

About Us (Mission Statement)

The Out of the Box Fibre Art Group is a cooperative association of artists who are passionate about creating innovative, thought-provoking works of art, and promoting fibre art through exhibitions, education and professional development.

Our membership includes machine and/or hand embroiderers, art quilters, weavers, felters, doll makers, silk painters, appraisers, dyers as well as other needle workers and mixed media and fine artists. Since we are a co-op organization, we place strong emphasis on activities that support active participation of the membership in the continuing artistic development of all. Our focus in meetings is on sharing art techniques, design ideas, artistic processes and inspiration, as well as our thoughts on the business and critiquing of our art. We come from all walks of life, but are drawn together by our love for texture, colour, and creation in an atmosphere of mutual support and camaraderie.

We meet once a month to share ideas, techniques and inspiration, and from time to time hold open fibre art workshops.

Meetings

Meetings are held the third Monday of the month, from 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at the **Ottawa Citizen Main Floor Board Room, Baxter Road, Ottawa.**

Submission Deadline for the October Newsletter is November 7, 2008.

Contacts (apologies if any of the following is inaccurate)

PC Convenor	Joan Harrison Elizabeth Piccolo	celloquilter@sympatico.ca yksolutions@yahoo.ca
Convenor	Rotates	
Programs	Lynn Morin Francis Taylor	programs@out-of-the-box.org
Secretary	Marie Anzai	marie@anzai.com
Membership	Elena Keen	keen1@sympatico.ca
Treasurer	Joanne Batchelor	joanne.batchelor@sympatico.ca
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Library	Joan Harrison Rita Rottman	celloquilter@sympatico.ca ritarottman@sympatico.ca
Publicity/Marketing	Elaine Quehl	equehl@hotmail.com

Dates of Meetings with Program Topics

Check the web site for the most up-to-date information

2008	Role	
Oct 20	Convener	Wendy Foster
	Main Event	Elizabeth Piccolo – Shibori Dying demo (for more details check subsequent article)
	Show & Tell	Neera Uras
Nov 17	Convener	empty
	Main Event	Michele Provost
	Show & Tell	Wendy Feldberg
	Demo/Inspiration	empty
Dec 15	Convener	empty
	Main Event	Mary Spicer from Patrick Gordon Framing
	Show & Tell	Jo-Ann Zorzi
	Demo/Inspiration	empty
Jan 10		
Feb 16		
Mar 16		
Apr 20		
May 18		
Jun 15		
Jul 20		
Aug 17		
Sept 21		
Oct 19		
Nov 16		
Dec 21		

Really Bad Weather & Meetings

If there is any weather condition that makes travel risky, members will be notified by e-mail by 4:00 pm the afternoon of the meeting. If you do not have email or cannot access email at work, please partner with someone who has access. Members should NOT call the Citizen for this information as nobody there would have it. (They lend the facility to organizations free of charge and do not want any involvement in administrative matters.).

October 20th Meeting From Elizabeth Piccolo

Since we are having a demonstration of shibori resist dyeing, it would be appreciated if members could bring any examples of their own shibori work or any fabrics they have purchased that were shibori dyed as part of Show and Tell.

Three interesting sources related to the demonstration of shibori resist dyeing are:

The **World Shibori Network** formed in 1992 is holding an international shibori symposium in France this November. Sorry about the short notice. See their website www.shibori.org for details.

"**Shibori: The Inventive Art of Japanese Shaped Resist Dyeing**" by Yoshiko Iwamoto Wada, Mary Kellogg Rice and Jane Barton, 1999, Kodansha America Inc is a definitive text on traditional Japanese shibori dyeing

The website of the **Shibori Museum of Kyoto** has an interesting section on techniques.

Of interest to our members:

1. From Daphne Uras

**Odawa Native Friendship Centre Presents
An Evening with Quilts
And
A Quilt Making Workshop**

Come and meet Carla Goodleaf Hemlock, a Mohawk woman, renowned quilt maker and quilt shop owner, from Kahnawake Mohawk Territory

TRUNK SHOW

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 6:30PM

12 Stirling Ave, Ottawa

(corner Scott and Stirling, parking and elevator in back off Carruthers)

ADMISSION: \$12.00

JOIN US FOR APPETIZERS WITH AN ABORIGINAL INFLUENCE!

Carla will present a trunk show of her quilts and tell of the influences in her quilting journey.

