



April 24, 2008

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Did you know...

April 27-May 3 is Volunteer Week. This is a very special thank-you to the volunteers who serve on our Board and program committees. There would be no Manitoba Arts Network without you!

Message to Manitoba Municipalities



Thanks to all the members who responded with a message for us to display in Brandon at the Association of Manitoba

Municipalities on April 16. I was hoping to fill one panel of our display but ended up with two! Here is a picture of our display, and the attached shows the messages that were included.

This was our first time at this event and my impression was that it was good to be there among the business, service and retail

booths – to have a presence there like our members have in their communities.

The majority of visitors to our booth were councilors, reeves, mayors, staff and spouses who are already supportive and proud of the arts programming in their community.

Best Arts & Culture Reporting Awards

The Manitoba Arts Network sponsors this award, which is presented at the MB Community Newspapers Association's annual event. Jeanne Zwiép, our Vice-President, made the presentations on April 5. The winners were:

1st place: Leif Isfeld, from The Opasquia Times for "Canvass is up on the world's largest teepee"

2nd place: Karen Peace, from Killarney Guide for "Homecoming party of the century"

3rd place: Marc Zienkiewicz, from the Interlake Spectator for "Paying homage: Interlake artists give tribute to their influences in annual art exhibit"

There were 24 submissions this year and they were juried by our board members, Linda Allen and Yvonne Swiderek, and staff Jill Sayegh.

We look forward to seeing the number of submissions increase every year, which means there is more coverage happening on arts and culture!

Manitoba Showcase Contact 2009!

Brochures promised to be out in April are delayed as we are still waiting on

confirmation of funding for this by the Manitoba Arts Council and Canadian Heritage.

Performing Arts Program:

We received around 70 applications to showcase. The showcase juries will have a tough task to select a line-up from the excellent entries.

The jury of southern presenters meets in Winnipeg on May 5, and the jury of northern presenters meets in The Pas on May 30.

For more info, contact Tanya or Dean, tollfree at (866) 919-2787 or info@communityarts.mb.ca.

Visual Arts Program:

The *ARTmarks* exhibition is doing well, with several galleries selecting a bookmark to print for promotion or fundraising. Go to Visual Arts Program on our website for an up-to-date touring schedule. www.communityarts.mb.ca

The first regional juried art show this Spring was in Souris on April 19. Dana attended this Westman event and selected artwork for our 2008 Rural & Northern Art Show in July.

Dana also took the opportunity to attend the Souris Arts Council concert of Wendell Ferguson and Katherine Wheatley that evening and loved it!

New Staff in our office

Whitney Light started as our Program Assistant on April 21. She just graduated with a degree in Art History and her goal is to be a writer. She already has experience as a writer and her skills will be very useful in our office.

2009 Manitoba Arts & Culture Week



March 7–14.

Fostering arts and culture in rural and northern Manitoba

Consider these dates when planning your program for next year. This could be a good opportunity to build in some special outreach or promotion for what you offer in your community.

Interesting Events...

On the Road – Manitoba Book Awards!

The first ever rural Book Awards tour is being planned with winners of this year's awards, who will be announced on April 26 at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. If you are interested in having your community included in this tour, contact Jamis Paulson, Manitoba Writers Guild, tollfree at 1-888-637-5802 or email info@mbwriter.mb.ca

ACTFest – May 2-4 in Binscarth

This festival of community theatre is hosted by the Vagabond Players in Binscarth this year. The program looks great. Check out the most informative website of the Association of Community Theatre (ACT) at www.actmanitoba.mb.ca

Cross Cultural Concert in the Grand Tipi on Cranberry Portage – May 24

Presented by the Flin Flon Community Choir and the Flin Flon Arts Council. You will experience the premiere of a commissioned work *A Night on an Old Trade Route* celebrating the multi-cultural communities in the NOR-MAN region. Another premiere performance, *Pictograph*, is based on the experience of viewing pictographs on the lake-side cliffs. But that's not all... For info contact the Flin Flon Arts Council at 687-5974 or email ffac@mts.net

That's it for now!

Lydia Giles, Administrative Director