



the ARMATURE

**January
2020
Vol. 1**

*Newsletter of the **Sculptors' Association of Alberta**... encouraging and promoting the creation of sculpture for over 30 years... Contact: info@sculptorsassociation.ca*

SAA Website <[WWW. sculptors-alberta.com](http://www.sculptors-alberta.com)>

Newsletter is printed in black & white but is in colour on website or by email ...

SAA at Studio YEG



Ritchie Velthuis has been working on the Ice Castles....he promises to tell us all about it next month... Just before the January 3rd Opening he wrote on Facebook...

"The caverns are complete. Grateful and blessed to be working with a dream team that love this project as much as I do. I am getting so excited about our grand opening of ice castle Edmonton on January 3 at 4 p.m.: tickets can be purchased online at icecastles.com

NEXT MEETING

at Harcourt Annex, 10211- 112 St., Edmonton (Ring the bell to be let inside)...

On Tuesday, January 7th 2020

Executive Meeting, at 6:45pm; Member's Meeting at 7:30 pm.

On the Agenda:

Founding SAA member Pat Galbraith will chat about her recent trip to China and her sculpture project

We welcome everyone with an interest in sculpture!



Message from the President...

Welcome to 2020! A new year... a new decade... and lots happening for SAA and the arts in Alberta.

Photo submissions from the community of St. Albert have arrived and – like many of you –

I am excited to see what we received, and looking forward to the challenge of creating something special for our show at VASA in June.

Night of Artists is fast approaching and I hope you have let Carroll know if you plan to participate. The cost for our booth will be determined by the number of participating sculptors. NOA is a highlight of the art year in Edmonton and as I watch artists submitting work for the magazine cover contest and look at the roster of participating artists, I can say with confidence that this year's promises to be a wonderful event.

Looking back at 2019, our opening at Studio YEG Art was well attended and the exhibition looks great. It is fun to see the two-dimensional work of our sculptors displayed as well. The show is up until the end of January so please encourage your family, friends and followers to visit. And if you have not seen it yourself.... please go!

The Bigger Picture

2019 also closed with significant issues for the art world in Alberta as government cuts were beginning to be felt across the province. Funding to agencies such as Alberta Foundation for the Arts has been reduced – cuts to municipalities has impacted city budgets, -Edmonton Arts Council may be impacted – changes to Lottery Funds are imminent and unclear – and Alberta Branded, the wonderful gallery in the Federal Building, is being closed.

The public was told the gallery is losing upwards of \$300,000 a year and can be replaced by a kiosk to sell souvenir pins or mugs. In the words of Speaker Nathan Cooper quoted from Hansard: "I don't know if you've seen it or not, the vending machine that the U of A has at the airport. They have a ton of great products available all the time. So there are some opportunities that I think we can explore to provide that service to Albertans who visit (the legislature museum). You know, we did sell 15,000 pins last year and 289 packages of tea."

In response to this and other insults to Alberta artists, the **Artists Against Kenney's Cuts**

Facebook group was created in early December. At time of writing, there were 1,115 members and growing daily. Says Administrator Tricia Eddy: "We hope to create a space for people of like mind to share information, generate energy, and mobilize our collective group creativity, in order to affect change!"

There is strength in numbers and opportunity to make our collective voice heard – perhaps during the Month of the Artist in September. This is a closed, moderated group – by invite only. If you are interested in joining, please send a request or contact me.

Meanwhile, artists are being encouraged to use the hashtag "#abartsmatter" whenever posting about art and/or their work on all social media platforms. I urge each of you to incorporate #abartsmatter freely and frequently!

Let's make 2020 a great year for SAA and a better one for all the arts in Alberta!

Ellie Shuster

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www.behindthefaces.ca



Studio YEG Art Opening Reception

The Sculptors' Association of Alberta

MEMBERSHIP Fees:

\$40.00 (newsletter emailed)

\$45 (newsletter mailed)

Studio YEG Art Opening

On Thursday, December 12, our exhibition opened at Studio YEG Art Gallery (13b Fairway Drive). It was a wonderful evening, well attended by members and friends. The atmosphere is warm inviting... the art looks great... and our hosts Cass and Jamie Miller are enthusiastic about the work we offer for display and sale.

The show runs through to the end of January – please visit often with your family and friends – and invite your followers to have a look.

Thanks to Cass (photo below) for inviting us to be part of her lovely gallery!



*"To succeed you need a dream.
It is the spark of inspiration
that makes the perspiration
worthwhile."*

SNOW SCULPTURE...



