



Sally Fairhead: First a potter



Tell us about yourself and what you do.

I'm currently living in Devon with my husband John and our dog Kaiti. When we retired, we wanted to be in a smaller community. We moved here from Edmonton, where I was born and raised. I love camping, reading, gardening and of course, pottery.

Have you always wanted to be a sculptor?

No, quite the opposite. I am first and foremost a potter. When I first started, I absolutely hated hand-building. Now I'm finding a whole new side of my creativity.



What is the best advice you have ever been given?

If you don't like something, don't just complain. Find different solutions and implement them.

Why art?

Art teaches me many things about myself. It has shown me how to create, it stretches my imagination, and teaches me patience and humility (especially when something doesn't turn out).

What mediums do you work in?

I work in clay. I use wire and sometimes wood to embellish my pieces.

What inspires you?

Nature. I look at colours and shapes and try to imagine how to incorporate them into my work. I find peace in nature and peace in the clay.

What other work have you done besides sculpting?

As I said, I'm a potter first. I love creating functional pottery. My favourite is throwing large bowls on the wheel. I've always enjoyed carving on my pieces and over the last few years have started decorating my pots with dragonflies, flowers and butterflies.

What makes you smile?

My children and grandchildren and our crazy 18-month-old Labrador.

What is your dream project?

I would love to create a large wall piece. I want to carve and sculpt a scene using individual clay tiles.

What is your outlook on life?

I have a very positive attitude. I always look for the best in people and in any situation. I always try to be kind. This has been especially important over the last few years.

President's message – Ellie Shuster



After two years' waiting, the VASA exhibition is here! It's the second of the long-scheduled group shows which have been postponed through the pandemic. (The first was Night of Artists.)

It seems like years ago that we were soliciting for photographs to distribute to our sculptors to interpret into 3D works of art. Okay... it WAS years

ago! As I write this, I am putting finishing touches on the pieces that began so long ago and am looking forward to the show that is about to open. I hope you will all come to the gallery in St. Albert for the opening and bring your friends and family. We have one more group exhibition in Drumheller, and a workshop or two before we close out the SAA year – and this year we can finally plan a June BBQ! It is hard to

believe that our summer break is around the corner, especially given the winter-like weather of late.

As we all prepare for the shows and activities of the coming months, I hope you are keeping safe while COVID continues to flex its muscles. I look forward to seeing you on-line at our May 3 meeting and at the VASA opening shortly thereafter!

Ellie

SAA Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, May 3, 2022 7:30 pm

Program: Kris Miller, Curator of Gallery@501,
Strathcona County's public art gallery in Sherwood Park

On Zoom: [LINK HERE](#)

Meeting ID:840 2844 1497 Passcode: 160357

Agenda & Minutes from the last meeting are distributed by email.
Check with [Maria Koulouris](#) if you haven't received them.



Kris Miller has been working in the arts for the past 27 years in Edmonton and Sherwood Park, in arts administration, education instruction/programming and exhibition curation. Trained as a figurative sculptor, Kris has taught sculpture and drawing at Harcourt House, Grant MacEwan, and U of A. She worked at the Edmonton Art Gallery for 6 years as a Gallery Educator then Studio Coordinator, ran the Smeltzer House Arts Centre for six years, and then moved to Gallery@501, where she has worked as the Education Programmer for nine years and then Curator since late 2020. Kris has a passion for focusing on accessibility and diversity in the arts, arts education and supporting others in their artistic journey.

Kris will share info about Gallery@501 and the recent changes they have made to their spaces and exhibition submission guidelines. She will speak about tips for exhibit submissions, considerations for tailoring submissions to each specific gallery, community engagement and artist statements. Questions and conversation around any of these topics are most welcome, as we all work together to share our stories through arts and culture with our communities.

Sally Fairhead: con't



How has your work evolved over time?

When I took my first pottery class, we had to do hand-building. I swore I would never do it again. After years of only wheel-thrown pieces, I started dabbling with altering shapes and creating pieces that combine both hand-built and wheel-thrown elements. A few years ago, I was challenged to make my first mask. I was hooked. I have since been experimenting with fountains, birdbaths and "critter" banks. Piggy banks are fine, but there are so many other cute critters to use. My favourite has to be a chubby hippo named Horatio. (Yes, all my banks have names).

Do you have a favourite work of art or artist?

Not really, though I greatly admire the work of my mother-in-law Pat Fairhead. At 95 she is still actively painting and exhibiting her work.

What role does the artist have in modern society?

The role of the artist is pretty much the same as it has always been, to add beauty to the world and give both the artist and their audience an escape from daily cares.

What is the best thing about being an artist?

Creating. Making something that pleases others and myself. I find that as soon as my hands touch the clay, I relax totally.

What is the worst?

Marketing my work.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Don't let your fears and doubts or other peoples' opinions hold you back. They are your dreams, follow them!

Where can we see your art?

I sell from my studio Mainstreet Mud here in Devon. I also post and sell from my Facebook

page @mainstreetmud and Instagram @sallyfairhead.

Sally and Shawn Olander will be hosting a garden sale of their work at 73 Cormack Crescent on May 21 and 22, 11-5.



Exhibitions – Carroll Charest



DRUMHELLER
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Western GM Gallery

Newsletter submissions

We are always looking for submissions to the newsletter. If you are showing your work, teaching a workshop, working on something special, have an update you'd like to share, or any story ideas, please contact me. Also, please keep the photos coming, they are greatly appreciated.

