



Central Ontario Art Association

FEBRUARY 2024

www.coart.com

President's Message

In this issue



Did you know that Wellington County is fortunate to have five Carnegie library branches in the system. They are the Elora Branch, Harriston Branch, Fergus Branch, Mount Forest Branch and the Palmerston Branch. The Harriston Library retains much of its beautiful, original architecture.



Waking up this morning, I'm sure I heard the first herald of spring – a robin, maybe two! The other sign of spring – not so pleasant – which happens every February – a skunk looking for a mate. Nevertheless, here we are halfway through February already!

However, the real gem for artists, is a “state of the art” Gallery, housed on the top floor. Home to the Minto
Continued on page 2...

Our COAA family has so many things to look forward to this year! Coming up soon is our first show of the year:

**Visions – Minto Arts Council,
Harriston - April 2nd to April 27th**



2023-2024 Executive.....	2
Art Activism article.	3
Calls for Entry.....	4
From the Editor.....	5
Renew Your membership.....	5
Members News.....	6&7
Social Media and the COAA.....	8
Membership Advantages.....	9
Renewal Form	10



NOTE: All images in this publication are subject to copyright laws and should NOT be reproduced or copied without the permission of the artist. Violations or infringements shall be prosecuted.



The executive is available to answer your questions. You can reach them by using the information below.

President - Anne Williamson
info@coaart.com

Vice President
VACANT
info@coaart.com

Secretary - Mary Flatt
info@coaart.com

Treasurer
Anne Williamson - **ACTING**
info@coaart.com

Newsletter Editor - Karen Logan
newsletter@coaart.com

Membership Chair - **ACTING**
Anne Williamson
membership@coaart.com

Promotion and Marketing Chair
Julie Carlisle
info@coaart.com

Show Coordinator - Barbara McLeod
info@coaart.com

*Thanks to Ana Jurpik
our web master*

Members' News

Images and announcements of 20-30 words (not ads) are put into the newsletter free of charge for members in good standing.

President's Message ... continued

Arts Council, <https://mintoartscouncil.ca/>, they hold exhibitions throughout the year – we are pleased to support them.

I encourage many of you to participate. It is a pleasant drive to Harriston, through country roads but if you need assistance in delivering or collecting your work for this exhibition, reach out to me at anneelizwilliamson@gmail.com or Barb McLeod at bamcl@bell.net and we will be happy to help. Submissions must be in by March 26th and artwork is to be delivered March 30th.

Also in April, we are hosting...

**Valerie Kent – Abstract Flower
ONLINE workshop
April 14th 1:00pm to 3:30pm**

Valerie Kent is an accomplished artist and will be a juror for us later this year. Please join us on Zoom while Valerie shows us all the steps needed to paint these charming flowers. The registration form and supply list are on the COAA website. All for a modest \$10 fee.



The zoom link will be sent out to all who register on or about April 11th. This is a new endeavor for COAA and if successful, we hope to do more. Please join us!

McMichael Canadian Art Collection Kleinburg One Day Event - May 25th

I have wanted to plan a COAA event at the McMichael Gallery for some time and I am so excited to



have pulled it together for this spring. Join us for what promises to be a busy yet enjoyable day including a one hour just for fun plein air workshop with oil pastels – hopefully something new for many of us, a special gallery tour, a box picnic lunch and as much free time to tour the gallery as you wish. The registration form is on the website and if you have any questions send them my way.

We Need Your Help to celebrate our past and future!

In August, we will be holding our juried show **Perceptions** at the historic Castle Kilbride/Township of Wilmot Community Room and Belvedere Gallery in Baden. We will also have a display to showcase COAA – our past and future and we are asking you to provide pictures, articles, memorabilia for this display.



...continued on page 3

NOTE: All images in this publication are subject to copyright laws and should NOT be reproduced or copied without the permission of the artist. Violations or infringements shall be prosecuted.



Let's make it big!

COAA has a long history to be proud of. Please send anything you think might contribute to this display to either Barb McLeod at bamcl@bell.net or me at anneelizwilliamson@gmail.com. If you have hard copy items, please mail them to me at 471 Stillmeadow Circle, Waterloo, ON, N2L 5M1.

Other Stuff!

Your executive has been working hard over the past year to keep our commitments to the organization: three shows/exhibitions per year, the addition of two new special events and updating our website and adding social media. This year we are also responsible for planning Beyond the Palette, our September workshop weekend. More information about that exciting weekend will follow soon. We are all happy to do so because we want COAA to succeed for the long term.

