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Words of Wisdom

You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.~ Maya Angelou ~

Program Lineup 2020

The Education Committee (EC) is working on 20/21 activities. If you are interested in joining our committee contact any EC member for more information. Regular monthly meetings are now virtual. We will continue to meet virtually and plan monthly meetings as best we can within the regulation we're under. We have a variety of ideas and are always looking for more, send your ideas our way! This year EC is happy to welcome Cindy Brown and Nancy Davies.

Playdates Until we can meet inside for playdates we will reach out to members weekly in the fall outdoors, and weather permitting. A weekly invitation will be sent to all members with information for that week. Our first gathering will be Wednesday, September 23rd, 12 noon, rain date 24th. On the lawn just west of the parking lot next to the Ron Kolbus centre in Britannia Park. BYOB&C (bring your own brown bag lunch & chair) also a portable fibre project. Enjoy a few hours of fellowship, inspiration, learning and enjoying the fall season. Limiting attendees to ten. Confirmation & more information will be sent to registered participants a few days before event. NO COST

Regular monthly meetings are now virtual, we will continue to meet virtually on the 3rd Monday of every month except December. Log on information will be sent to members.

Monday September 21. Unfinished Fibre Objects, Thank you to Debbie Boyd-Chisholm and others for pulling this together. Creators of the UFOs will be looking for your ideas on how to bring them to creative

completion. The Planning Committee will also share the slide show prepared for 2020 Fibrefest.

Monday October 19. Guest speaker Wendy Feldberg, Introduction to Natural Inks. Wendy Feldberg is an Ottawa based mixed media fibre artist who is well known for her eco printing and dyeing. A couple of years ago, she gave a very interesting workshop on eco-printing for OOTB members. Wendy will be discussing inks she developed that can be used as natural dye-based painting and printing media for paper and textiles. Wendy will be part of this year's West End Studio Tour, (www.westendstudiotour.ca) held the last two weekends in September. Her inks will be available for purchase during the tour. More information on Wendy can be found on her website at www.wendyfeldberg.ca and on Facebook.

Monday, November 16. Pandemic 2020 - the year of online Fibre art activity! Three Out of the Box Members will make short presentations that reflect on their online experiences with sales, blogging, participation in workshops, exhibits, and anything else virtual! Hear what they have learned including tips and tricks. We hope to create a forum for some discussion amongst members on this currently VERY relevant topic!

Greetings, OOTB members.

From Sharon Johnson

Stepping into my studio space, I decided to rename it The Flourish Zone, in response to a webinar presenter's suggestion to use room renamings to provide motivational transformations.

Partially finished and untouched for some months, I glanced at one of my green-themed projects. My greenness is inspired by the Latin term *viriditas* used by Hildegard of Bingen, a diversely creative 12th century abbess. Surprisingly, rather than chiding my apparent neglect, the artwork warmly invited me to again enter into my fibre-related Zone.

Viriditas expresses 'the greening power at work in the soul' such that it flourishes, be that in areas special or mundane. So though I haven't been active in my fibre arts Flourish Zone just yet, I have been testing out Maya Angelou's insight in my Sanctuary, once called my study.

Since mid-May Mother's Day, I have set aside at least 20 minutes almost every day for a writing exercise to complement my almost daily walks. I've gone from wondering what I could possibly write about to

discovering that the more I write, the more I have to write about.

I've gone from 'having writing skills' to becoming 'a Writer'. In addition to that flourish, I've recently gone from being a fibre artist to embracing myself as a Fibre Artist. Like many of you, my earliest stitching goes dimly back to childhood. In one exercise I wrote about my early teenage self who learned to use a sewing machine in Home Ec. classes.

Not only did I learn to make my own clothes, but I, suddenly and surprisingly, remembered the much-needed sense of competence and confidence I gained then. That learning curve provided technical and emotional skills needed to flourish in the desert.

The stitching seed germinated much earlier in my life story than previously recalled. Memory regained, the writing exercise prompted me to rewrite this truth into an outworn inner story that had continued to burden me. Talk about repurposed materials!

In a previous OOTB zoom meetings, some of you mentioned that you too were taking up other creative pursuits during these Covid times. The intent was to exercise creativity in spite of lacking the energy for your fibre artmaking. I invite you to share what you have been doing to flourish in these extraordinary times we are living.

Please send Helen, our newsletter editor, a little story about tapping into the creativity that can never be used up. As community members, we so need to hear each other's stories so that together we can continue to nurture the creative gifts that are our legacy.

Your sharing will help each and all of us to flourish.

Thanks, Sharon 

"Printer's Ink: How many words make a picture?"

Artists of the Ottawa-Gatineau Printmakers Connective will be showing works that are inspired by a poem, proverb or sayings.

The exhibition will take place at the Stone School Gallery, 28 Mill Street, Portage-du-Fort, Quebec, from September 11 to October 11, 2020.

There will be an outdoor vernissage under a tent on Friday, September 11 from 6 to 8 pm.



Regular gallery hours are: Thursday to Sunday, from 11 am to 4 pm.

Physical distancing and mask wearing are mandatory inside the gallery.

The participating artists are: Sylvia Bretzloff, Madeleine Rousseau, Peter Dolan, Murray Dineen, Roger Sutcliffe, Debra James Percival, Patricia Slighte, Shirley Yik, Shealagh Pope, Valerie Bridgeman, Denise Lachance, Deidre Hierlihy, Tina Petrovicz, Dale Shutt, and Louise Guay.

