

# EAC



**EST. 1921**  
**EDMONTON ART CLUB**  
[edmontonartclub.com](http://edmontonartclub.com)

## inside...

critiques	2 - 4
splash 27 finalist	8
the heart of it	9 - 15
an art management solution	16
reflection from the NOA artwalk	18
our sponsors	21

### MEMBERS ONLY

meeting minutes	22 - 25
phone list	27 - 28

cover photo: Micheala and baby



*about our critic,  
Laurél Hawkswell*

**L**aurél has been a freelance artist for almost 40 years after going to Grant MacEwan and taking Graphic Design. Part of being a freelance artist for her was saying yes to almost every art job. Everything from menu, logo and sign design, murals, painting banners, window painting, face painting, the odd canvas painting, to cartooning and caricatures. Slowly but surely caricature commissions and caricatures at events, squeezed out almost everything else. When there were no events happening during Covid, Laurél wasn't doing caricatures. This gave her some spare time so she started painting more and more. Since then she has been invited and accepted as one of the resident artists at the NOA Gallery. She is also a part of The Budding Art Collective, the Cadmium Art Collective and is the current President of the Society of Western Canadian Artists.

Through everything she believes that her early education in graphic design has been her basic foundation in all the art she does, including canvas painting.



**SERAYA SMIT**

This will be a gorgeous piece once finished. The mountain currently occupies a central position but may become less prominent once the foreground is rendered. The yellow reflections on the water contribute to visual interest. The cloud bubble on the upper left side could be reshaped. The background mountains are executed effectively. The composition demonstrates an excellent colour palette.



**JENNY RODRIGUE**

This piece feels cheerful. Add a faded daisy to the mid right for extra interest and include angular accents on the doily's right side.



**DEBRA LONG**

A lovely colour palette. The dark spot where the fabric meets the neck on the right side could be lightened.



**PENNY LAMNEK**

The elements are visually engaging and encourage further examination. The inclusion of gold adds significant aesthetic value. To increase visual interest, consider enriching the colour of the left circle or adding foliage on it.

## CRITIQUES



**ADA WONG**

Beautiful palette. Sharpen the transition where land meets water and add definition to the right side reflections for more emphasis.



**JOHANNE SEPTOU**

The story is intriguing and the piece is well done. Consider softening some facial features and the diagonal lines in the window frames. Extend the grass line to the right and remove the sitting stone.



**MICHAELA YANISH**

The artwork has a fantasy vibe. Reduce pink on the canvas edges, enhance pink in the image, and emphasize the head. Increase the background contrast.



**MEHAR KAUR**

The work conveys powerful emotions and keeps you guessing about whether she is feeling happiness or sadness. Lengthen the curb on the right side and switch the brown background to an orange one.

**JANI GALARNEAU →**

I enjoy the vibrant colours and textures; the jellyfish appear glossy and delicate. Their hues are stunning. To simplify the tentacles on the right, try darkening some of the white areas with a gentle wash.



**MARG MILLER**

The sky appears vibrant and full of colour. Using Yolo paper with cut-out trees created in alcohol ink will add more depth to the foreground. Including the multicoloured pieces will make the artwork even more beautiful.





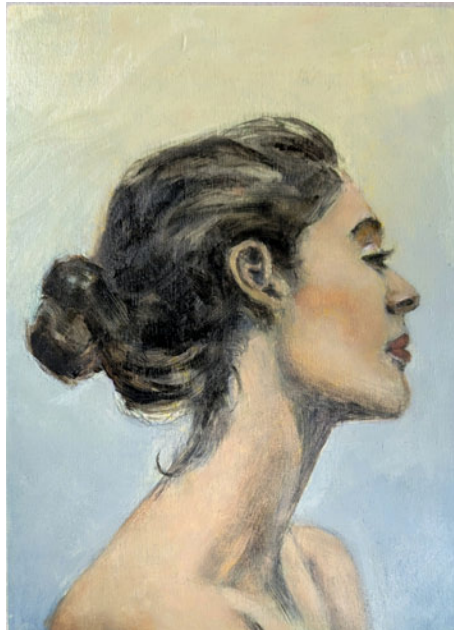
**KEVIN BIGELOW**

A highly dynamic piece capturing a strong sense of movement. The use of complementary colours is particularly striking. The depiction of the eye is rendered in a distinctly graphic manner, providing a focal point that draws attention. The shadows underneath the tentacles could benefit from a less intense value and add depth and subtlety overall.



**KEITH NUNAS**

The colour palette is vibrant and well-balanced. Sunlight enhances the buildings in the foreground, while the moody sky gives depth to the background. The dark spots on the forward trees should be softened slightly.



**ERIKA DIRK**

This piece is very attractive and delicate, featuring a beautiful colour palette. The neck area might benefit from a gentler tonal transition. Keep creating more works like this!



**FRANCES HESSELS**

Admirably simple composition suggesting an intriguing sense of mystery. A coloured mat with an appropriate frame would enhance interest. Recommend that the boy's thumb be visible outside the fold of his shirt, and that his extended fingers be angled slightly downward.



**DEBRA MCGINNIS**

The scene is calm and visually appealing, with colours drawing attention rightward. The left front would benefit from a touch more yellow for added interest.



**RICHARD ST. AMANT**

The colour is intriguing. This piece conveys both bravery and fear. Adding yellow across the nose would enhance the face visually. It's a striking sculpture.



# THE ARTIST'S

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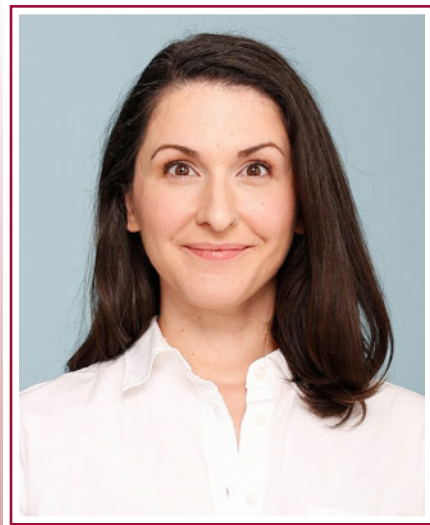
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ASHLEY THIMOT

Our Critic for  
March 2026

# CANADIAN OWNED ART SUPPLY BRANDS

## Acrylic Paint:

Demco En Couleurs (Candiac, QC)  
 Kroma (Vancouver, BC)  
 Deserres in House Brand (QC)  
 Gwartzmann Acrylic (Toronto, ON)  
 Natural Earth Paint (Winnipeg, MB)  
 Opus House Brand (Vancouver, BC)  
 Tri-Art (Kingston, ON)

## Oil Paint:

Kama Pigments (Montreal, QC)  
 Natural Earth Paint (Winnipeg, MB)  
 Demco En Couleurs (Candiac, QC)  
 Opus House Brand \*mediums only (Vancouver, BC)

\*note: some art retailers may source their in-house supplies from other countries. While these brands are Canadian owned, they may source paint from other countries.