**Jeremy's chair at Strathcona Wilderness
Centre...** Ice & Snow report on page 5

The Merry Masquerade Fundraiser...

held by my art group VASA in early December. I held a mask-making workshop and some of the masks shown resulted from this event.

- Helen Rogers



**Ice Sculpture
at Sylvan Lake...
Santa in the
Chimney
-Fran Cuyler-**

Snow and Ice Report –

Barb Marcinkoski,
Snow and Ice Director,
barbmarcink@gmail.com

In November and December, we completed seven events, carving 20 ice sculptures and 2 snow sculptures (yeah team!) There was some excellent work done and in two cases, we had to travel to Edson and Sylvan Lake to do it.

In 2020, we have two events confirmed - Feb. 17, for the 100th anniversary of Smeltzer House in Strathcona County and Aspen Gardens Community Winter Event on March 8. There are two more possible, one in Sundre and one in Sylvan Lake. I will be recruiting for these jobs soon.

I am also considering an ice carving course/workshop to increase our skills as ice carvers.

Much thanks to Jeremy McConville who has done most of the ice hauling this season.



Hummingbird
Eileen Heidler
- Luminaria



Crab- Dawn Yanor and Tristan Campbell-
NYE Sherwood Park



Snowflake- Barb Marcinkoski- Sylvan Lake



Calla Lilies- BarbMarcinkoski- Luminaria



Tropical drink (snow)- Christian Denis- NYE Sherwood Park



Flower and Leaves-Jeremy McConville- Luminaria



Fish- Eileen Heidler- NYE Sherwood Park



Randall Fraser's carving from Edson.



DESCRIPTION:

GESTURE SCULPTURE WORKSHOP...

Part 1 of the workshop offers the basic construction of the human body in all its postures and movements. The masses, proportions and extensions of the body are examined as gestures, motions and expressions. Sculpture medium used is tin foil and clay paste paint.

Part 2 will be the continuation of Part 1 (pre-requisite). The application of clay dough will be applied systematically for the masses of the human figure sculpture. We will make the clay dough and explore the gestural application to the figure, look at the patina coloration, the sculptural base presentation and photography of your work.

INSTRUCTOR:

Herman H. Poulin

WHEN:

Saturday January 18th 6pm-9 pm (Part 1)
Sunday January 19th 9 am-4 pm (Part 2)

WHERE:

Harcourt House Annex 10211 112 St, Edmonton

WHAT TO BRING:

Your lunch
All other materials and tools will be supplied

COST:

\$85.00 for SAA members
\$95.00 for non-members

REGISTRATION:

Minimum 10 people
Maximum 18 people

HOW TO REGISTER:

Email sculptorsAB@gmail.com

DEADLINE TO REGISTER:

January 7th 2020

PAYMENT:

Cash or cheque made out to

Sculptors' Association of Alberta

NOTES:

Part 1 must be completed before Part 2, and participants must be on time for both parts due to time constraints.

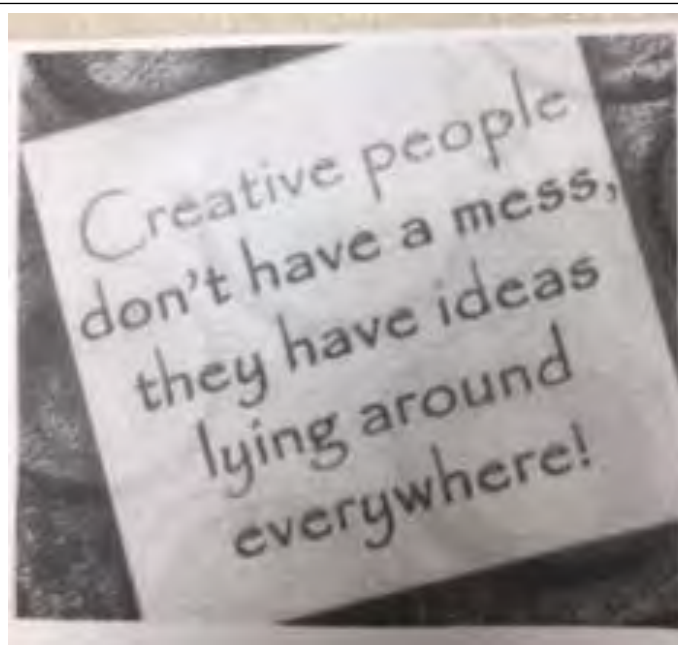


Photo above: A friend sent me these words of wisdom so... This (photos right) is not a mess!!!
Helen

2nd Annual Sundre Fine Art Expo 2020

Presented by Rusty Brush Art & Gifts we are proud to host this years fine art expo. It is open to all forms of art and all ages. You do not need to be a professional to apply. Applications can be downloaded on their Facebook page or website and returned by May 15th to rustybrushart@gmail.com.

