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Words of Wisdom

If you ask me what I came to do in this world, I, an artist, will answer you: I am here to live out loud. Emile Zola

OOTB Program Lineup 2019

May 20, Meeting: Ontario artist Bridget O'Flaherty will give a talk and trunk show entitled "My Journey as an Artist".

May 27: Playdate: Edwina Sutherland, doll making. <http://edwinasutherland.blogspot.com>

June 17, Meeting: Artist, Bethany Garner, will give a talk and trunk show entitled "My Journey to Art Quilts".

June 22 – July 6, Show: "Summer Fibrations" at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum

June 24, Playdate: Francis Taylor, Free Form Crocheting.

Start gathering your surplus or unwanted material - trade night is coming in July! Sell, exchange or gift your stash at the July meeting. More details to follow closer to event.

Playdates

Three playdates are planned for each session at a cost of \$10 per playdate or \$25 when you register for a full

session. Registration is now open; you can register at a meeting or by contacting Lynn Keeler anottawagirl@yahoo.ca.

Playdate Session 2. (Registration is open)

Monday May 27/19 Edwina Sutherland, Doll Making.



See more examples at:

<http://edwinasutherland.blogspot.com>

Monday, June 24/19. Francis Taylor, Free Form Crocheting.



Free Form Crochet roots are from the traditional Irish crochet. Prudence Mapstone is the undisputed queen of free-form crochet and is very active on Facebook and frequently teaches on cruise ships. She also does free-form knitting. Free-form crochet is different from regular crochet because you don't use a pattern when "free-forming". Basically, you make small "motifs" or

pieces of crochet, which are then joined either by sewing or crocheting them together.

Participants should know how to do the basic crochet stitches and be able to judge how to keep the work flat. Attached is a website that provides very useful downloadable pdf files on how to do free-form crochet by Sylvia Cosh and James Walters: <http://www.crochet.nu/scjwc/workshops/index.html> -- they call it "scrumbling". Those interested might want to start experimenting, Frances recommends using a size 5 crochet hook.

Fiber Fling 2019 Report

Out of the Box's 8th annual Fiber Fling show was fantastic again this year! We intrigued our many guests with the creativity, diversity and inventiveness of fibre art and we raised an impressive amount of money for the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

At this year's show, 39 of our members displayed 110 pieces in the art exhibit area, selling for \$1,145. In the sales table area, 24 of our members created 839 smaller works, selling for \$10,289. Our total art sales were \$11,434.

The 528 people who attended this year's Fiber Fling show were once again very complimentary about the variety, colours, textures, styles and techniques used by our fiber artists in their works. Many visitors said that they come to Fiber Fling every year and that they plan to be back again and again!

A huge thank you is again due to the more than 60 volunteers who helped with the show. Their efforts included registering, organizing, hanging and arranging the art exhibit and sales table areas. Many volunteers helped to promote the show by distributing rack cards, talking to their friends, updating OOTB's web site, Instagram and Facebook pages, and even being interviewed on television. Our show survey gave us 93 new email addresses to contact about future OOTB shows.

This year, new teams of our volunteers sold tickets and oversaw the 'Spring Fling, refreshment area. The proceeds from these two activities, \$3,750, were donated to support the Stephen Lewis Foundation's work with AIDs-affected women and families in Africa. At our meeting on April 15th, Diane Thomson, from Kanata's 'Grassroot Grannies' accepted Out of the Box's cheque on behalf of the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

Well done everyone, and we'll see you all again next year!

Debbie Boyd-Chisholm
Fibre Fling Convenor

From the comments

"Magnificent talent!"

"Incredible creativity, colour and inspiration. Thank you"

"A nicely inspiring show. Glad I came."

"Loved the art -- it is all inspiring."

"Great show"

"I love all the different fibers."

"Love the variety of techniques & styles. Thank you for your work."

"Wonderful show! Such inspiration."

"So beautiful and Inspiring."