## Watercolour/Gouache Paint:

BEAM Paints (M'Chigeeng First Nation, ON)  
 Stoneground Paint Co. (Regina, SK)  
 Humpbeck Studios (NS)  
 Natural Earth Paint (Winnipeg, MB)  
 Opus House Brand (Vancouver, BC)

## Drawing:

Nitram Charcoal  
 Misc. (canvases, paper, studio supplies, brushes):  
 Gotrick/Apollon (QC)  
 St. Armand (QC)  
 lots of the paint brands mentioned also manufacture paint accessories!

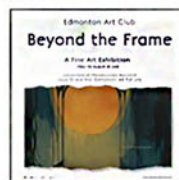


### Misericordia Annual Exhibit

Date: May 1, 2026 to August 28, 2026

Location: Misericordia Community Hospital

Overview: A longstanding tradition showcasing member works in a healing environment, open to the public.



### Propaganda Exhibit 2026

Date: May 3, 2026 to May 31, 2026

Location: Propaganda Salon, Edmonton

Overview: A spring showcase exploring bold themes and contemporary expression in a vibrant salon setting.

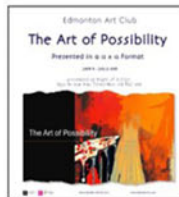


### The Art of Possibility

Date: June 6, 2026 to July 7, 2026

Location: Night of Artists Gallery

Overview: Presented in a unified 12x12 format, this exhibit celebrates innovation through constraint and creativity.

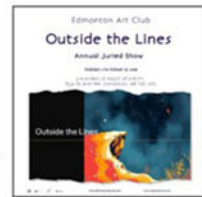


### Outside the Lines - Annual Juried Show

Date: October 2, 2026 to October 29, 2026

Location: Night of Artists Gallery

Overview: A juried exhibition featuring original works that challenge convention and celebrate artistic individuality.



## On The Horizon - Exhibits

AUTHORED BY SERAYA SMIT



So, Andre! ... The king wants to know how you're coming along with "St. George and the Dragon."

# COME FOR COFFEE STAY TO PAINT!

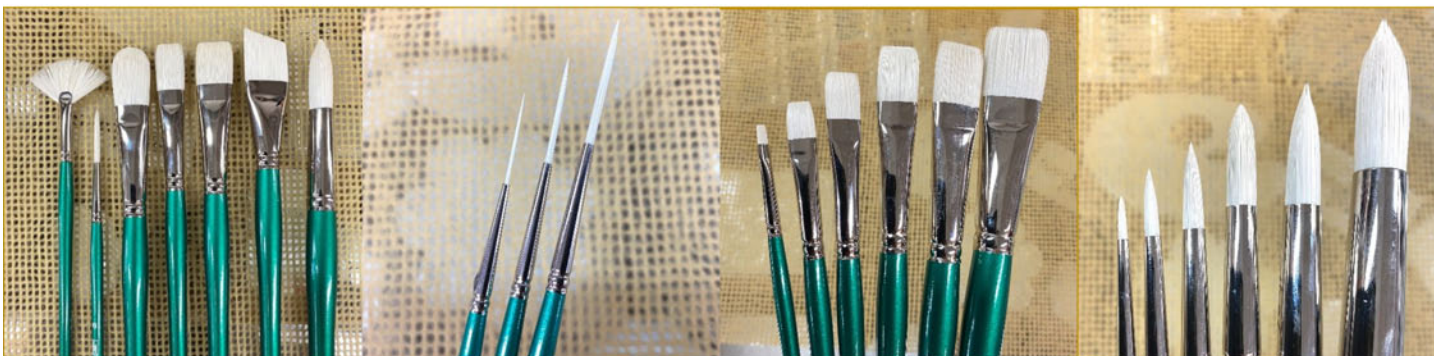
## Edmonton Art Club Open Studio

**YOU NEVER KNOW WHO WILL BE  
AT OPEN STUDIO**

Meet artists, make new friends, learn from one another, and of course chat about art!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS...**  
for the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

*the next Open Studio is Tuesday,  
March 3rd, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm*



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## Balancing Dreams

# Splash 27 Finalist

**I'M DELIGHTED TO SHARE** that my painting *Balancing Dreams* has been selected as a finalist in **Splash 27: The Best of Watercolour**, an international juried competition presented by Artists Network.

Splash is a long-running annual competition celebrating excellence in watercolour and other water-based media, attracting entries from artists around the world. To have *Balancing Dreams* chosen among such strong international submissions is both an honour and an encouragement.

Inspired by a poignant moment of my grandson learning to ride a bicycle, the painting captures his eagerness for independence alongside the frustration of finding balance and coordination.

I created the work in the studio from a reference photo taken outdoors. Edge control was central to the piece: softer edges in the figure suggest vulnerability and motion, while sharper edges in the bicycle provide stability. Painted in transparent watercolour on paper, the background was kept intentionally simple so the rider's expression and posture could carry the moment. I incorporated PanPastel to introduce subtle geometric



shapes that add visual energy and imply motion without competing with the subject.

As a finalist, the painting will appear in *The Best of Watercolour* publication. I'm grateful to be part of the Edmonton Art Club, whose supportive community continues to inspire my artistic journey.

**DEBRA LONG**



**H**elen Davies passed away peacefully on Thursday, February 5, 2026 with family at her side. Helen was an Honorary Member of the Edmonton Art Club, having joined in 2006, and for many years painted with friends, including Betty and Jan,



on a regular basis. She was best known for her landscapes, often reminiscent of her homeland, Australia, and for her gardening.

Helen will be remembered with great fondness.

**NOA** NIGHT OF ARTISTS GALLERY AND GIFTS  
8330 Whyte Ave NW, Edmonton, AB

Collaborative  
**ART**  
Exhibition

Spark imagination and experience shared stories as you connect with works from students and teachers as they express why art matters.

3rd annual  
The Heart of It

JANUARY 31, 2026 | OPENING RECEPTION  
MARCH 1, 2026 | JAN 31 12-3PM

## The Heart of It Student teacher Exhibit

*The Heart of It* brings together young artists and educators around one central question: Why does art matter to students personally and to society as a whole.

The Edmonton Art Club was pleased to recognize first place artists from Junior and Senior High Schools with gift cards to encourage their continuing art endeavors, and to further recognize selected pieces in this newsletter. Copies of the newsletter will be provided to all students who received recognition and to all mentor teachers who participated.

