

## Nicola Valley Art Centre AGM Gallery Report

Arts Gallery Curator: Yano Howarth

Oct 2024

*The NVCAC Gallery at the Arts Centre is a hub of activity for artists and arts enthusiasts, to meet and chat, and share processes and interests.*

*The Arts Centre Gallery & Shop, Program Space, NVCAC office space, and storage areas, provide a place for shows, sales, files, art classes and program supplies, etc*

**Art Gallery Programs** -Local Art Cards, Indigenous, Local CD's. Books, Jean Kiegerl and Pius Chongs books (proceeds to NVCAC)

Dates for 23/24 Shows	Title	Show	# Artists	# Visitor	Reception /Workshop
To Sept 10th	1st Summer Artisan Show	All Artisans and 6 new	40+	255	Meet and Greet
Sept 14-Oct15	The Wyatt Collins Show: Tmixw-Celebrating Our Land	Included art for Red Dress Series and <i>Children are Loved</i> pieces. Tshirts for sale	1		Meet and Greet Sept 22
Oct 19-Nov 12	Dark and Dreamy	Community Show	20+	110	Event Oct 27th
Nov 17- Jan 7	8th Winter Artisan Show	Our Shop Artisans and invites	30+ & 6+ Additional	120	Artisan Meet and Greet Country Christmas Late Shop
Jan 18- Feb 25	A Love of Quilting and a Passion for Giving	Nicola Valley Quilters' Guild	12	150	Jan 26 Meet and Greet. Interactive activity in Studio
Feb 29-Mar 31	Art Heals Community Art Show	Community Show	15+		Reception Mar 15 With Kathleen Kinasewich <a href="#">Richard Lepinsky</a>
Apr 4-27	Linda Suzuki	Individual Show	1	150+	Meet and Greet Watercolour Class
May 2-Jun 2	The Opie Show	Opie Oppenheim Tribute	1		May 3rd Opening Reception 3rd Anniversary Family May 15 June 2 Take Down Open House
Jun 6-23	MSS Senior Show	MSS Art Teacher Shannon Dunn and her Seniors Art Students	25+		Reception
Summer 24	2nd Summer Artisan Show	All artisans and new for summer	40+	440	Reception, same night as Night Market
Total	9 Shows	3 Artist Shows 2 Community Shows 2 Group shows 2 Artisan shows	150+		Variety of Receptions and Art interactive Workshops
2024-25 Shows so far	Industrial Dreamcatcher: Leonard George Works	Individual show, variety of mediums, metal, and mixed media			Numbers of visitors need to be added from other reports ...in Progress

**Gallery Volunteers:** Mischelle Pierce, Sharon Pawliuk, Marilyn Kelly, Herta Klassen. Linda Suzuki, Leonard George, Shannon Dunn, Barb Sayles, Rose Kanda. Sarah Molnare, David Oppenheim, Candice Oppenheim, Angelina Brooymans, Rona Collins Quilters Guild, Brooklyn Harris Kelly Reid, Joel Reid, Katalin Kovacs, Cindilla Trent, Kim Leclair, Kerstin Auer

**Gallery Shop Artisans:** Kerstin Auer, Jeff Bloom, Lynn Cox, Diana Grimshire, Angela Ho, Sandy Labermeyer, Lakeshore Creations (Lori), Sarah Molnar, Susan Parkinson, Marilyn Kelly, Shirley Reynolds, Katalin Kovacs, Herta Klassen, Kristina Brewer, Barb Sayles, Cindilla Trent, Vicki Strom

### 2023-24 Gallery Highlights:

- Joel Reid, Katalin Kovacs, Angelina Brooymans, Cassandra Dolen art in the Breezeway
- Good variety of shows, artists
- Beautiful new inventory on display for the artisan shows
- Visitors from all over, with positive comments
- Lots of community recognition for our local artists, with good sales and participation from community, council, and friends and family of artists
- Good coverage of the shows and artists by media
- Coco's Restaurant- Yano gathered and put up art in October, by Linda Suzuki, Angelina Brooymans, Joel Reid, Joanne Massey
- Angelina Brooymans took over Coco's art on the wall initiative, Summer 2024

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### 2024-25 Upcoming Shows

Oct 17-Nov 10 **Whodunnit: Community Show**

Nov 14-Dec 24 **9th Winter Artisan Show**

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### Yearly Shows

February Community Theme

June MSS Seniors Show

July-August Summer Artisan Show

Individual Artist Shows

Group or Invite Show

### Studio and Clubhouse Spaces Activities/Events

The Program Committee works with Gallery to match up shows with an art workshop, interactive art, or artists talk