"I look forward to your show every year!"

"Another wonderful show!"

"Lovely show & a treat to discover all the local talent!"

"Amazing display of creative energy, love and passion. Thank you for a beautiful afternoon & congrats to all the wonderful artists. Look forward to next year."

Thank You from the Grannies



On behalf of the Grassroot Grannies, I want to say a huge Thank You for your very generous donation to the Stephen Lewis Foundation. The many grandmothers in Sub-Saharan Africa will have their lives enriched through your thoughtfulness.

I really enjoyed my evening with all the Out of the Box fibre artists -- you are an amazing group of talented people.

I look forward to your show next spring. Please keep me posted so I can spread the word to all our Grassroot Grannies.

Please extend our heartfelt thanks to Nancy and Sharon and to all the artists in your group.

Happy Spring,
Diane

P.S. Please check out our website (www.grassrootgrannies.com) where we have made mention of this.

Looking for your help.



OOTB thrives because of the dedication and hard work of all its members. At this time of the year, we would like to acknowledge and thank all the volunteers who sit on the Planning Committee, who help organize and participate in our shows, our library, our meetings, our playdates and workshops, take photos, do presentations, work on our publicity and help out whenever there is a need. Without all of you, we would not be successful. Our sincerest thanks to all of you.

There are some important vacancies we need to fill in order to continue as a strong art community. Please consider stepping up to fill these needs. It is a wonderful way to get to know other members and learn about OOTB. WE NEED YOU!

Planning Committee vacancies – description of all the duties can be found on our website or talk to the current incumbents (listed in the newsletter). The term starts in September and as a general rule, the committee meets 4 times a year.

Co-chair
Secretary
Membership coordinator - to help Val who will be retiring next year
Library coordinator – helping Rita

Other jobs

Fibre fest coordinator – Sept 4-6 in Almonte – This means organizing the OOTB display on Friday and

coordinating volunteers over Saturday and Sunday including take down on Sunday. Kathy Lajeunese did this last year and can give you details.

Photography/presentations – We have lots of photos but are looking for someone to organize an orientation presentation to showcase OOTB activities for the September meeting. – can be done anytime.

Volunteer coordinator – this job would mean finding volunteers for the myriad of tasks that are required on an ad hoc basis for OOTB. We have done this for specific shows but over the year, there are other tasks to be filled. Members indicate when and where they are happy to volunteer and the coordinator tries to find the right match.

Archivist – there are some documents/materials from the early days of OOTB and we are looking for someone to review and make recommendations about what should be retained or tossed. – can be done anytime.

As you know “many hands make light work” so we hope you will find a way to help us and help OOTB grow.

Sharon Johnson and Nancy Garrard

Summer Fibrations:

The exhibition is getting close! Just over a month away. Please remember if you have any changes to the information for your Independent pieces, they need to be sent to Garrie today, Wednesday May 15 with a copy to Rita.

In case you missed this information, A Needle Pulling Thread will be having an article about the show in the next issue scheduled to be out later this month. They are also going to be contributing 250 past issues of the magazines for giveaways at the show. Look for an article in the next issue of the HUMM.

We hope you all have noted that pieces are to be delivered to the Museum on Sunday, June 16 noon to 3 pm or Monday June 17 from 10 am to 12 noon.

Don't forget to keep June 22 from 2pm to 4pm on your calendar as that will be the grand opening of the show!

Rita Rottman (ritarottman@sympatico.ca)

GarrieBea Joyce (garrie@garriebea.com)

Meredith Filshie (mfilshie@rogers.com)

Rack Cards – Summer Fibrations



The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum Presents
SUMMER FIBRATIONS by Out Of The Box
June 22 - July 6, 2019

OOTB fibre artists are returning to the MVTM with another exciting display of fibre art. Featuring over 150 individual pieces, the theme of the show focuses on eight brilliant summer colours. Each unique piece with innovative uses of fibre, cloth, colour, texture and technique will be sure to intrigue!