Many thanks to Night of Artists for this exciting opportunity.



*First place winner Himatveer being presented with her gift card by Edmonton Art Club President Jani Galarneau.*

**Title:** *Sound of the Heart*

**Artist:** Himatveer

Medium: Clay

Grade 11

School: Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack

Price: \$179

the presence of the emotions in the heart that are often unspoken. The bold color, heavy texture, and organic form and shape emphasize emotional truth and anatomical accuracy. By inviting viewers to activate sound by shaking it, the piece highlights the connection between touch and feeling, and it is a reminder that the heart is never truly silent.



**ELDER DR. FRANCIS  
WHISKEYJACK  
HIGH SCHOOL**

Sound of the Heart is a sculpture that explores emotion - both as physical and as an audible experience.

It is shaped like a heart and makes sound when shaken, which symbolizes a heartbeat and

**First Place: High School 2D**

**Title:** *Everything Left Unsaid*

**Artist:** Precious D

Medium: Acrylic

Grade 10

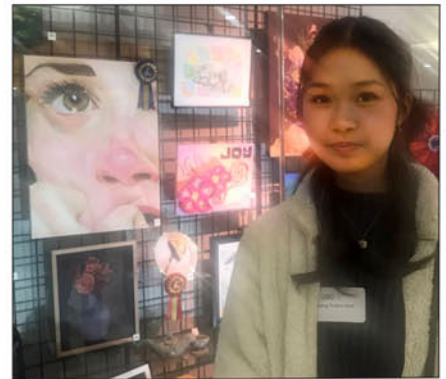
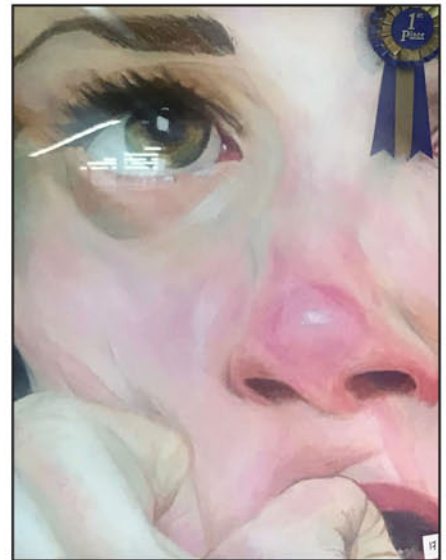
Archbishop MacDonald School  
NFS



**Archbishop  
MacDonald Catholic  
High School**

Creative expression is such an important aspect - especially on growing minds. It acts as an outlet to breathe and express yourself in ways words could not carry on their own. "Everything Left Unsaid", is an acrylic piece that I chose to create in order to express the suppression of feelings a lot of youth feel today. Buried by academic pressures, overwhelming extracurricular activities, and just the rush of everyday life, these things start to build up and often lead us to fight our own silent

battles. I myself have unfortunately succumbed to these challenges, and it can get to a point where everything seems, well, gray. This is why I think that art, and art education, carries heavy importance in my life. During times of burnout I've found that painting has always been my release. It doesn't have any rules. It gives me freedom. It gives me peace of mind. Through my painting I wanted to convey the silent suppression of emotion. The feeling of fighting back tears. There is not words, nothing being said, but you can still see the weight that the eyes carry. I could've easily made the painting black and white to really enforce the themes of sadness, but by using brighter and more vibrant colours instead, I think that it carries more significance. The uses of subtle greens and bright reds show that there is still life in a person, no matter how much you might be struggling.



**Second Place:  
Junior High 2D**

**Title:** *Untitled*

**Artists:** Rayden Martin

Medium Acrylic

Grade 9

Highlands School



Art is what prints out of your imagination — not just what you see, but what you express.

If someone tells you your art sucks or anything hurtful, making you feel like you should stop...Don't. They're just jealous they're not

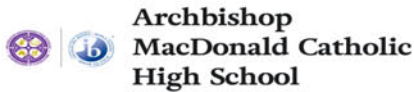


as good as you. Keep up the good work! Like the saying "practice makes perfect", anything can become art.



**Second Place:  
High School 2D**

**Title:** *MLK*  
**Artist:** Eyasu W.  
 Mixed Media  
 Grade 10  
 Archbishop MacDonald  
 \$289.99



This artwork of Martin Luther King Jr. represents the impact of Martin Luther King Junior in a historical context. I chose to create MLK because his message reminds us that one person's ideas can shape history. Through art, I am able to demonstrate the greater picture of his work.

Art education matters because it teaches us how to communicate powerful messages in creative ways. While history books tell us what happened, art helps us feel why it mattered. By learning art, I



learned how to use color, expression, and detail to show MLK's determination, not just his appearance. This process helped me think more deeply about his impact and the values he stood for.

Art education also encourages critical thinking. Creating this piece pushed me to ask questions about injustice, leadership, and how change happens in society. Art allow students to connect the past to the present and understand that issues like fairness and human rights are still important today.

Overall, this artwork shows that art is more than decoration, it is a tool for learning, reflection, and social change. Art education matters because it gives students a voice and helps them understand the world and their role in shaping it.



*Many thanks to Kelsey Baker, organizer extraordinaire, for all her work bringing this show to life!*



**Third Place: High School 2D**

**Title:** *Untitled*  
**Artist:** Alona Rijesh  
 Medium: Acrylic and gouache  
 Grade 12  
 W. P. Wagner  
 NFS

The painting, though untitled, tells a story of my appreciation and awe of the art form of Thayam. It is an art form that makes me feel connected to my home country and where I grew up. This painting makes me feel like I still have a part of my story that is halfway across the world, but it is a part I still haven't lost.

**Second Place: 2D**

**Title:** *Godzilla*  
**Artist:** Theo Garcia Bond  
 Medium: mixed media  
 Grade 6  
 Ottewell Junior High



**Third Place: Sculpture**

**Is the Ocean A Tea?**  
**Artist:** Hannah F.  
 Ceramics  
 Grade 11  
 Victoria School of the Arts  
 \$190



Art is not a skill to wield, it is what makes you human. In this time in history, it is important that we define what makes you human. Art is a reflection of you, it can be something that just makes you happy, or all the way over to something that reflects on a part of your heart so much that it makes you ache. Or anything in-between. Art is a way of communication that humans

have used for thousands of years. From mud on walls to the intricate paintings on church ceilings to digital drawing with a thousand layers, it is our history. It is what defines us. It cannot be taken away. Especially billionaires with neighborhood sized data centres, and AI making art. I love art and the way it allows me to make things that don't exist. I

appreciate new ideas and thoughts and enjoy being able to bring them to life. Lots of my pieces could be described as weird, mixing things that may not usually belong together or other artworks that make some people ask "Why?". Ceramics is a nice heightened version of that. I can mix my art into my daily life. Whether it's a dog's jaw for a jewelry dish at the end of the day, or a fish spitting out my tea in the morning.