### Future Requests, or suggestion for Shows

Regional Show, Sports and Rec Show, Digital Art Show. Kids Art Show, "People at Work" Show

### Promotions for Gallery Shows

Gallery Curator-Yano Howarth-posters, Facebook, Instagram

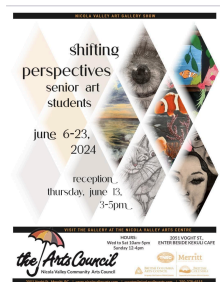
Kim Leclair-poster design

NVCAC Media-Kerstin Auer- FB posts, newsletter

Merritt Herald=Kenneth Wong

Q101-Gavin Anshelm

## Posters Sept 23- Sept 24



Posters by Kim LeClair in collaboration with Yano Howarth, Gallery Curator

I would like to express my appreciation to the NVCAC for the past 7 years as Gallery Curator, project worker, and participant in many capacities on our committees over that time.

There are many people to thank! But especially the Directors, the Artisans, and our volunteers, who have become very special to me. And the local media, and City Council. (Those last two seem to have increased their support over the years due to the exceptional work of the first three. *All of us!*) Kim Leclair, of course, has always been an Arts Council participant and promoter.

Thanks to Barb Sayles, Mischelle Pierce, Silke Fligge, Angelina Brooymans, Marilyn Kelly, and Amanda Pryzner Dunn for directly managing Gallery shows and processes when I've been absent.

And thanks to Angelina Brooymans, Kerstin Auer, Mischelle of course and the others who have jumped in to take over some of my favorite initiatives, projects, and committee work.

I brought to my curator position and participation on the arts committees and projects *my experience, expertise, and skill sets* gleaned from my personal upbringing, the years working with my family gift and book shop, experiences raising my own family, and over 30 years as an educator, most with the First Nations community (I put up a lot of displays in the gym and hallways. And put on endless events!). All those experiences made the *taking on the position of Art Gallery Director* a possibility, with the support, guidance, and encouragement from my family and arts council community. It has been a learning experience, a fulfilling, inspiring, and challenging experience, that I am grateful to have made a part of my life's journey.

Those early years with Mischelle Pierce, Jackie Stibbards, Chelsea Werrun, Jean Kiegerl, Jane Bartle, Denise Kearney, Leonard George, Kelly and Joel Reid, Amrit Ahuja, Jen Artibise... in the Courthouse were something else! Building on the past work of arts council artists like Bev Veale, Kim Leclair, and Shirley Reynolds we were able to initiate outstanding projects, like new arts programs, Open Mic and the Gift Shop.

These projects and the Gallery Shows continued and expanded with our move here to 2051 Voght Street. And with our competent, talented people, with a variety of skill sets, I enjoyed the new initiatives of the Arts Trailer, Spirit Square events, our stellar interns Kari Kroeker and Brooklyn Harris, and the amazing collaborative City Arts project. The NVCAC really has claimed an impactful, respected, creative space in our community.

In my involvement, I have to say I really enjoyed working with our musicians and visual artists. Open Mic was a favorite, and gave me hours of enjoyment and respite on Friday nights while my partner of 35 years was winding down. In my position as Gallery Curator I was impacted, often to tears, at the talent and personal expression of the artists I worked with. Every show but one was with our local talent. And one of the things I really appreciated was the support of my NVCAC friends and colleagues, to put on a variety of shows, reaching into the heart of our community with individuals and groups who were not always part of an arts exhibition.

Like the taxidermists, fly tiers, shoe collectors, clothing and furniture upcyclers, tattoo and hair artists.  
Definitely some of my favorites!

I was thankful to have the opportunity to bring people together around tough issues, like mental health, our Covid experience, the tragic floods in 2021? (with a show about our pets "Creature Comforts"), and "Art Heals", how art plays a part in our personal, community, and global healing journeys.

From tragedy to joy, expressing yourself is a good thing... IMHO

So, thanks all. On to the next chapter. Thank you for the encouragement I have received from you to take this next step. And good luck to the NVCAC and arts community. I can't imagine anything less than the continued success of the NVCAC, with the participation of the competent, inspiring and joyful team that makes the Arts Council what it is in the community.

Party on....