This show is supported by a Keesic Pulling Thread Magazine.

OUT
of the
BOX fibre artists
www.out-of-the-box.org

Rack cards for Summer Fibrations (provided by the Museum) will be available at the May meeting for members to pick up to distribute to local stores, businesses, guilds, friends & family etc. Thanks to all who picked up cards at the April meeting. If you haven't already, please go ahead and distribute these since we are now into May and only a few weeks from the show opening.

We are asking members to indicate on a list where they can distribute these cards - We still need people to distribute to some places in and around Kemptville, downtown, Byward Market, Alta Vista, Old Ottawa South and more.... plus to several guilds which have not yet been covered.

Anne Warburton

Pat Hertzberg Workshop

Recently 14 members of Out of the Box had the good fortune of attending a fabulous Workshop taught by visiting artist, Pat Hertzberg. She drove here from Caledon to teach us a technique called Thread Web.



My husband, Dave, helped me set up the tables on the first day. By the time he left lots of us had set up our sewing machines. That night Dave told me that it

reminded him of a sweat shop from the movies. ☹️Hardly!



We had all brought fabric scraps...natural fibres such as cotton, wool, silk, and some manufactured fibres, as well as tulle, lace, ribbons, cords and many different coloured threads.



After an introduction which included lots of slides of Pat's amazing work we got down to business. We each used a piece of 6"x8" clear wash away film. On the film we laid out little bits of our stash in a design of our own which often included cords, threads, ribbons. After spraying

very lightly with water we added the top layer of film which would stick to the outer edges of the bottom film. After drying it we sewed all over the piece by machine with thread in our own design making sure every scrap of fabric or ribbon was connected to another. Now for the final step - we gently washed our piece in water to dissolve the clear film. The results were some pretty amazing and unique diaphanous, lace like pieces of art. So much variety - as Pat said, "The sky is the limit!"

From Cheryl Brooks

Tips on How to Use Instagram

Instagram has over a billion users and is the fastest growing social media platform especially among millennials. It is an effective way to get more people seeing your work and creations. If you already have a personal Instagram account, you can create a separate business account that is public. If you have a Facebook page, you can post to Instagram and Facebook at the same time. If you don't have an account here is how to set one up
<https://help.instagram.com/155940534568753>

The following is for anyone who wants to use their business account more effectively:

1. Instagram allows you to put a link in your profile to your website, Etsy shop, Facebook page etc. so that someone can click on it and visit where you are selling.
2. Instagram is a visual medium; the photo is the most important thing. If someone is interested, they will read the info. In general, people don't read long posts unless they are really interested.
3. Instagram and Facebook use an algorithm to determine who sees your posts. The more activity that is present on a post, the more people see it. That is why it is so important to not only like a post but to comment on it. Unlike Facebook, you cannot share an IG post unless you use an app that allows you to repost it on your page.
4. Hashtags are a way to have your post seen in another place, besides your account, and to generate more interest. You can use up to 30 hashtags. I recommend using a mix of popular and less common ones. Some of the popular ones have million+ posts. Any of the ones that are in the hundreds or less are probably not effective or seen by many people.

You can find how popular a hashtag is by entering it into the search engine. A good way to find ideas for hashtags is to look at a page you follow or does similar work and copy their hashtags. For example, I would look at pages

from dyers and embroiderers. Generic hashtags like #ottawaart, #handmadeinottawa #fibreat #textileart, #shopottawa #supportlocal613 will get you a larger audience.

You don't have to restrict yourself to fibre art because you never know who will like your work. I once sold some indigo dyed linen napkins to a lawyer in Portland, Ore. through Instagram. I think I ran across her page because she talks a lot about books and I must have commented on something using my IG handle of UWF Textiles. She visited my page and bought the napkins.