**Third Place: 2D**

**Title:** *A Rose Garden*

**Artist:** Isobel E.

Medium: Digital Photography

Grade 8

School: Ottewell Junior High

School

Price: \$179



This painting is called *Roses* because it is about showing the progression of the flowers from young to old, from freshly bloomed to wilting. This demonstrates how we need to appreciate the little things in life, no matter how long they last.



**Second Place: Sculpture**

**Title:** *Slice of Pie*

**Artist:** Maële D.

Medium: Mixed Media

Grade 7

Ottewell School

NFS



Art matters to me because it's a way of expressing myself and my emotions. It calms me down after a long day. I can let my emotions free and put them in my art.

## The Littlebirds Band



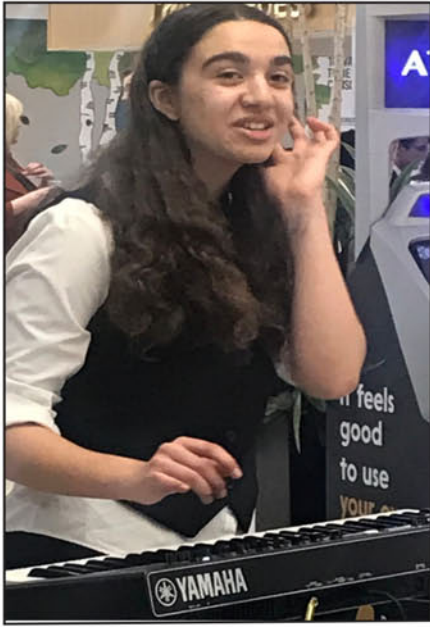
*Joel Gray,  
Director, Littlebirds Band*

The **Littlebirds Band** was a big hit at the opening of *The Heart of It!*

The Littlebirds Junior and Senior Programs are designed to help the next generation of jazz performers hone their skills in a dynamic, 8 month long program.

Sponsored by the Edmonton Jazz Society, the band requires real commitment from the students, and offers an elite opportunity for auditioned music students ages 14-21 to play in jazz-driven big band and small combos. It gives these students a chance to work and perform with other young musicians with the same passion, and it often leads to lifelong friendships and musical collaborations.





Attendees were pleased to welcome Janis Irwin, MLA for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood, to the show. She is shown here with Kelsey Baker, show organizer, and one of Kelsey's prints titled 'We the People'.

# ACTIVE ARTWORK ARCHIVE

January 28, 2026 edition

**A**S THE FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHER AND HISTORIAN, exploring artist, collagist, jewelry maker, and nature photographer, former drama / theater educator, I find myself overwhelmed with STUFF. What you see below is the evidence!

Over the holidays, I found a link to archiving one's creative work. As you start creating your archive, you will be developing your personal art story. An archive is not only a history of your art, i.e., the past, but also a foundation for your art life in the future. As you start creating your archive, you will be developing your personal art story. Think about that! It is a powerful thing to create your story and be balanced by your archive. You are unfolding and creating your legacy. Many of our seasoned EAC artists do have that history of being long-time devoted artists. Also, many of them may be using AI to help organize their archive! We are moving toward accepting AI help when appropriate.

The common Archive Struggle asks, "Where are your images?" Do you know where your art details and images are, and what they include? You can use audio archives now. Do you use spreadsheets to store artwork details, measurements, descriptions, and high-quality images?

Have you listed your sales, invoices, and financial records? Have you tracked where your art goes in the world? Can you prove provenance? Do you take photos of your artworks at the beginning, in progress, and when finished? One little hint to start you off: here is how you number your works: Inventory numbers 2026, 001 versus 2026, 1.

The video is 30 minutes long and well worth it. Please see title.

<https://help.artworkarchive.com/>

**Mary Frances Fitzgerald**



# Edmonton Art Club

Established in 1921 – Where Artists Belong

## Join a Legacy of Creativity

- Exhibit and sell your work in group and juried shows
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- Grow through workshops, mentorship, and annual scholarships
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## More than a club – it's a community.

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## UPCOMING! A GLOBAL EXPLORATION



## Into the Wild

Featuring  
Tammy Taylor  
&  
Jani Galarneau

Opens April 4th  
1-3 p.m.  
April 4<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>  
2026

Two artists bringing their love for animals to the forefront through distinct artistic styles. This show will allow you to experience their individual styles collaborative efforts.

They have curated three themes for the exhibition: African Animals, Ocean, and Birds.

*Hoping to see you there!*



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# The Intersection of Expression and Appreciation: Reflections from the Night of Artists Artwalk

## An overview and perspective

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Authored by Seraya Smit

An Artist's Journey and the Enthusiast's Perspective at a Celebrated Edmonton Event



The Night of Artists (NOA) Artwalk has long stood as a testament to the vibrancy and depth of Edmonton's art scene.

For over 27 years, artists and enthusiasts alike have come together in celebration of creativity, innovation, and the stories that emerge through artistic expression.

Spearheaded by visionary artist Phil Alain, this event has grown to symbolize more than just an exhibition—it is a communal gathering, an emotional journey, and an enriching experience for all involved.

### The Artist's Perspective

For artists, the NOA Artwalk represents more than the act of displaying their works; it is a declaration of courage and vulnerability. Standing alongside their creations in a public space is an act of sharing a piece of their soul, inviting admiration, critique, or contemplation.

This process demands confidence, readiness to engage, and a willingness to connect on a deeply human level. At the same time, it serves as a humbling experience, reminding artists of the shared nature of art and its impact.

While some artists focus on using NOA as a platform to sell their works and build

their careers, many view it as a chance for dialogue and meaningful exchange. The opportunity to showcase series or works-in-progress alongside completed pieces reflects the diversity of artistic journeys and approaches.

For many, the experience is less about transactions and more about fostering understanding, gaining feedback, and drawing inspiration from the event's energy.

Months, or even years, of dedication often culminate in this weekend, making it both exhilarating and exhausting in equal measure.

### The Enthusiast's Perspective

From the other side of the equation, art enthusiasts flock to the NOA Artwalk for diverse reasons. Some are drawn to discover new talent or acquire original pieces, while others come to immerse themselves in the creative atmosphere and connect with the human stories behind the art.

For these attendees, each artist's booth provides a unique window into an individual's journey—the passion, struggles, and triumphs captured on canvas.

The diversity of participating artists, ranging from seasoned professionals to those exploring fresh ideas, showcases the richness of the art world.

