

Alberta Community Arts Club Association January, 2024 Special Edition

The Board of Directors is
excited to announce



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ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP
RENEWALS
ARE DUE BY
END FEBRUARY

1st Annual Virtual Art Show

JURIED - ONLINE - INCLUSIVE

Window for entry is February 1 - 10
See entry details inside.



Hello Everyone!

President's Report

Here we are, already facing a new year! Welcome 2024! Your Board of Directors has been busy this winter finalizing the criteria for our New and 1st Annual Virtual Show! "VIBE" will be another show that all our artists can enter and get more exposure for their Art! All the information you will need to enter this exciting new format will be posted soon on our website, on our Facebook page and the information can also be found in this Newsletter. I am grateful to all our board members for their efforts to create this new Show! We have since COVID held 2 different virtual shows and they have both been different and wonderful! Our new version will be ongoing and will have specific criteria for presentation, will be juried, will have an entry fee and prize structure. You will see that the size restrictions and dates when painted have changed and relaxed. This is a good thing, as it is virtual and we are not restricted to wall size and space to hang, we can explore new sizes. We have expanded the times allowed when these are created as well! I cannot wait to see all the wonderful pieces that are created and perhaps this year I will have some pieces entered as well!

2023 was a fabulous year for all our in-person shows. I was able to attend and see all the great work. I gave out the awards and was happy to send letters to all the Artists that the Jurors felt had developed to a level higher than the one they had entered. This is always a thrill, to witness growth in art development is what we are all about! The Birth of VIBE is not intended to take away from our in-person shows, only to add a new show that may appeal to different artists and give all of us something more.

There were many people that brought forward difficulties experienced in and regarding our processes getting these shows out and entered. The board has discussed it at length and have begun the upgrade to our website, we have clarified information and with the help of our website designer are creating drop down menus for you the artists and host art clubs. Information will be listed in the order you need to access the information and we are taking care with how the pages are titled to help you navigate the site. I am looking forward to seeing this change come to fruition. The construction on the website is underway. I am thankful for our Web Designer, Chewie Media, our new Newsletter Editor and Media Liaison, Tania Sprong and Linda LaRoche for all their hard work. Thanks to the board for listening to the ideas and concerns and putting this together! You are all amazing.

I am reminded of the Alberta Wide Show and the fabulous critique facilitated by Pierre Oberg. It was the best I have heard in a long while. I have been questioning for some time about things like; When did we lose sight of talking in Artistic terms when we discuss our work? I still remember the days when our work was judged by composition, brush stroke and color balance and all those learned terms. When or why have our critiques become so poorly attended in recent years, when in the past we could have 50 people at them. The critique used to be the highlight of the show, it was the big chance for us amateur artists to hear from a trained and educated Art Instructor how we measured up to the principles and elements of art and hear ways to improve. For some of us this was the only time we heard about balance and composition, or color and design. Our Juror selector Diane Peers contacted Pierre Oberg who was the Critique Facilitator at the Alberta Wide Show. He has graciously written an article which can be found in this newsletter. I can't thank him enough for doing this for us. His critique was terrific and I came home from it encouraged that my works still have something to say. He added to the rules and talks about them in the best way, personally and with compassion for our endeavors and cooperatively in a way that encouraged us to get involved and reach out to each other with our thoughts and feelings! I can't applaud and thank Pierre enough. The ACACA Board of directors wishes to send all our thanks for the time he has taken to share this with all of us! Pierre, you are wonderful. . . we are grateful!

We are excited and between those of us who have seen many years in this Association to the new people who have stepped up, we will create something very special. I look forward to another exciting year, with our new annual virtual show, VIBE, as well as all our usual "in person shows".

Above all else. . . keep creating and helping each other stay connected. These things are much needed in this new world.

Cindy Clark
President ACACA

Above all else - keep creating



ACACA VIRTUAL SHOW

SHOW OPENS ONLINE FEBRUARY 29, 2024

Entry dates: **February 1- 10, 2024**

Jurying: **February 20, 2024**

Winners Announced: **February 29, 2024**

Divisions: **YOUTH** (15-18 years)
OPEN (everyone else)

Categories:

- 2 Dimensional (painting, photography, etc)
- Sculpture
- Digital Art Illustration
- Digital Art Manipulation
- Fibre Art

Artists may enter up to 3 pieces in each category.

No size or weight restrictions!

VIBE 2024

STEP BY STEP

STEP 1: RENEW ACACA MEMBERSHIP

Renew Annual Membership: either mail in or on the ACACA website under heading Membership. Due by February 28, 2024.

A valid 2024 ACACA Membership is required. Any entries from artists without a valid 2024 membership will be pulled from the show and be ineligible for prizes.



STEP 2: CREATE OR CURATE YOUR ART

Art must have been completed within the past five years and not have been submitted to any previous ACACA events. Artists may enter up to 3 pieces in each medium/category (max 15 pieces) but may only enter one division.

Divisions

Youth (15 – 18 years)
Open (Everybody else).

No size or weight restrictions.