5. How do you grow your followers:

You have to follow a lot of people and businesses. You also have to comment on their work, product, photo etc so that they will notice you. As I have already stated, cast a wide net. Follow local businesses, artists, creative people but also follow ones that are outside of Ottawa. I have an Instagram relationship with a few artists and a few businesses that I have never met or been in but I do comment on their photos, if only to use an emoji. The posts that have a lot of likes are usually found on popular pages but they also have a lot of comments on them. Don't forget to reply to comments as well.

6. You should be active most days if only for a few minutes, Go through your feed, like and comment on other posts. You should post your own pix a few times a week or every day, if you wish. I personally post about twice a week, but I look at my feed everyday. You can post pix of your work in progress or of your working at something. You can also post short videos. People seem to like seeing how things are created.

7. Instagram also has a stories feature that is at the top of your page. You will see the names of people or businesses that you follow in circles. These stories last for 24 hrs. then disappear. They are very popular. I recommend viewing a few of them so that you understand how they work but they are not very different than a regular post just more temporary.

8. Here are some links for more information:

- <https://blog.hootsuite.com/how-to-use-instagram-for-business/>
- <https://www.artworkarchive.com/blog/why-every-artist-should-be-on-instagram>
- <http://artbusinessnews.com/2018/11/6-ways-artists-can-use-instagram-to-build-a-following/>

Call for art...and volunteers....

OOTB has the Display Case at the Shenkman Centre in August. But don't fret! We are not asking you to make any new art for this year's display.

Previously shown art is just fine. And FYI our show title will be "Summer Sizzle".

We're looking for approximately 20 two- and three-dimensional pieces, maximum one per person please. Email Anne Warburton (annewarburton@hotmail.com) and Sheree Bradford-Lea (sheree@shereebroadfordlea.com) if you have a piece you'll enter, along with the title of the art piece. Art can be dropped off at the Shenkman Centre at 1:30 on Thursday, August 1st, or given to us at the July OOTB meeting.

And we are also looking for volunteers to help with set-up (Thursday, August 1 at 1:30 pm) and take-down (Tuesday, September 3 at 10:30 am). Like last year, we propose meeting for lunch prior to the set-up.

Hoping to hear from you,

Anne Warburton
Sheree Bradford-Lea

Lansdowne Textiles Festival

I will be a vendor at the Lansdowne Textiles Festival on Saturday, June 22. The event takes place in the town of Lansdowne, Ontario (not at Ottawa's Lansdowne Park!!) which is about a 90 minute drive west of Ottawa, taking the 401. For a small show, there are a wide variety of fibres to see, including cotton quilting cloth and wool roving, as well as made items. This is a nice little show to whet your appetite to go to bigger shows later in the summer like the Twist Festival and the Almonte Fibre Fest!

Here's the link for more info:

<https://lansdowneontario.ca/http-lansdowneontario-ca-wp-content/uploads-2019-02-textilesfest-poster-2019-jpg/>

Hope this bit of news will be of interest

Sharon Dunlop

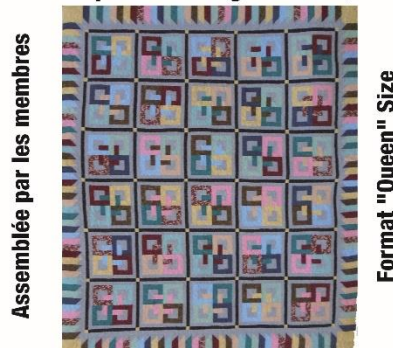
Quilt Canada 2019

Members might be interested in attending **Quilt Canada 2019**. It will be at the EY Centre, June 12-15. They advertise a national juried show, a huge merchant mall, workshops and lectures, multiple quilt shows and evening entertainment. Check their website for details. Note: there is an admission fee and there are parking costs at the EY Centre. Wear very comfortable shoes!