Enthusiasts often value this spectrum, as it offers an opportunity for meaningful connections and provides insight into the evolving narratives within the creative community.

### Bridging Two Worlds

What makes events like the NOA Artwalk so remarkable is their ability to bridge the artist's perspective with that of the enthusiast.

Artists find validation and inspiration in seeing their work appreciated, while audiences deepen their understanding of the creative process through engagement and dialogue. This mutual exchange fosters a dynamic energy that infuses the event and connects all participants.

Through feedback and interaction, artists refine their craft and expand their horizons. Meanwhile, enthusiasts are offered a glimpse into the often-unseen facets of artistic creation—a reminder of creativity's power to connect and resonate on a human level.

### Conclusion

The Night of Artists Artwalk transcends the traditional notion of an art event. It is a celebration of expression, resilience, and community. For artists, it provides a platform to step out of their studios and into a shared space where their visions can be appreciated and understood. For art lovers, it opens doors to inspiration and insight, offering moments of connection with the stories that make each piece unique.

By uniting these perspectives, events like NOA foster a sense of belonging and mutual appreciation. They remind us of the significance of creativity in building bridges, telling stories, and bringing people together. And in that, perhaps, lies the true beauty of the Night of Artists Artwalk.

*"It is my belief that we are the custodians of preserving and safeguarding the historical significance of the Edmonton Art Club." Seraya Smit is past-president and webdesigner for the Edmonton Art Club.*

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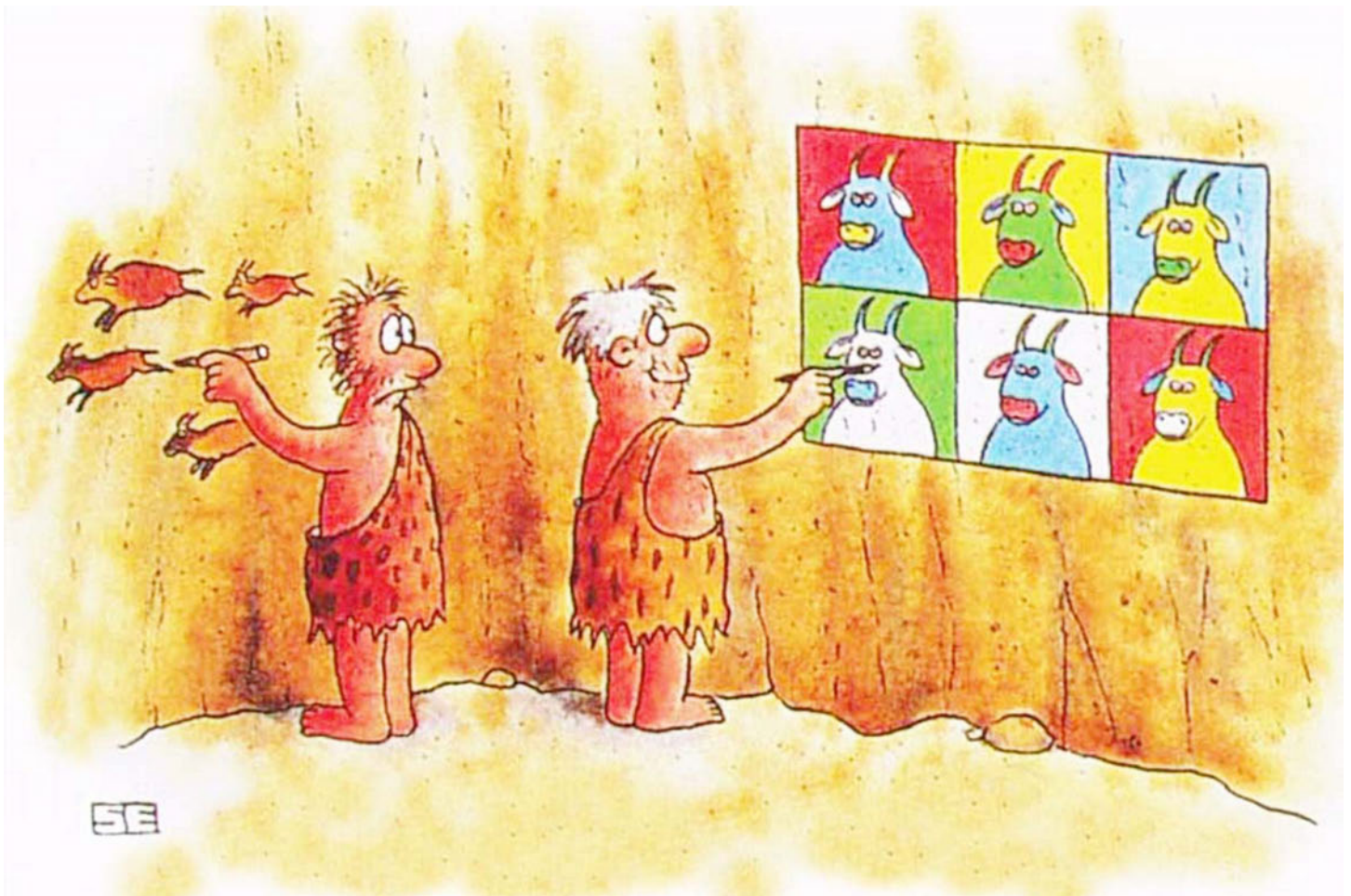
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**Jake Lewis** Owner of Jake's Framing since 1993

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The AFA believes in the full and equal participation of all citizens in the economy, polity, and society. The AFA manifests this belief through its policies and programs that promote inclusive citizenship in two distinct ways: in the arts and through the arts.

<https://www.affta.ab.ca/>

In the arts means encouraging a diversity of artists, arts



Alberta  
Foundation  
for the Arts

organizations, and audiences to participate through inclusive access to

opportunities and resources in the arts sector

Through the arts refers to the use of art as a vehicle to help Albertans learn how to respond to differences in ways that enable dialogue, promote a sense of trust and belonging, and pave the way for innovation, vibrancy, and meaningful structural changes.

The objectives of the AFA's Pluralism Policy are to:

- Advance equity, diversity, inclusion, and access by committing to pluralism in the arts.
- Promote dialogue, understanding, AFA pluralism, and vibrancy by committing to a pluralist Alberta through the arts.
- Guide the implementation of the Pluralism Policy by the AFA.

See this short explainer video to learn more:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W60KcQ\\_gaYQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W60KcQ_gaYQ)



# ART CANADA INSTITUTE INSTITUT DE L'ART CANADIEN

A key mission of the Art Canada Institute is the creation of our open-access digital art library, the **Canadian Online Art Book Project**. The project is available in English and French and is free of charge. Recognizing that we live in a multi-platform world where readers seek content in different formats, there remains passionate support for printed books. In 2019, we created the Canadian Art Library that publishes four books annually. As well, numerous books are online, which you can download. Some of the artists are Robert Houle, Emily Carr, Lionel LeMoine FitzGerald, Jock Macdonald, Helen McNicoll, Molly Lamb Bobak, Betty Goodwin, and many more.