Her quilts have been displayed at the opening of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, and at the Heard Guild Indian Fair in Phoenix, Arizona. Carla was featured in The Quilter Magazine, May 2008. View Carla's work at <http://www.hemlocks.net> click on quilt gallery and clan quilts

MAKE A BEAR CLAN WALLHANGING

Saturday, October 25th

9am to 3pm

12 Stirling Ave, Ottawa

45 +\$5 kit fee

Limited to 12 sewers with their machines
Kit fee provides ready to fuse bear appliqué
Bring a bag lunch
To register with payment and for supply list or for more information, please call Alison @ 613 722 3811 x234

2. From Pat Hardie

Gallery6 in Kemptville is featuring a variety of artists under the theme of A Walk in the Forest. My quilt, Guardian of the Forest, was accepted and will be on display for the month of October. <http://gallery6.org/default.aspx>

For Sale:

Singer Featherweight
AH Series made in 1948
Great Condition - Fully functioning machine
Asking \$450.00

Husqvarna Rose
Excellent Condition
Embroidery Machine with both small and large embroidery hoops
Includes several additional embroidery sets
Asking \$900.00

Contact
Telephone (613) 591-3361
Email jweidenhaupt@rogers.com

Reports from Members:

From **Heather Dubreuil**

I spent three days in the Burlington, Vermont area this month. While there, I saw two art shows that might be of interest to OOTB members.

First, at the Firehouse Gallery on Church Street in Burlington, is an exhibition of work by Carol MacDonald, "Cast on - Bind off". The show runs from September 26 - November 1. Gallery hours are Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday noon - 5 p.m.

Carol's current work is an exploration of knitted fabric. She uses an etching press to create "knit monoprints". She is represented by Frog Hollow Galleries in Burlington and Middlebury, VT. I purchased the exhibition catalog and will bring it to the October meeting. Unfortunately, her current work is not represented on her website. For more information, access the websites www.burlingtoncityarts.com/firehousegallery and www.carolmacdonald.com

Secondly, at Shelburne Farms in Shelburne, VT is an exhibition of 200 works by 40 New England artists. This 21st Annual Art Exhibition and Sale runs from September 26 - October 19. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, admission is \$5.

Shelburne Farms is a beautiful estate on Lake Champlain, a 1400-acre working farm and National Historic Landmark, established in 1886 by a branch of the Vanderbilt family.

The standard of work in the exhibit is very high. The only fiber artist in the group is Dianne Shullenberger, who has five pieces on display. She uses small bits of fiber to create more or less representational images of landscape, machine stitching the pieces into place in a process she describes as "fabric collage".

Her work, gallery and contact information is detailed on her website at www.dianneshullenberger.com.

Out of the Box Planning Committee Minutes of Meeting 22nd September, 2008

Present: Joan Harrison; Elizabeth Piccolo; Elena Keen; Cynthia Sanoy; Rita Rottman; Helen Gordon; Frances Taylor

1. Secretary for this meeting: Frances Taylor

2. New Agenda Items: see item 7 below

3. Program

First priority is to have a program.

- Agreed: Frances Taylor to act as liaison between the Planning and Program Committees. However, she will not lead the Program Committee. **Note:** the organizing the program is quite onerous and needs dedicated and active committee members.
- Agreed: \$150 per speaker (with extra for mileage where necessary). However, this year we should strive for local speakers.
- Total of \$1,500 currently in the bank. Plus we expect more from members who have not yet paid their dues.
 - Costs: about \$300 for website and computer domain
 - Therefore we can plan to spend about \$1,000 on program, library etc, leaving a small cushion for contingencies.
 - Agreed: 6 paid speakers is too many – Committee recommends 4 -- \$600
- Elena prepared a table showing which members have volunteered for what and program / workshop suggestions. **Action:** She will send an electronic copy to Frances.
- Agreed: 1 professional development session for the 2008-2009 year
- **Action – Urgent!** Cathy Breedyk-Law for October meeting – has to be confirmed.
- Local non-member presenters are paid; members are not paid
- **Program short-list** – 30-45 minute presentations, but if artist has a lot to say / offer could begin with a presentation and follow-up with a workshop about 4 weeks later
 1. Website design -- could have a presentation on pros and cons of different types of websites, doing your own vs. having one done professionally, followed by a how-to workshop – Cynthia will consider doing this but would need a couple of months to prepare
 2. Neera – trunk show on her saris
 3. Michelle Provost – embroidery artist – hand embroidery
 4. Uta Riccius – member of Enriched Bread artists – fibre artist – prints maps onto tyvek and makes clothes from it – very innovative – Cynthia has more info about her
 5. All Dolled Up club – e.g. Edwina Sutherland and other club members
 6. Joanne Batchelor – how to make fabric rocks