Deux-Montagnes Quilt Guild Show

EXPOSITION

15^e ANNIVERSAIRE / 15th ANNIVERSARY
GUILDE DE COURTEPOINTE DES DEUX-MONTAGNES
DEUX-MONTAGNES QUILT GUILD SHOW
Courtepointe de tirage / Raffle Quilt



Samedi 25 mai 2019 - 10h00 - 17h00 Saturday, May 25, 2019 - 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Dimanche 26 mai 2019 - 10h00 - 15h00 Sunday, May 26, 2019 - 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

ARÉNA OLYMPIA
611, 20^e avenue, Deux-Montagnes

INVITÉS SPÉCIAUX	SPECIAL GUESTS
<p>Coin retrouvailles avec Lily Lam Guilde Courtepointe Moderne de Montréal SAQA</p>	<p>Meeting again with Lily Lam Montreal Modern Quilt Guild SAQA</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Évaluations sur place • Cartes Postales en tissu • Courtepointes, défi expo • Marchands • Salon de thé • Boutique des membres • Démonstrations • Choix du Public • Tirage : 2.00\$ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appraisals on site • Fabric Postcards • Quilt show challenge • Merchants • Tea room • Members' Boutique • Démonstrations • Viewers' choice • Raffle : 2.00\$
<p>DÉFI COULEUR entre Guilde CALICO de Laval et Guilde de courtepointe des Deux-Montagnes</p>	
<p>INFORMATIONS : Marjolaine Bond Sabourin 450.974.9073 marjobond@videotron.ca</p>	
<p>ADMISSION 5.00\$</p>	

Creative Reactions

Art meets science in an upcoming show titled Creative Reactions, on May 25. It's a show of art created by 8 artists who were paired up with academic researchers and based on themes such as the human body, galaxies, society, etc. Creative Reactions explores the relationships between art and science, the use of creativity, art as a method for learning, as a means for visual communication.

I was paired up with a botanist from the Museum of Nature - and we decided on an art piece of lichens and learning. Some of you saw a few of the fibre art lichens I'm working on at our April meeting.

The show is Saturday, May 25, from 6:30 - 9:30 pm, in the Preston Room of the Plant Recreation Centre at 930 Somerset Streets West. The event is free.

I am putting together a 3-part blog piece at annearburton.blogspot.com/ to document the process; in case you are unable to attend.

Hope to see you there.
Anne Warburton

Summer Literacy and Numeracy Program

Hi Everyone,
I am one of your new members this year. From the meetings that I have attended, I am amazed at the open, positivity around the process of art and enjoyment of exploration of trying out new things. You are all very inspiring. I am wondering if there is an artist out there that would be interested in providing an art experience for a summer program that I am coordinating.

I am a teacher with the Ottawa Carleton District School Board (OCDSB). My current job is an ESL/ELD (English as a Second Language) instructional coach through Curriculum Services. This year I am involved in a leadership position of coordinating a summer literacy and numeracy program for a very unique group of students, ages 12-14 during the month of July.

This summer program that we are organizing is different than other programs as these students are from across our district who are currently in an ELD (English Literacy Development) program. They have limited prior schooling due to past circumstances in their home countries. Many of their families have come here as refugees.

This summer we are hoping to offer them a variety of learning experiences to continue to help bridge the significant educational gaps that they have in their learning. The reason I am contacting you today, is because we would need your help to make this happen for our kids.

Since many of these students and their families are still adjusting to life in Canada, and they face current challenges in school, our goal is to offer schooling in July that provides hands-on, interactive activities to develop their oral language skills, engaging them in discussions, and consequently to provide a context for building vocabulary, reading, writing and math skills. The art process has a huge role in supporting literacy and numeracy development.

These students have extremely limited resources, so we want to keep the experiences free. We are also hoping to have as many experiences on site as possible (the school sites are: Sawmill Creek Elementary School (3400 D'Aoust Avenue) and Broadview Public School

(590 Dovercourt Avenue). In regards to art materials, there is sometimes cost, but there are creative ways of possibly supporting ideas and costs that you may have.