**July 25th 10am - 6pm &
July 26th 10am - 4pm**

**Sundre Community Center
2nd Ave NW**

40 Award Winning Artists
Live Artist Demo's
Painting Competitions
Local Kids Art Display
Live Entertainment
Food Trucks
Door Prizes & Draws

Questions, Comments or to Apply
(403) 638-1906
Rustybrushart@gmail.com

Harcourt House Artist Run Centre

3rd Floor, 10215 112 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1M7
780 426 4180

harcourtinfo@shaw.ca

Long Weekend with the Model...
\$90 or 6 prepaid blocks
Saturday, Sunday, Monday, February 15 – 17, 2020
Hours: 10 am – 1 pm and 2 pm – 5 pm
[more info, eventbrite](#)

DROP-INS



UNINSTRUCTED DROP-IN > 2D and 3D
will resume January 13, 2020.

[more info](#)



EDITOR'S NOTE... HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

I hope 2020 promises a great deal of creative joy for you.

Remember this note included in the last issue of our newsletter (see right column)... While it was posted to inform sand sculptors of an opportunity, it also brought my attention to the series called 'Blown Away' on Netflix. We began watching the series last night and I must say it is highly entertaining.

"Blown Away" is about glass blowers who in competition must create a piece that expresses a particular theme within a time limit of 4-6 hours. For those who think of glass items as being largely utilitarian, this show would be an eye-opening discovery. Sculpture is created in this most fragile material under the pressure of time constraints.

The participants, some with many years' experience, are challenged to create a piece that expresses a theme that can be very challenging. They must consider artistic elements such as colour and how it performs with light, but also form and how it interprets the concept while still retaining some of their own unique style.

There are ten episodes in the series and someone is eliminated in each one. In one case, the glass blower was eliminated because he had a disastrous accident late in the day with no time to recover anything but a bunch of irregular glass shards/pieces. Sometimes the smallest error would result in having to restart or make an attempt at salvaging something from a shattered piece.

Personally, I have only worked with fused glass and I must say that glass is a challenge always because of its fragility. I cannot imagine working on blowing glass within the competition framework, but it is fascinating seeing how other artists approach their medium and the challenges and techniques involved in the process.

I should mention that one of the participants in this series is an Edmonton based artist... Leah Kudel, who is undaunted by her competition (some older and years more experienced as glass artists).

Competition is always an interesting factor in our lives. For some of us... it is a driving force. We like to compete. We like to win. We like that feeling of triumph.

Others are driven by the challenge and we compete with ourselves, striving to always do better than the last effort or competing with the image of perfection we see in our mind's eye.

Whatever the motivation, it is our losses that determine our character. It is easy to stay positive when we are winning. How we handle our losses, however, says much about us as a person.

Growth is a process. Often we cannot see today that which we will see clearly tomorrow. While this is true in life, it is also true in sculpting or any other art form.

I came across this quotation, "Don't be afraid to set yourself truly challenging goals, and don't be too disappointed if you then fail to achieve them. Challenging yourself always helps you grow." (Author unknown)

Never think you can stop learning... life circumstances will always challenge us to learn... our choice is whether we choose to learn the lesson or repeat our mistakes. Attitude is everything. Here's to a great year in 2020!

Marjorie Davies

Hi!... I'm a casting producer with a Toronto based production company called Marblemedia.

Marblemedia's unscripted division works with global digital platforms and broadcasters to create premium reality competition, entertainment, lifestyle, specialist factual, game shows and original formats. Marble's original competition series **Blown Away** launched on Netflix globally in 2019 to critical success. It garnered attention from the New York Times, The Guardian, the Washington Post and Time Magazine, being described as "breaking the reality show mold" and "the best new creative contest since RuPaul's Drag Race."

Following the success of **Blown Away**, we are currently developing a competition series centering around sand sculptors and we are looking for artists across North America who are interested in being considered to compete on the show.

I'm wondering if you might be able to share the following with your organization? I realize they don't all work with sand but if anyone works with sand at all I'd love to chat with them!

<https://sandsculptorcompetition.castingcrane.com/>

Don't hesitate if you have any questions and I look forward to hearing from you!

Cheers,

Tao Soleil Levine

Casting/Story producer

marblemedia

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All submissions will be gratefully accepted
but may

be edited due to space considerations...

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

end of 3rd week of each month