You can download these books for free.

<https://www.aci-iac.ca/art-books/>

# THANK YOU!

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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10441 123 Street NW, Edmonton



10032 - 81 Ave NW, Edmonton



CARFAC  
ALBERTA

CARFAC Alberta works to promote and advocate for the visual arts in Alberta and help Alberta artists become more professional in their practice.

It is funded provincially and municipally and provides 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.

## Member Benefits:

- Professional advice about best practices and rights of artists
- Advocacy on issues affecting the arts sector
- Information about intellectual property (copyright)
- Professional development opportunities
- And much more!

***While we cannot speak all languages, it is our job to help all Alberta visual artists become more professional in their practice.***

### ***CARFAC Alberta Office & Project Space:***

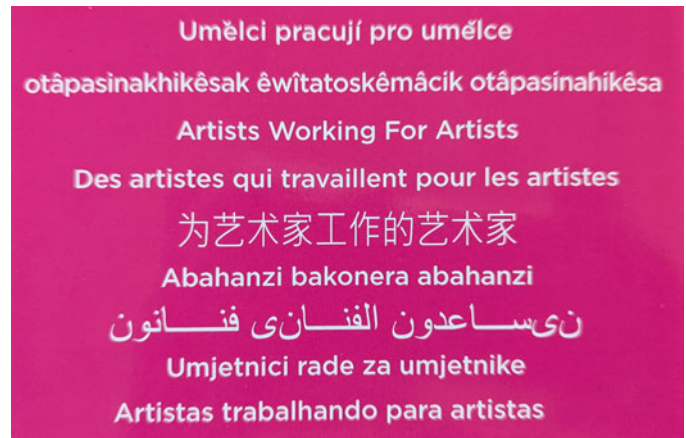
3rd Fl., 10215-112 St., Edmonton, AB

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

t 780.421.1731 tf 1.866.421.1731

[carfacalberta.com](http://carfacalberta.com)

[general@carfacalberta.com](mailto:general@carfacalberta.com)



Alberta  
Foundation  
for the Arts

***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 [afta.ab.ca/home](http://afta.ab.ca/home).

Number of members: 17

Number of guests: 6

Number of artworks: 16

Meeting called to order at 19:00 by Jani Galarneau.

Guests: Elaine Tsuruda Shaw, Cassandra Cheng, Irene Church, Karin Depner, Joan McCracken, Penny Stokes

New Member(s): none

January 2026 minutes approval moved by Johanne Septou, seconded by Jenny Rodrigue.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Jani Galarneau)

Before we begin the meeting, please mute your mobile devices. We also ask that you refrain from using them during the meeting, as it can be distracting to others and shows a lack of respect for our speaker.

Welcome guests. If you have not already done so, please sign the guest book. We hope you enjoy your visit and that it provides you some insight into the mechanics of the Edmonton Art Club. We are the oldest, continuing art organization in Alberta, formed in 1921 with fourteen charter members.

We're pleased to be back and we welcome everyone to the meeting.

For those I haven't yet had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Jani Galarneau, and I serve as President of the Edmonton Art Club. To your left is our Past President Seraya Smit and to your right is Treasurer Penny Lamneck, and Debra Long as Recording Secretary. VP Mary Frances Fitzgerald is absent.

## Night of Artists Art Walk

March 13 – 15, brings a vibrant surge of creative momentum as several executive members prepare their art spaces for the Night of Artists Art Walk, one of Edmonton's most dynamic cultural festivals, which this year saw over 400 applicants with just over 121 artists adjudicated into the event.

We are proud to celebrate our own members—Betty Dean, Jani Galarneau, Penny Lamnek, Marj Miller, Kevin Bigelow, and Seraya Smit—whose inclusion reflects both their artistic excellence and the strength of our club's creative community.

We warmly invite you to visit them during the festival, cheer them on, and experience the magic of NOA firsthand. It's a wonderful opportunity to support our artists and immerse yourself in Edmonton's thriving arts scene.

## Where can I find updates, I missed?

Website Members Only area, the monthly Newsletter and

our Minutes of Meetings.

Stay connected and informed by visiting our Edmonton Art Club website, your go-to resource for everything happening in our vibrant artistic club! Whether you're looking for details on upcoming exhibitions, exciting workshops, important member resources, or can't-miss events, the website is regularly updated to keep you in the loop.

## Next Meeting

Our next meeting is March 12, in this room #440.

## Artwork Critique

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.

Our critic tonight is Laurel Hawkswell.

## Membership Fees

Your 2026 Membership fee in the amount of \$75 is due now.

Preferred method of payment is e-transfer to [edmartclub.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:edmartclub.treasurer@gmail.com).

Please include your name in the e-transfer description box. Cheque payable to Edmonton Art Club. If paying via cheque, please see Penny today.

All this information is in the Members Only section of our website.

## TREASURER'S REPORT (Penny Lamneck)

Account balance as of January 23, 2026:

Balance forward .....	\$4,058.08
Deposits .....	\$1,715.00
Withdrawals .....	\$1,563.10
Closing Balance .....	\$4,209.98

Respectfully Submitted, Penny Lamnek, Treasurer.

The motion was made by Penny Lamneck to accept the report, seconded by Marj Miller.

I have been sending out receipts for your membership fees. If you have paid and not received one, please let me know. For those who have not paid, I am happy to take your fees tonight.

## Annual General Meeting (Jani Galarneau):

Reminder that our Annual General Meeting (AGM) has been moved from January to April on an ongoing basis.

## MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED

### **Scholarships (Jani Galarneau):**

Our scholarship program reflects the heart of the Edmonton Art Club — artists supporting artists.

The Edmonton Art Club offers two scholarship funds to our members annually via an application process. The Card Alling scholarship is for studies in watercolors. Generally, two scholarships of \$2000.00 each are given annually. The Mildred Nelson scholarship is for studies in mediums other than watercolor. Generally, one scholarship of \$1000.00 is given annually.

For full details, please refer to the guidelines on our website—this is where the benefits of volunteering truly come into play!

In accordance with our guidelines, last year's scholarship recipients will form this year's Scholarship Committee, with oversight from me. This ensures a thoughtful and experienced selection process. Last Year's Card Alling recipients, Penny Lamnek and Lorie Meyer and last year's Mildred Nelson recipient Betty Dean will comprise the committee moderated by myself.