If you or someone you know would be interested in providing an art experience that involves process and experimentation (but open to anything), in support of this very special group of new Canadians, please contact me as soon as you can. julie.coburn@ocdsb.ca I would love to hear from you!

Thank you!
Julie

Julie Coburn,
OCDSB Teacher / ESL/ ELD Instructional Coach
ESL/ELD Summer School Coordinator,, Sawmill Creek E.S. and Broadview P. S.

Background of our Summer Program
Two years ago, in response to the large cohort of refugee newcomers who arrived in our school district, a summer program was created by 2 secondary teachers to help prevent the "summer slide" for students who are new to the country and are just learning English. This program called SAIL (students accelerating in literacy development) was featured on CBC in years past. Since then, we have added a gr.7/8 program and now we have grade 6 students who benefit from this experience.

OOTB Website Focus on Fibre Links – Gallery Links

Bethany Garner (she will be speaking to OOTB at the June meeting) recently posted the following item on Facebook.

"Just discovered this at YouTube this morning and what a wonderful way to have that cuppa morning coffee and remember this amazing CONNECTIONS Group show in 2014... we have a new exhibition called "Re-Fashioned" coming in September at the Wellington County Museum and Archives in Fergus - so if you love this, watch for the announcements at <http://www.connectionsfibreartists.com/index.html> and make time for a peek at our Members current work. Bethany in Kingston, ON"

The members of Connections Fibre Artists were challenged to design and execute their own original art that reflects their individual research into the artists, the paintings and the styles of the Group of Seven. Since I have always been interested in the Group of Seven I took the 10 minutes to view and enjoy the video. It shows photos of the artwork along with some detail shots and the video is set to music.

Sometimes it's interesting to look at an art form different than the medium we usually work with. I recently learned about a couple of locations that contain outdoor sculptures – one in Haliburton, ON and the other just outside Cumberland Village in Ottawa.

Haliburton seems to be a town that love its sculptures. There is the 'The Haliburton Sculpture Forest' and 'The Downtown Haliburton Sculpture Exhibition'. They are both collections of unique sculptures by Canadian and international artists. The trails in the Sculpture Forest - for walking, bike riding and skiing in the winter—provide changing perspectives of the forest and the sculptures. The downtown sculptures are installed at sites along the main street of the downtown core and runs from June through October. The website shows galleries of both sites and an introduction to the artists.

The Humanics Sanctuary and Sculpture Park <http://www.humanicsinstitute.org/Sanctuary/> is a local park with sculptures carefully placed in a natural setting at this nine-acre wooded ravine with walking trails and quaint bridges over a meandering creek.

All sculptures are artistic representations of theological teachings reflecting in symbolic form, the three essential values that are promoted by the sanctuary. There is a fee to visit the park but it may be an interesting place to visit. Meanwhile, the website provides information about the sanctuary and the sculptures.

The links for these pages can be found on the OOTB Resource page - <http://www.out-of-the-box.org/resources.html>

MaryAnne

A Stitch in Time

Acorn TV has a series called 'A Stitch In Time', which is pretty fascinating. In each segment, the art historian host examines a famous painting from history and talks a bit about it, particularly the outfits being worn in the painting, and how they fit in with the society of the time. Then, a team of historical costumers figure out how one of the outfits was made and do their best to replicate it (it's not always easy). And then the host models the outfit, and comments on how wearable it really is. It's all good natured and down to earth, worth a look. And in case you don't get Acorn TV, they do run a free trial week, which is really easy to cancel if need be.

:D Cheers,

Sheree

Planning Committee

PC Convenor	Sharon Johnson & Nancy Garrard
Education	Lynn Keeler, Nancy Scott, Cheryl Brooks, Kathy Lajeunesse, Luigina Baratto, Patrice Bogall
Secretary	Nancy Leigh-Smith
Membership	Val Rochester
Treasurer	Marilyn White
Web-coordinator	MaryAnne Toonders
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
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	