Categories

2 Dimensional (paintings, etc.)
Sculpture
Digital Art Illustration
Digital Art Manipulation
Fibre Art

STEP 3: PREPARE YOUR ART FOR SUBMISSION

1. Take a digital photograph of your masterpiece. NOTE: sculptures may have up to 4 images per piece so the jurors can see all sides.
2. Crop your picture so that only the image is visible (no frames showing)
3. Keep the longest side at 1950 pixels but if you do not know how to do that just send it and Joyce will help you with this
4. IMPORTANT Rename your jpeg. done by going up to file. then rename by naming in the following order:

Title-lastname-firstname-size-price

eX: ChristmasInJuly-Boyer-Joyce-20x28-\$400.jpeg

*keep the jpeg ending in order to email

Questions? Email Joyce and she will help you.: joyceboyerart@gmail.com

STEP 4: SUBMIT YOUR ART

Complete VIBE 2024 Entry Form

Entry Fees: Youth \$10/piece, Open \$15/piece

Youth \$10 per piece
Open \$15 per piece

PAYMENT BY MAIL: Please send Entry Form and a Cheque or money order made payable to Alberta Community Art Clubs Association to Anne McMahon, P.O. Box 42, Duchess, Alberta T0J 0Z0.

PAYMENT BY EFT: Send an email to mcmahon@eidnet.org for information needed for payment. Send pdf copy of completed Entry Form .with your digital image submission (see below).

DIGITAL IMAGE(S) SUBMISSION: Between February 1 and February 10 inclusive, send your image(s) in as large a format as possible to Joyce Boyer joyceboyerart@gmail.com AND Linda LaRoche linlarochelle@shaw.ca If you need help, please contact either one of them. Email must include Division, Title, and Category for each piece submitted and confirmation of form of payment

IMPORTANT

By entering the VIBE Competition you are stating that your work is original and does not infringe on copyright.

Entries submitted prior to February 1 and after February 10 will not be considered.



PRIZES

Youth - First Place
Open - First, Second, Third Place
Best in VIBE

Winners will also receive recognition on the ACACA website.

Note: due to the nature of the show, prizes are awarded by Division only and not per category.

VIBE 2024 will open for Public Viewing and Winners will be announced on the ACACA Website February 29, 2024.



Alberta Community Art Clubs Association

Society No. 500053301

Registered Charity No. 8984 20948 RR001

VIBE 2024 ENTRY FORM

Artist's Information

Artist's Name

Phone Number

address

city/town

postal code

email

Artwork Registration – Youth \$10 each – Open \$15 each

Title	Medium/Category	Youth	Open	Entry Fee
Totals				

Division: Youth (15 – 18 Years old) Open: (Everybody else)

Medium/Categories: (paintings/drawings), SC (Sculpture), DA-I (Digital Art Illustration) DA-M (Digital Art Photo Manipulation), FA (Fibre Arts)



A Juror's Perspective

CREATIVE, ENCOURAGING, AND CONSTRUCTIVE ART CRITIQUES

Just as there are multiple paths to a successful and engaging work of art, there are also many paths to a satisfying and fulfilling art critique. Whatever the approach, whether it be informal or formal, the art critique is a time-honoured tradition of improving individual art skills and techniques, and gaining insight about one's artwork through meaningful and thoughtful discussions.

One way to organize an art critique is to look at a work of art by describing, analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating the artwork. With this approach you typically discuss the artwork using the elements of art (line, shape, form, space, value, colour, and texture) and the principles of design (balance, rhythm, pattern, emphasis, contrast, unity, and movement). This approach to critiquing a work of art is certainly effective, but it is a process that mostly talks about the external features of the artwork. When participating artists feel supported and fully encouraged in the art critique, there can also be an opportunity to share and talk about the internal features of the artwork (e.g. features like why the artwork was made, and often relating to personal lived experiences).

~ the mere act of putting yourself and your work out there takes courage ~

In *How to Critique*, from the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) series, *The Art Assignment*, host Sarah Urist Green, an art curator and educator, quotes performance artist, Matthew Goulish, from an essay on art criticism, saying that we should look for “the aspects of wonder” in an artwork. Ms. Green further explains that “we want to encourage more wonder in the world” and “when we come upon it let’s celebrate it!” Ms.Green goes on to say that, “criticism can be an incredible act of empathy”, so “be sympathetic to the maker”, and “realize that the mere act of putting yourself and your work out there takes courage”.

Other great suggestions for a successful art critique from the creative crew at *The Art Assignment* include:

- Be attentive.
- Analyze carefully.
- Be generous.
- Find your point of entry.
- Put yourself out there.

To these, I would add a few of my own favourites:

- Create opportunities for everyone to share their own unique voice and perspective.
- Respect and celebrate everyone's authentic approach to art making.

As an artist and arts instructor, I fully appreciate, and regularly follow these and similar guidelines when participating in art critiques. When conducted in a thoughtful way, the various processes and steps that are recommended for a beneficial art critique can indeed nurture creativity and further encourage artists to grow as skilled and creative individuals. In fact, when art critiques are done well, in a supportive, empathetic, compassionate, and encouraging environment, critiques can even be a fun, informative, and energizing experience.

~ Pierre Öbergs ~



Alberta Community Art Clubs Association

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NEXT NEWSLETTER

Our next Regular Newsletter will be in March 2024.

Anyone interested in advertising their events, shows, workshops, etc please contact the ACACA Newsletter Editor at ktmsprong@gmail.com

KEEP UP TO DATE! VISIT

ACACA.AB.CA

FOR ALL THE LATESTS NEWS

ACACA is grateful for the continuing support of:

