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## Words of Wisdom

“When facing a difficult task, act as though it is impossible to fail. If you’re going after Moby Dick, take along the tartar sauce” H Jackson Brown, Jr

## Program Lineup 2023- 2024

**July 15 meeting** - Destash, ATC Swap, FibreFest Workshops, Playdate review with show and tell

**August 19 meeting** - Field trip: by the water somewhere in Ottawa (we'll know soon), taking inspiration from landscapes

**September 16 meeting** - membership renewal, Brown Bag reveal, Fall Fling particulars

## From the Co Chairs

### July 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**Destash:** Do you have stuff hanging around your creating room? This meeting is your chance to destash. Bring in the stuff you don't want: fabric, notions, trim, bits and pieces, books, magazines, etc. We'll lay everything out and everyone may take what they want.

One rule: If you brought it and it's not gone, you must take it out of the building.

**ATC Swap:** Those people participating...give a card, take a card.

**FibreFest Workshops:** Many to choose from and quite a few of them are being led by our members. They will explain what they are teaching and will have samples for you to look at.

Check them out: <https://mvtm.ticketsplease.ca/>

**Bookmaking Playdate:** Review of the day. Bring the books you made and show them off.

## Updates

**Facebook:** An invitation to join our private group has gone out. You need to accept the invite if you would like to join the group. Please post interesting things you

come across. Also, use this platform to ask questions/seek help. This group is for members only.

**Fall Fling: October 25-26, 2024.** It's not that far away. Time to ramp up the creating so you can sell the end results at the show. Laura Corkill will be coordinating the demos and will be asking for volunteers.

**Banner Renewal:** First new banner will be hung at FibreFest. It'll be presented at the September meeting, and we'll explain the concept and have participation sign-up sheets available.

**Brown Bag:** Due September 16th

**Playdates:** Patricia Alderson will be coordinating. Let her know what you want to learn.

## Stuck in a creative rut or lost your spark? There's a remedy.

Creativity isn't some elusive talent reserved for a chosen few—it's a skill that blossoms with practice. Like honing a musical instrument or perfecting a recipe, the more we flex our creative muscles, the stronger they become. It's about daring to think beyond the norm, experimenting with fresh ideas, drawing inspiration from others, and bravely showcasing our unique talents. When we step into uncharted territory, we gain clarity, uncover hidden insights, and sharpen our problem-solving prowess. Our world expands, stress melts away, and we find the courage to express ourselves freely.

But here's the catch: sticking to familiar routines and comfortable patterns rarely sparks innovation. As the saying goes, "You can't get there from here." To spark creativity, we must explore new avenues and embrace fresh challenges.

**Enter the Play Date**—an opportunity to challenge yourself and revisit your chosen practice with new eyes - by sharing it with others. Whatever your passion, leading a play date isn't just about teaching others; it's a chance for mutual inspiration and growth. Each participant brings a unique perspective, sparking light bulb moments and injecting new energy into your creative journey – and theirs.

My goal as the new coordinator is to make sure our play dates are as enjoyable as they are enriching. Whether you can fill a complete day or team up with someone, I'll do the support work so you can concentrate on sharing your talents.

What skill can you share? Our group has such incredible talent; let's discuss how we can turn your passion into an unforgettable experience for our OOTB community!

Patricia Alderson  
palderson2015@gmail.com

**Tracey-Mae Chambers**

**Ottawa City Hall Art Gallery**  
May 30 to August 18, 2024

Opening: Thursday, May 30, 5:30 to 7:30 pm  
Access is limited to the Laurier Avenue entrance.

Artist tour: Sunday, August 18, 2 pm  
Free admission. Presented in English.



*#hopeandhealingcanada (installation view at Canada Agricultural and Food Museum), 2023, silk strips, wool, acrylic yarn, cotton yarn, steel hoop, variable dimensions, courtesy of the artist*



*installation of bright red yarn in various crocheted shapes and patterns*

*#hopeandhealingcanada, 2023, silk strips, wool, acrylic yarn, cotton yarn, variable dimensions, courtesy of the artist*

Since July 2021 I have created over 100 installations at residential school historical sites, museums, art galleries and other public spaces. Many of these spaces serve to

present a colonial viewpoint and primarily speak about the settlers who arrived and lived here, but not the Indigenous people that were displaced along the way. The installations are constructed with red wool, silk or cotton yarn that has been crocheted, knit or woven. Red is the colour of blood. Red is the slur against Indigenous people. Red is the colour of passion and anger, danger and power, courage and love. I am hoping to bridge the gap between settlers and First Nations, Métis and Inuit people by creating art that is approachable and non-confrontational and starting a conversation about decolonization and reconciliation.

- Interpretive text by Tracey-Mae Chambers

**Biography**

I grew up as a stranger to my own story; adopted and re-named, grafted into a new family tree. The discovery in adulthood of my Métis heritage was a revelation that set me on a path of discovery. I often work in the powerful tradition of the vessel as a metaphor for individuals; we fill and re-fill ourselves throughout life to create our own story. My developing story as an Indigenous heritage woman and her quest for harmony with the natural world. I am a proud member of the Métis Nation of Ontario. My ancestors are from the Drummond Island community as well as Mackinac Island. [www.traceymae.com](http://www.traceymae.com)

The artist gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Ontario Arts Council

**Planning Committee**

PC Convenor	Wendo Van Essen, Sandy Goldsmith
Education	Patrica Alderson (playdates)
Secretary	Cheryl Ford
Membership	Andrée Faubert
Treasurer	Marilyn White
Web-coordinator	MaryAnne Toonders
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Facebook/Instagram	Cathy Haley <a href="mailto:haley.cathy@gmail.com">haley.cathy@gmail.com</a>
Library	Nancy Scott
Publicity/Marketing	Louise Dalonzo
Exhibitions/Shows	Connie ten Bruggenkate, Andree Faubert, Wendy Chaytor, Madeleine Rousseau, Sally Rutherford, Wendo Van Essen, Sandy Goldsmith
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