If you're planning to grow your skills this year — whether through a workshop, class, or mentorship — these scholarships are designed to support your artistic development. Scholarship funds can be used for workshops, courses, retreats, or specialized training that aligns with your artistic goals. Each year, these scholarships help our members pursue new techniques, attend inspiring workshops, and bring fresh ideas back to the club.

The application is simple and artist-friendly — we want to hear about your goals, not your paperwork skills. The application deadline is April 30, so be sure to submit your materials on time!

### **Heart of It – Student Teacher Exhibit**

As part of our mandate for community outreach, the Edmonton Art Club is pleased to support the Heart of It – Student Teacher Exhibit by providing three \$100 gift certificates from The Paint Spot to help celebrate and encourage emerging artists.

The exhibition runs from January 31 to March 1 at the Night of Artists (NOA) Gallery in Bonnie Doon Centre. With over 160 artworks, this show highlights the creative dialogue between students and teachers and showcases the development of young talent within our community. The exhibit is part of NOA's ongoing programming, where Kelsey Baker, a resident artist at NOA, and our President, Jani Galarneau, also exhibit their work.

The Executive Committee met and unanimously agreed to make this contribution an annual initiative—provided that

our financial position allows us to continue supporting it responsibly.

I now call upon the membership, by a show of hands, to vote on adopting this as an ongoing commitment. Motion was passed.

### **On the Horizon (Jani Galarneau):**

The Edmonton Art Club is preparing an exciting lineup of exhibitions that highlight the depth, diversity, and creative spirit of our membership.

As showcased on our Exhibits & Shows website page, the Club continues its long tradition of presenting a wide range of Canadian artwork, offering audiences fresh perspectives and compelling themes throughout the year.

From seasonal exhibitions to special feature showcases, each event provides an opportunity to connect with art that inspires, challenges, and delights. With new updates added regularly, the Exhibits & Shows page remains the best place to follow upcoming events and stay connected to the evolving creative landscape of the Edmonton Art Club.

Many of you have already signed up via the sign up sheets located on the tables to your right. Note however that these sheets are for gauging purposes only. Official event registration is via our website.

### **Exhibits**

#### ***Misericordia Annual Exhibit***

**Date:** May 1, 2026 to August 28, 2026

**Location:** Misericordia Community Hospital

**Overview:** A longstanding tradition showcasing member works in a healing environment, open to the public.

#### ***Propaganda Exhibit 2026***

**Date:** May 3, 2026 to May 31, 2026

**Location:** Propaganda Salon, Edmonton

**Overview:** A spring showcase exploring bold themes and contemporary expression in a vibrant salon setting.

#### ***The Art of Possibility***

**Date:** June 6, 2026 to July 7, 2026

**Location:** Night of Artists Gallery

**Overview:** Our primary exhibition focus leading up to the Annual Juried Show. Presented in a unified 12"×12" format, this exhibit celebrates innovation through constraint and invites members to explore new ideas within a shared structure. To ensure a strong and vibrant presence, we are asking for robust member participation, with a mandatory minimum of three 12"×12" paintings per artist. Unlike our Misericordia and Propaganda exhibitions—which place no age restrictions on submitted artwork—The Art of

## MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED

Possibility is designed as a cohesive, contemporary showcase that highlights the collective creativity of our membership.

### ***Outside the Lines – Annual Juried Show***

**Date:** October 2, 2026 to October 29, 2026

**Location:** Night of Artists Gallery

**Overview:** A juried exhibition featuring original works that challenge convention and celebrate artistic individuality.

### **Workshops**

Workshop participation in 2025 was lower than we had hoped, and this has prompted us to explore alternative formats and fresh approaches that may better meet the needs and interests of our members. We remain committed to offering meaningful opportunities for learning, growth, and connection, and your input is an essential part of that process.

### ***Lino Print One-day Workshop***

**Date:** Tentatively scheduled for June 2026

**Location:** NOA gallery workshop space. Plenty of parking and food options.

**Overview:** Participants will create a linocut print up to 4"x6"; learning how to carve a block and using ink to print it by hand. At the end of class, you will go home with your block and paper prints.

**Cost:** \$98 Members and \$113 Non-Members, all materials are included: a lino block, carving tools, ink, rollers, and paper.

**Registration:** Sign up sheet is on the tables located to your right. Please note that this sign up sheet is for gauging purposes only. Official registration via our website. Limited to 10-12 participants.

### **Volunteering (Jani Galarneau):**

Volunteer hours and in kind contributions are far more than a symbolic gesture—they directly support the Edmonton Art Club's ability to meet its goals, secure essential grant funding, and sustain the programs and opportunities we offer. That time truly is worth money, and your involvement strengthens both our operations and our creative community.

Strong volunteer engagement also demonstrates the diverse and committed membership that funders expect to see, and it opens the door to scholarship eligibility, with two annual awards recognizing members who show consistent volunteer involvement. It truly is a win-win for both you and the Club.

Thank you for sharing your time, skills, and vision with us.

You are the heart and soul of this organization.

As part of our ongoing efforts to secure grant funding, collecting accurate volunteer hours is essential. We encourage all members to download and use the Volunteer Hours Collection Form to track their contributions throughout the year. Completed forms should be submitted to Mary Frances Fitzgerald, who forms part of the Membership Committee, either in person or via email.

### ***Volunteer Engagement Initiative***

To honour the dedication and hard work of our volunteer members, prizes will be awarded to those who have actively volunteered in the previous year. This ensures that the recognition goes to individuals who have made meaningful contributions to the club. New members who sign up to volunteer will be eligible for prizes in the following year, provided they have actively participated in volunteer activities. All 2025 volunteers have been entered into the draw for this month and for each of the club's active months throughout 2026.

We're pleased to continue this annual tradition of recognizing and celebrating our dedicated volunteers. Our sincere appreciation goes out to each of you for the time, energy, and enthusiasm you contribute.

In the absence of Yvonne Bilan Wallace, last month's recipient, Jani Galarneau will select the name. During the scheduled break, we invite the selected winner Jenny Rodrigue to visit the table (located at the rear of the room) to choose a prize.

### ***Volunteer Restructuring (Seraya Smit)***

Volunteering is central to the strength and continuity of the Edmonton Art Club, and as Past President, part of my mandate is to populate the executive and committee teams to ensure smooth operations and thoughtful transitions.

This year, I will be streamlining our committees to keep them active, effective, and aligned with the Club's needs. Some committees currently include inactive members whose roles are no longer required, and these positions will be respectfully phased out to support a more efficient structure. Volunteers who are inactive will not be removed from our community; instead, they will be reassigned to lower-commitment roles where they can remain connected without the expectations of regular committee work. If you fall into the inactive category, you can expect an email from me outlining next steps and available options. This approach allows us to honour everyone's contributions while building a more engaged, sustainable volunteer framework for the year ahead.