7. Pat Lemaire Using specialised paints -- Ranger inks, Setacolour, Shiva paintsticks. Note: crayola works just as well as Shiva
 8. Lynne Morin's suggestion - Creativity workshop -- from Arts Ottawa East -- would be good as a half-day or a short (i.e. 2-hour) workshop
 9. Quilter's Guild is doing a wearable art presentation Oct 6 by the Artwear Group of Ottawa -- OOTB could be a theme-based fashion show
 10. Oriental theme -- Elizabeth Piccolo -- shibori demonstration, Japanese paper demonstration; and Elena on sashiko embroidery; Lianna van der Bellen does presentations to the National Gallery on Japanese art (no show and tell that night -- Cynthia will be seeing Lianna in a few weeks and could sound her out). Note Linda Palaisy has offered to do a workshop on silk painting, woodblock and monoprinting, shibori, dyeing and stitch resist
 11. Framing session -- ideas and techniques (having work professionally framed is expensive for items artist intends to sell the work) -- (a previous session?) was done by 4th night and was very good
 12. Agreed: theme of love, romance and eroticism for Valentine's Day was suggested as either a group show/exhibit or for show and tell in February -- a big show and tell announced ahead of time and possibly a demo (e.g. making hearts using an embellisher and cookie cutters). **Action:** Program Committee should announce this to members at the October meeting
 - o **Note:** the Committee did not look at the program items suggested by members (kindly prepared by Elena):
 1. Surface design techniques
 2. Jane Dunnewold, Carol Seeley, J. Morningstar
 3. Jane Dunnewold, Jane Hall
 4. Clothes-related: fitting, blocking, costumery
 5. Mounting fabric art, design and composition
 6. Elizabeth offered to do a workshop on shibori, indigo dyeing or printing
 7. Lynne Morin offered to do a presentation or workshop on anything that fits her skills and schedule
 8. Linda Palaisy offered to do a workshop on silk painting, woodblock and monoprinting, shibori, dyeing and stitch resist (I have added this info to the Oriental theme program event)
 9. Karen Samaranski offered to teach a program or workshop
 - This info was included as a note at the bottom of page 2 of Elena's summary: Workshops with Pat Caffery and Marilyn White, Gunnel Hag, Framing,
 - o **Note:** we need to be very careful when communicating to members about dates we ask them to give presentations -- there has been some mixed messages and confusion
- **Program back-up ideas:**
1. Joan Harrison -- presentation on philosophical view of creating / creative processes
 2. see above list -- e.g. Neera on her saris
 3. Rita -- quilt appraisals
 4. Elena - Demos -- machine embroidery; could do a 3-dimensional embroidery workshop (Planning Committee thinks this would be really good)
- **Action -- Urgent!** Program Committee's first priority is to firm up program events to the end of December (i.e., for October, November and December)
- 4. Web Hosting**
- Current system works well. Cynthia has done the domain, so it's good for 5 years.
 - Hosting comes up for renewal in December. **Action:** Cynthia will look after organizing the renewal
- 5. Library**
- Agreed: Money taken in for the library at meetings will be reported in the newsletter
 - Agreed: \$5 from each membership will be devoted to the library fund
 - Agreed: library will continue to operate
 - Agreed: Joan will purchase the three books she recommended to the Planning Committee
 - Agreed: OOTB will not subscribe to Quilting Arts since most members already subscribe themselves
 - Elizabeth proposed getting a group membership for the surface design association in Kansas City. **Action:** Elizabeth will find out how much it would cost. Joanne Zorzi is a member. **Action:** Joan will check out SAQA membership. If the Planning Committee supports these group memberships, they will be presented to the members for approval before proceeding.
- 6. Goals and priorities for OOTB**
- Shows

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- Agreed: Planning Committee will ask members how many (if any) shows the OOTB will guarantee each year and for volunteers for a Show Committee. Planning Committee is of the view that there should be no more than one or two shows/year. (**Action:** Joan)
 - Elizabeth suggested developing a tradition of doing a show each year in a consistent venue such as a community center or gallery -- GCTC is a possibility but they like to have artwork that relates to their shows.
 - Themes
 - Joan suggested an event based on a theme of social justice at Ottawa U with Democratic Dialogues (which has a budget and is keen on joint projects with art groups). Joan has offered to help them organise an event with music and art work and lectures. This will have to be presented to the group for discussion, with some explanation of what "social justice" means and more info on Democratic Dialogues organization. Ideally the event would be 2-years down the road – e.g. March 2010. Using Ottawa U facilities would provide built-in security. Democratic Dialogues events receive a lot of media attention.
 - Elizabeth offered an alternative about how women experience loss and grief in different ways. Could host the event at a hospice (e.g., Maycourt?). Elizabeth could try to get a student from a college or art school to do some video work to interview members and possibly people at the hospice. And could do a group art session with them (non-therapeutic art).
 - Challenge ideas
 - Any music used should already be in the public domain. Joan would be able to liaise with the NAC to do artwork based on music being performed.
 - **Note:** asking members who are professional artists to do further pro bono work when we are already asking them to give presentations is asking too much.
 - Expectations for our members: we will re-visit whether we want to police volunteerism a few months down the road after we've seen how well the grid is working. Whatever we do, we have to be consistent.
- 7. Other items:**
- **Action:** Joan to ask Marie Anzai who has offered to be the Secretary for OOTB meetings
 - **Action:** the Treasurer will set up the bank account in two names with two signing authorities