

March 2009

203-100 Arthur Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1H3

Phone: (204) 943-0036

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR NEWS

*Andre Prevost*

Plans are underway for **Manitoba Showcase Contact 2009** which is taking place in Neepawa on October 16 – 18, with the Opening Reception the evening of the 15<sup>th</sup>. Please mark these dates on your calendar; we look forward to having all members attend as we will be celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during this event and will also be focusing on a 'networking' theme for our workshops and activities. Information will be sent out and updated on our website as we progress.

The Manitoba Arts Network is pleased to announce its new Regional **map**, creating a new region for the north. The former Norman Region consisted of everything north of the 53<sup>rd</sup> parallel. Sectioning it into two regions assists the current Norman Rep with a more realistic regional area and adds an additional northern voice with the creation of the new North Region. We've created a Manitoba map, highlighting the actual regions, in order to properly lay out the boundaries of each region. Photographs were then taken of each region to post on our website for your reference. This is an interim step until we can prepare a more formal regional set of maps for the website.

We've also had the great pleasure of sponsoring once again, the **2009 MCNA Best Arts & Culture Award**. Three selected jurors have completed their task of reviewing all entered articles and the results have been sent in. The awards will be presented at the MCNA Awards Banquet on April 25, 2009.

**Manitoba Arts & Culture Week** begins this coming weekend and runs from March 7 – 14. Please check the Special Events page on our website for the most current Schedule of Events. Please note that a recent list of events was created as a special PDF in order to assure that it was posted in time. Many thanks to all who have presented their activities and events for the Schedule.

## VISUAL ARTS PROGRAM NEWS

*Bree Bergen*

We are pleased that the *Visiting the Collection* exhibition has arrived in Holland Manitoba, at the Tiger Hills Arts Association. Thank you to staff and volunteers for a successful installation!

Andrew Kear, Associate Curator of Canadian Art at the Winnipeg Art Gallery, provided an engaging tour of the *Visiting the Collection* exhibition at the Portage and District Arts Centre at the opening on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009. We are pleased to announce that he will be providing another tour/lecture at the Tiger Hills Arts Association on **Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**. All are welcome to attend!

The Manitoba Arts Network's membership was graciously invited to participate in Art Stabilization Manitoba's *Art Handling and Standards Workshop* held at the Portage and District Arts Centre on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009. This workshop, hosted by Patricia Bovey, Arts Stabilization Mentor and Jasmina Vlaovic, Head, Museum Services at the Winnipeg Art Gallery, was a terrific learning opportunity. Thanks to all who attended, to Jean Armstrong at PDAC for hosting the event, and to Arts Stabilization for providing us with this terrific opportunity.

The upcoming Visual Arts Committee Meeting will be on **March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 10:00am**, at the Portage and District Arts Centre. I am pleased to welcome guests from the Manitoba Arts Council: Jacqueline Hebert, Information Specialist and Kristin Pauch-Nolin, Program Consultant.

## QUICK NOTES:

Our current **office hours** are 10am-5pm Monday through Friday:

- The Administrative Director is in Monday-Friday
- The Performing Arts Program Coordinator is in the office Monday and Friday and accesses email through the week.
- The Visual Arts Program Coordinator is in the office Monday, Thursday and Friday
- The Office Manager is in Tuesday and Thursday.

## PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM NEWS

*Tanya Brunel*

The call for Showcase submissions was sent to artists, agents and organizations across Canada on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The deadline for submissions is April 10<sup>th</sup> and we're already receiving applications. A copy of the application form can be found on our website.

There are 7 tours currently booking:

- The Essentials – March 13-22, 2009
- Doc Walker (Northern Tour Only) – June 18-21, 2009
- Everything Fitz – October 2009 (*Booked full*)
- Lewis & Royal – November 16-24, 2009
- Jaydee Bixby – January 10-18, 2010
- Quartango (by Prairie Debut) – January 18-24, 2010
- Chuck & Albert – February 26-March 6, 2010

There are currently 3 dates open on The Essentials, 2 dates open on Chuck & Albert and openings available for Jaydee Bixby, Lewis & Royal and Quartango.

I will also be sending out email notices for other tours coming through the province (Fred Penner, Ennis & Rosie Mackenzie, The Cobblestones, LP Camozzi, Country Blend, The Schumann Letters.)

Our next **Touring Committee Meetings** will be held in conjunction with our Showcase Juries. The Southern touring meeting and jury will be held in Winnipeg, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am; our Northern touring meeting and jury will be held in Thompson, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.