Submit your items to shawnolander@gmail.com by the 25th of the month and contact me with any questions!
Shawn

By the time you are reading this, SAA will be getting ready to set up in the [VASA Gallery](#) in St. Albert with our 'What Moves You' show. Twelve of our members are participating in this wonderful show where we created a three-dimensional work out of a 2D photo.

The opening is Thursday, May 5 from 6 - 8:30 pm. This is St. Albert's first art walk since the COVID lockdowns, so we are hoping it will have good attendance. I hope that you can make it out to the opening but if not, sometime during VASA business hours of Tuesday through Saturday from 1:30 - 5 pm. Our show runs from Tuesday, May 3 until Saturday, May 28. I am at VASA each Thursday if you can pop by then.

I will be sending out the electronic invite as soon as I get it, if not by the time you read this, please share this information with

everyone you can to promote this show for SAA and our fellow members.

With this in mind, our next show is gearing up for the [Drumheller Western GM Gallery](#) in June. I hope you had a chance to look at the space via the video I posted on SAA's Facebook page.

We have 10 people confirmed for this show with half of us willing to take down the artwork and plinths, etc. and set up the show. This is the 'Creature Comforts' show, so if you would still like to participate but cannot bring down your works during the week, there are enough people to do so. Plus, we are thinking of having an opening on either Friday, June 3 or Saturday, June 4. Perhaps you can make it down for the opening.

Thanks to Maria for following up with and confirming that **Muttart Gallery** is still not ready to accept art shows yet, but they will let us know once they are.

The board looked into participating in the **Edmonton Folk Music Festival** in the craft tent this summer, but we would have to move all the works overnight into a trailer on site. Plus, they only supplied two passes, which would have been a nightmare trying to coordinate for people working the booth and switching out.

The board also discussed participating in the [Whyte Avenue Art Walk](#) (July 8-10) again. Alas, there is no wonderful building to house it this year. Our ever-diligent president, Ellie, is always looking for alternatives and has put out some inquiries for us to see if it will be worth it. Stay tuned.

That's all for now folks.

Carroll

Ritchie Velthuis 'The making of a monument'

Exhibition at Alberta Craft Council Gallery, Edmonton June 25-August 9, 2022

Long time SAA member Ritchie Velthuis, will be showing a collection of maquettes from the original cast of the Edmonton-based TV show, SCTV. He will also be sharing his process for making



the public artwork of SCTV characters Bob and Doug Mackenzie located

in downtown Edmonton. An artist talk is planned and date TBD in the next month or so.

Edmonton Art Club workshops

SAA member **Bev Oliwa** will be teaching a [Paverpol](#) bird-making workshop at the Orange Hub (10045-156 Street, Edmonton) on June 18, 2022, 10 am-1:30 pm. \$50 for members and \$65 for non-members.

Sharon Moore-Foster will be instructing a Clay Creation workshop where participants make a 2D flower tile, September 10 and November 19, 2022, 10 am- 4 pm. It is also at the Orange Hub and also

\$50 for members and \$65 for non-members.

<https://www.edmontonartclub.com/workshops>



WILLOW WORKSHOP

 Sculptors' Association of Alberta
✓ Only 12 spaces available

WHEN: Harvest Day: May 14th or 15th. Workshop Day: May 28th or 29th 2022.
LOCATION: Sturgeon County - Address provided upon registration

COST: Members \$90 Non-members \$125
SUPPLIES: Included (*Optional: Bring hammer, drill, saws, axe, shears, screwdriver.)

BRING: your lunch, water, and a foldable camping chair or blanket
REGISTER: Contact Shawn at shawno1ander@gmail.com



Artist-in-residence program 2022/23



Harcourt House is accepting submissions for its 2022/2023 Artist-In-Residence (AIR) Program. The residency will be for a period of one year, starting on November 1, 2022 and ending October 31, 2023.

The Artist-In-Residence Program was created in 2002 by the Board of Directors of WECAN Society/Harcourt House Artist Run Centre with the aim of contributing to the development of an emerging artist. The program provides the artist with a stable working environment and helps with the maintenance of a professional studio space and artistic practice. The project is open to visual artists who are Canadian residents working in any visual art media including: sculpture, painting, printmaking,

digital art, mixed media, photography, film, and video.

The AIR is provided with:

- Studio space in the Harcourt House facility with 24/7 access.
- Complimentary one-year membership with Where Edmonton Community Artists Network (WECAN) Society/Harcourt House Artist Run Centre.
- Complimentary parking for the duration of the AIR Program at Harcourt House.
- Free access to 2D and 3D pre-registered life study classes held at Harcourt House Artist Run Centre.
- \$1,800.00 allowance for materials.

- A solo exhibition in the main gallery of Harcourt House of the work developed during the residency.
- CAR/FAC fees for the presentation of this exhibition.

The submission for the 2022/2023 AIR will be reviewed by a jury of professional visual artists, art gallery administrators, curators, critics, and other visual arts professionals.

Applicants will be selected by the quality of work submitted, their demonstration of commitment to serious practice, and how the residency will meet their objectives at this crucial juncture in the development of their practice.

Click [here](#) for the submission guidelines.

Deadline: Thursday, July 7, 2022

The Armature is published by the Sculptors' Association of Alberta. Images have been supplied by artist members and may not be reused without permission of the artist(s). For more information contact Maria Koulouris, SAA Administrator at sculptorsab@gmail.com.

This newsletter was prepared by Shawn Olander and edited/formatted by Barb Marcinkoski. If you have anything for the newsletter, please contact Shawn at shawnolander@gmail.com

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