & Project Space:

3rd Fl., 10215-112 St., Edmonton, AB

Hours: Wednesday to Friday, 10–4pm and Saturday 12–4pm

t 780.421.1731 tf 1.866.421.1731

carfacalberta.com

general@carfacalberta.com

CARFAC Alberta is becoming a Visual Artist Online Resource for your information and perhaps to download, share or simply enjoy with a sip of coffee or tea:

<https://www.carfacalberta.com/becoming-a-visual-artist/>

MEETING MINUTES, OCTOBER 12, 2023 recorded by Diana Panizzon

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7pm by President Seraya Smit
September minutes approved by Gail Farewell, seconded by
Jan Fraser.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT Seraya Smit

The Edmonton Art Club next meeting will be November 9
in this room 440.

The team and I are excited to share our updates with you.

As many of our members including the executive committee are setting up their booths as well as the Edmonton Art Club booth for the Night of Artists Artwalk. Consequently, the meetings the focus for this evening is reiteration, not new revelations.

We continue with our tradition in offering our members monthly artwork critiques by accredited critics. Art criticism is an important facet of the process of creating, sharing, and understanding art. Participating in our monthly critiques is also an important facet of maintaining your active status as a member. Each member is allowed to bring one piece of artwork per meeting for critique. Artwork can be a work-in-progress or a finished piece. We thank our critic organizer Ada Wong.

Our critic this evening is Allen Ball.

Where can I find updates that I have missed?

All updates can be found on our website including but not limited to minutes of our meetings, our monthly newsletter and calendar of events. Please visit our website. It provides insight!

The website of our art group is an important communication tool that enables us to stay connected with our members and the community. It showcases our artistic works, events, and achievements, as well as provides information and resources for anyone interested in art. In this report, the following are some statistics about the website's performance and reach for the month of September, 2023. The website had a total of 526 visitors during this period, which is an average of about 17.5 visitors per day. The visitors came from 60 cities and countries around the world indicating a wide and diverse audience for our art group. The nine countries by number of visitors were: American Samoa, Canada, China, France, India, Israel, United Kingdom and United States. You will notice #9 is not set, indicating a VPN.

Reviewing the website 7-year analysis, the data reveals a consistent upwards growth pattern. These statistics show that our website is an effective and attractive communication tool that reaches a large and diverse audience. We are proud of our website and we hope to continue improving

it and expanding its content and features. We thank all our members and visitors for their support and interest in our art group.

The overview for the six-month period from January 1 to June 30, 2023 including your individual artist page statistics are located on the website as well as the display tables to your right.

Five and Five

Members who have attended 5 general meetings and who have submitted five paintings for critique in the twelve months prior to the show are eligible to participate in the Edmonton Art Club exhibits and shows. Additionally, the club hosts a number of annual Open Shows available to all members, regardless of the five and five.

New members are exempt and encouraged to participate in all our events.

For additional information with respect to the Five and Five, please visit our website, alternatively, the Five and Five information is located today on the display tables to your right.

The Power of Volunteering and Making a Difference

Last month we began our big push to secure our volunteer base and will continue through the month of November.

The emphasis is on the upcoming shift in executive leadership as well as other committees with the focus mainly on the executive leadership.

In January I will transition into the role of Past President and lead our Mentorship program. Jani will become President. Our campaigning goals specifically, the role of Treasurer and Vice President become our focus.

While December's meeting is a social event, our Annual General Meeting in January will officially introduce the new leadership roles.

Fulfilling her core role as Past President, Rhea Jansen has moved into her "power mode" and many of you will have already liaised with her.

Mark your calendars for some exciting upcoming events.

- NOA At Walk Oct 3, 14, 15. Edmonton Art Club has a booth. Please come and visit us. Participants are Betty Dean, Donna Chamberland, Mary Frances Fitzgerald, Jani Galarneau, Judy Koch, Jenny Rodrigue, Seraya Smit and Judy White.
- Our December meeting is our Christmas celebration which includes food, music, prizes and more
- New Members Show. This is an informal exhibit accompanying our December Christmas Celebration.

MEETING MINUTES *(continued)*

- Our next EAC Juried Show is entitled “The Long a Short of it” Up to 3 pieces of artwork per artist. Five and five as well as Juried Show guidelines apply.
 - The unifying theme is “odd sized canvas” with a restriction size of not larger than 12 x 24
 - The event to be hosted at the Night of Artists venue tentatively the Spring 2023
- Encaustic Workshop with SWCA in February or March 2024
- Misericordia is scheduled for September 6 2024 – January 5, 2025
- Golden Products DEMO – Wednesday, November 1 2023 7-9pm- \$10.00 Fee Moderator Samantha Williams Chapel-sky held at the Orange Hub Room 440. Register and pay today or online via our website

TREASURER’S REPORT Penny Lamnek

No Treasurer’s Report at this time, as Penny Lamnek is among the Night of Artists participants, we will not be reporting the financial statements.

NEWSLETTER Rob Guetre

Rob indicated updates and/or requests deadline due by October 27.

OTHER BUSINESS

Please visit the display tables located on your right for handouts and additional information.

Member Jenny Rodrigue thanked Seray for the exceptional work she had done to update members website pages.