I want to acknowledge everyone who has already reached

## MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED

out to volunteer by email, and I appreciate your patience as I balance responsibilities between the Edmonton Art Club, the Night of Artists festival and my personal life.

### Website Password Update (Seraya Smit):

In case some of you did not read last's week official Edmonton Art Club email announcing our monthly general meeting details, the password for the Members Only portion has been updated. For security reasons today, please refer to the email, or see me after the administrative portion of tonight's meeting.

That concludes my report for February 2026. Before I turn the meeting back over to Jani, two free tickets for the NOA Gala are available. If you're interested in the tickets, please talk to me after the meeting.

### Newsletter report (Jani Galarneau):

Submission deadline is two weeks from today February 26.

All members are encouraged to submit a newsworthy item for publication in the newsletter. Rob is looking for a seasonal photo for the cover page image.

Please email Rob Guetre with your submissions.

### Other business:

Guest Irene Church spoke in remembrance of her sister and Edmonton artist, Donna Miller.

Michaela Yanish was presented with a gift for her baby.

### Attendance:

Taken by Debra Long and followed by invitation for two

volunteers to assist the critic this evening.

Before we close, I want to express my gratitude for the energy and dedication each of you brings to the Edmonton Art Club. Tonight's updates—from volunteer initiatives to our growing digital reach—remind us how much we can accomplish when we work together. Thank you for contributing your time, your creativity, and your presence. I look forward to seeing the ways we continue to grow, support one another, and celebrate the art that connects us.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

### Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 19:30. Moved by Kevin Bigelow and seconded by Mehar Kaur.

Post-meeting Artwork Critique:

Our critic for the evening, Laurel Hawkswell, was introduced by Kevin Bigelow

Our gofers were Kevin Bigelow and Mehar Kaur

Our Next Meeting

March 12, 2026  
in room 440

# SCHOLARSHIPS



If you're planning to grow your skills this year – whether through a workshop, class, or mentorship – these scholarships are designed to support your artistic development.

Scholarship funds can be used for workshops, courses, retreats, or specialized training that aligns with your artistic goals.

Each year, these scholarships help our members pursue new techniques, attend inspiring workshops, and bring fresh ideas back to the club.

The application is simple and artist-friendly – we want to hear about your goals, not your paperwork skills. The application deadline is April 30, so be sure to submit your materials on time!



# Membership Fees Due Now

Membership fees for 2026 are due now. Our preferred method of payment is e-transfer.

E-transfer our treasurer Penny Lamnek: edmartclub.treasurer@gmail.com

Please include your name in the e-transfer description box

OR cheque payable to Edmonton Art Club. If paying via cheque, please see Penny today.

All this information is on our website in the Members Only section.

Once your membership fees have been paid, please see Seraya Smit to obtain your membership card.

## Where Can I Find Updates I Missed?

- Website Members Only Area
- Monthly Newsletter
- Minutes of Meeting



AUTHORED BY SERAYA SMIT

### Important Notice Regarding Liability and Insurance

As per EAC Policies:

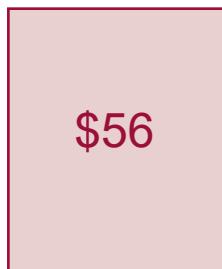
a. As a condition of entering the show, participants agree that the EAC will not be held liable for damage, loss or theft of their artwork.

b. Participants shall be responsible for obtaining adequate insurance coverage for their art work.

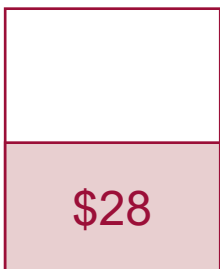
Insurance purchased for EAC is liability only, and does not cover personal items or art work.

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

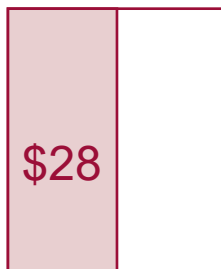
In order to help cover the circulation costs for our newsletter, paid advertising relevant to any artistic activities is being sought from artist groups, suppliers, and non-members. Rates on a per insertion basis are indicated in the page templates (pictured below). Please refer to these for sizes and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



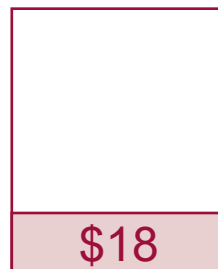
full page



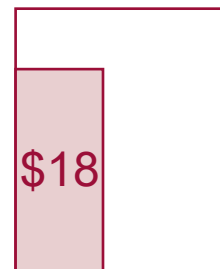
half page horizontal..



and vertical



quarter page horizontal...



and vertical

# Edmonton Art Club Executive and Other Committees

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Contact Information</i>	
<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>			
President	Jani Galarneau	jgalarneau@live.ca	780 994-9210
Vice President	Mary Frances Fitzgerald	maryfrances.fitzgerald@gmail.com	780 554-8802
Past President	Seraya Smit	serayasmit@hotmail.com	780 953-8919
Treasurer	Penny Lamnek	hans.lamnek@outlook.com	780 689-2410
<i>treasurer in training</i>		VACANT	
Correspondence and Secretary	Debra Long	dflong@telus.net	780 218-2320
Recording Secretary	Michaela Yanish	michaela@raffertys.ca	780 990-2572
<i>back-up</i>		VACANT	
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Critic Organizer	Judy White	daydreamer1203@gmail.com	780 660-9166
Critique Writer	Jenny Rodrigue	jenita8237@gmail.com	587 879-5367
Critique Photographer	Jenny Rodrigue	jenita8237@gmail.com	587 879-5367
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<i>back-up</i>	Rob Guetre	rsguetre@gmail.com	780 991-8756
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<i>co-chair</i>	Jani Galarneau	jgalarneau@live.ca	780 994-9210
<i>organiser</i>	Betty Dean	marydean@telus.net	780 466-9152
<i>organiser</i>	Lorie Meyer	lorie.meyer80@gmail.com	825 777-2279
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Librarian	Barb Stachow	bstachow@telus.net	780 457-2356
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Receipts	Barb Stachow	bstachow@telus.net	780 457-2356

# Edmonton Art Club Executive and Other Committees

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Contact Information</i>	
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Scholarships	<i>administrator</i>	Lorie Meyer	lorie.meyer80@gmail.com 825 777-2279
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		Betty Dean	marydean@telus.net 780 466-9152
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		Seraya Smit	serayasmit@hotmail.com 780 953-8919
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		<i>co-chair</i>	Jani Galarneau jgalarneau@live.ca 780 994-9210
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		<i>organiser</i>	VACANT
		<i>organiser</i>	VACANT