A variety of printmaking techniques ranging from traditional to contemporary including linocuts, eco-printing, etching and others will be showcased in 2 D and 3-D artworks. The texts that each artist drew inspiration from will accompany the artwork.

The upper gallery is very large and easy to social distance. As well, the Stone School Gallery has put in a lot of effort to make this possible including providing a tent that will be outside for the vernissage. Easy to pick-up food will be served to minimize contact, and drink will be served in plastic glasses.

To help keep everyone safe the Stone School Gallery is using these sanitary guidelines:

- 2m distance must be respected
- Sanitary measures are displayed on posters outside at the entrance of the gallery
- Sanitizer gel is available, and the volunteer at the door will ask people to use it
- The number of persons entering the gallery will be monitored; Maximum allowed at the same time 12 downstairs, 18 upstairs
- Masks inside are mandatory
- For people who forget to bring a mask, we have extras for the price of 1\$ (will go into the donation box)

Map <http://artpontiac.com/en/artpontiac-school-of-the-arts/school-map/> / <http://artpontiac.com/fr/artpontiac-school-of-the-arts/school-map/>

Or [google map link](https://goo.gl/maps/8o3apvHYe6jCVU8e6) : <https://goo.gl/maps/8o3apvHYe6jCVU8e6>

OOTB Website Focus on Fibre Links – Beaded Maps

Since March, dozens of North American Indigenous artists met a challenge to bead their states and provinces. Their hard work, diversity in beading styles, techniques, and cultural influences can be seen in the final maps recently unveiled of both countries. The project began as an idea to help beaders cope with the burdens of quarantine, without any idea of how popular it might become.

The first link provides an overview of the final version of the maps and some details about a few of the results. There are also links to Facebook pages for the provinces and the states with much more detail about the selection process and the artists. Another link to Kooteen Creations also contains more information about each submission along with other posts.

The links for this page can be found on the OOTB Resource page –

<http://www.out-of-the-box.org/resources.html>

MaryAnne

Help Requested

Everyone makes mistakes, right? I made a whopper with the following. I purchased a Boutonné de Charlevoix weaving from a friend, Anne-Marie Hamel (<https://tisserande-charlevoix.com> <https://www.facebook.com/Tisserande-Charlevoix-556270264506669/?fref=ts>), who mistakenly chose a different “white” cotton weft to continue after weaving the design. I’ve taken advantage by piecing the white background (seams are under the top strips) as well as cutting 1/2” off-white strips to surround the star as well as the edge. End result is 15” square. I like the look but after assembling the whole pillow I noticed one yellow stain. Thinking I could remove the stain, I hand washed the pillow cover only to discover more yellow stains appeared. Perhaps difficult to see in the photo - top centre, bottom left & right of centre and at the bottom of the e moment I’ve no idea how or if this can be saved. I am truly heartbroken as I love this very old traditional weaving technique which Anne-Marie tells me is now recognized by UNESCO (cultural material).



Threads & Ties

Janet Tulloch, Lise Perras

September 11th to October 11th (Fiber arts)

This exhibition reaches across time and continents to recapture voices long silenced while creating space for those in the present and the yet to be heard. It acknowledges the friendship of two artists from different cultural backgrounds who share similar sensibilities toward seen and unseen beings – those who created the ties among us across the centuries.



Darrell Thomas

I visited Darrell Thomas textiles on Preston St in Ottawa this week (with an appointment) and learned that Darrell Thomas Textiles is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a 50% sales on ALL textiles at regular price for the month of September. They will be moving in Almonte on Nov. 1st at 7 Mill street. Mr. Thomas told me that their website has their complete inventory and you can order online and pick up at the curb.

www.darrellthomas.com

Thanks!

Madeleine Rousseau

Some FREE Stuff

I have a box of frames, some with glass, (approx 12) mostly document or so sized. FREE to the person who picks them up in Perth.

I also have a raw fleece, natural white colour. It has been stored in a rubbermaid container in the garage for 2 years. It should be totally free of bugs by now. I am not going to get to processing this any time soon. Also, FREE to anyone who can pick it up in Perth.

Can this be posted anywhere on the site or in the newsletter? Thanks, Loree Tannett

Zoom Coaching:

Several evening opportunities are available for zoom coaching in the time after our next meeting on September 21. If you're interested in learning enough to help you be confident in attending meetings as a participant, please contact Sharon by email: sharondjohnson@me.com.

Give her some of your available dates, other than Tuesdays, and she will work out the session accordingly. All evening session will start at 7 pm.

What is this?



Thanks to Val Rochester who identified my mystery tool "Your mystery number one that you own is called a third hand. You attach it to something with the red cord to hold it firm, then attach your needlework piece to the clamp and you have both hands free to do whatever you want. "

Planning Committee

PC Convenor	Sharon Johnson & Nancy Garrard
Education	Kathy Lajeunesse, Nancy Scott, Cindy Brown, Nancy Davies, Lynn Keeler, Pam Davy.
Secretary	Andrée Faubert
Membership	Val Rochester, Dorothy DeRose
Treasurer	Marilyn White
Web-coordinator	MaryAnne Toonders
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Facebook/Instagram	Cathy Haley haley.cathy@gmail.com
Library	Rita Rottman
Publicity/Marketing	Lorraine Lacroix
Exhibitions/Shows	Connie ten Bruggenkate, Debbie Boyd-Chisholm, Sheree Bradford-Lea
Contacts: co-chair@out-of-the-box.org	