Number of members in attendance: 21

Number of guests: No new guests

Number of artworks submitted: 19

Call for motion to adjourn the meeting

Meeting adjourned

Our Next Meeting

November 9, 2023
in Room 440

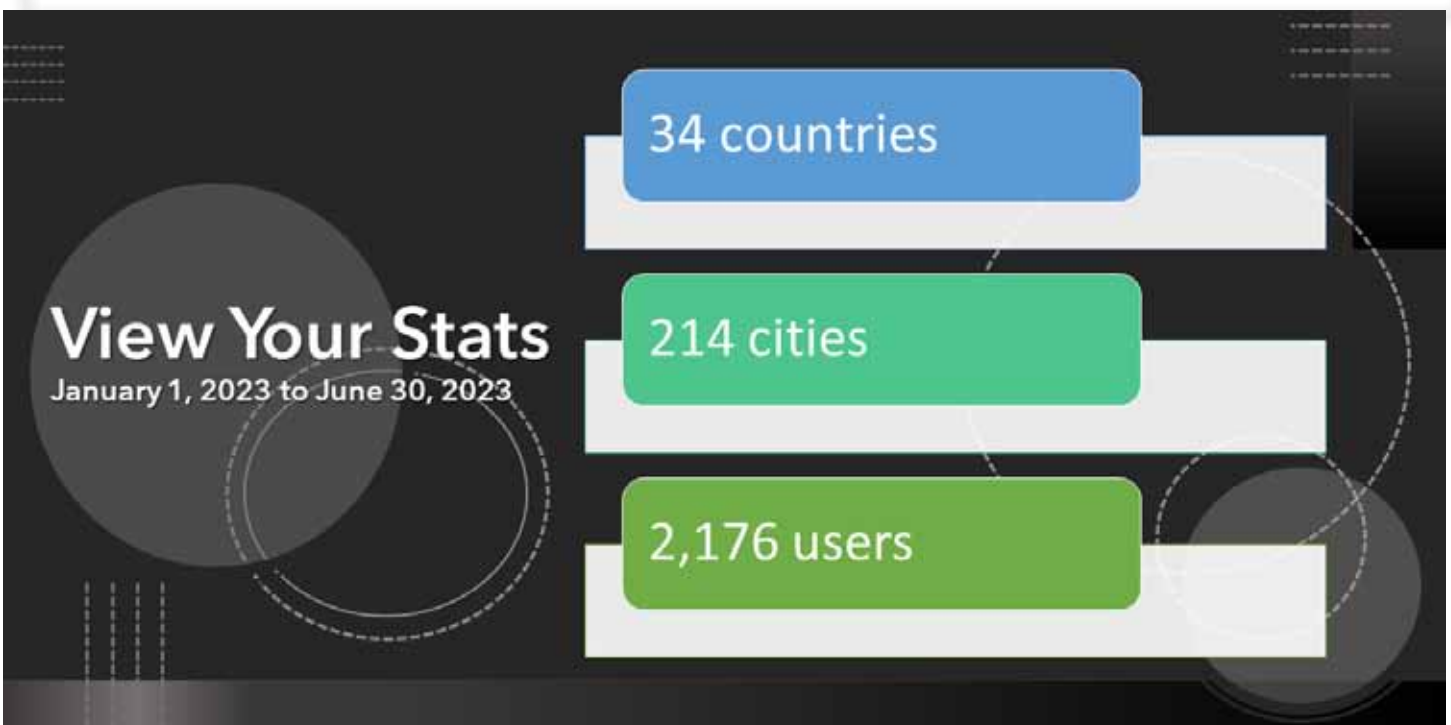
NAME TAGS!

When you wear your Edmonton Art Club Names Tags you help advertise our club.

If you need a new name tag, please let me know and I can order them for you.

maryfrances.fitzgerald@gmail.com

NOTE! Your correct spelling is important



Where Can I Find Updates I Missed?

- Minutes of our meetings are published on the website in the Members Only section, as well as published MONTHLY in our members only version of our newsletter.



The Five and Five What's the Big Deal?

Team Building Equals Growth

- After unanimous consent between the Executive Committee and all members in attendance at our June 2023 meeting, the "Five and Five" will remain in effect. Please refer to our June 2023 Minutes of Meeting.
- Members who have attended 5 general meetings and who have submitted five paintings for critique in the twelve months prior to the show are eligible to participate in the Edmonton Art Club exhibits and shows. Additionally, the club hosts a number of annual Open Shows available to all members, regardless of the five and five.
- New members are exempt and encouraged to participate in all our events.
- For additional information with respect to the Five and Five, please visit our website, alternatively, the Five and Five information is located today on the display tables to your right.

A NOTE TO MEMBERS REGARDING ADVERTISING IN YOUR NEWSLETTER...

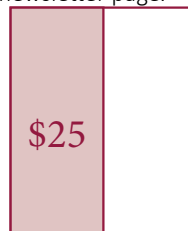
In order to help cover the circulation costs for our newsletter, paid advertising relevant to any artistic activities is being sought from artist groups, suppliers, and non-members. Rates on a per insertion basis are indicated in the page templates (pictured below). Please refer to these for sizes and shapes relative to the printed area of a newsletter page.



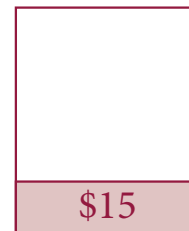
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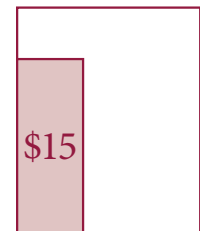
half page horizontal...



and vertical



quarter page horizontal...



and vertical

Important Notice Regarding Liability and Insurance

As per EAC Policies:

- a. As a condition of entering the show, participants agree that the EAC will not be held liable for damage, loss or theft of their artwork.
- b. Participants shall be responsible for obtaining adequate insurance coverage for their art work.

Insurance purchased for EAC is liability only, and does not cover personal items or art work.

Edmonton Art Club Executive and Other Committees 2021

POSITION	NAME	CONTACT INFORMATION		
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	VACANT			
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Edmonton Art Club Executive and Other Committees 2021 continued

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