However, we need help from you. To boost our membership and encourage more engagement from members, I would like to introduce a program ECOAA has found to be successful – **Art Share**, where once a

month, a member hosts a zoom session about his/her art practice or tips of the trade. Half an hour or 45 minutes is all you would need to plan for. If you are willing to be part of this program, please email me.

Annual General Meeting Feb 7th

Just a quick note that the Annual General Meeting was held on Feb 7th by Zoom and the minutes were distributed by MailChimp to all members. If you didn't receive them, please let me know.

Executive

At the risk of sounding repetitive, we continue to ask for volunteers to fill two executive positions: Vice President and Treasurer. Neither position is onerous, and I'd be happy to chat with you about either one. Please give some thought to whether you can donate some time, we are a very friendly and collaborative group (and I promise, we don't bite!)

I wish you all a short but creative winter and an early spring and I look forward to seeing you either in person or online soon.

*Anne Williamson
COAA President*

ART ACTIVISM by Julie Carlisle

I had never heard of Art Activism before, but I recently joined a diverse group of artists in creating or donating a piece of art to help raise money for homeless youth. The charitable organization, Youth Without Shelter in Etobicoke, provides emergency housing and support service programs for youth experiencing homelessness through no fault of their own. For the past 13 years YWS has hosted their fundraiser **Time4Change**. "It's a collaborative effort that blends the expressive and emotional influence of the arts with the tactical approach of activism, aiming to catalyze social change."

Well, I wasn't sure how to approach my art piece for this project but I went with their theme "Grow Through What You Go Through" and I came up with a collage that is so different from my usual landscape painting. This collage took on a very urban street look that hopefully conveys the realities of youth homelessness.

The **Silent Auction** is live right now and the art is on display at Arts Etobicoke Gallery. There will be an Art Auction Event on March 2nd at Neilson Park Creative Center with all of the art displayed, dance performances, along with food and drink.

You can view the silent auction pieces at: <https://can.givergy.com/Time4Change/>

NOTE: All images in this publication are subject to copyright laws and should NOT be reproduced or copied without the permission of the artist. Violations or infringements shall be prosecuted.



Calls for Entry

More details about these exhibitions to follow on the website - www.coaart.com

Questions?
Please contact:
Barb McLeod
Show Coordinator
Email: info@coaart.com
Tel: 226-989-0325

Visions: (April, 2024)
Minto Arts Gallery, Harriston

Perceptions: (August, 2024)
Castle Kilbride Community Room, Baden

Crossection: (October, 2024)
Etobicoke Civic Centre Art Gallery, Toronto



88 Mill Street, Harriston, On NOG 1Z0

Call for Entry - **"VISIONS"** - April 2nd to April 27th, 2024

IMPORTANT DATES		
Date	Times	
Tuesday, March 26	midnight	Pre-registration deadline for all submissions
Saturday, March 30	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Deliver artwork to the Gallery
Thursday, April 4	6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Opening Reception
Saturday, April 27	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	End of Show Pick up
Note: If you cannot deliver or pick up your work, arrangements must be made with your delegate		

NOTE: All images in this publication are subject to copyright laws and should NOT be reproduced or copied without the permission of the artist. Violations or infringements shall be prosecuted.



From the Editor

As I am preparing this edition I am sitting at my daughters kitchen table in Huntsville watching the snow pile up around the house. It is an interesting break from the typical Stoney Creek winter I have been experiencing where I was starting to forget what winter is suppose to be like. Don't get me wrong - I would be much happier sitting on a beach soaking up some warn sunshine but it is beautiful to see the trees covered in snow.

I have been lucky over the past few weeks to have re-discovered the joys

of soft pastels and although I most enjoy painting images of flowers and nature I am considering how many sticks of white pastel I might need to complete a few of the winter scenes that are outside the windows here.

We find inspiration in many things - a beautiful flower, a sunset, a silver jug or maybe even a row of pine trees covered in snow. Listen to your heart when whatever it is that encourages you to be creative speaks. COAA has a lot of opportunities to showcase and develop your creativity. Make sure you take advantage of the great opportunities the organization provides to share your work and



ideas with others in the group. And - don't forget - the deadline for the spring newsletter is **May 15, 2023**.

Karen Logan
COAA Newsletter Editor

Renew Your COAA Membership for an Exciting Year Ahead

The COAA has so many things to be excited about in 2024: a new, one-day art retreat at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection; our annual members exhibition and juried shows; our on-going Tuesday morning coffee, chat and paint sessions; *Beyond the Palette*; new workshops; and so much more. However, in order to take advantage of these opportunities, **you must be a member in good standing.**

Did you know that, in order to offer this programming to COAA members at a reasonable rate, the COAA monetarily subsidizes many of our events? As such, membership fees are essential to

the financial well-being and sustainability of the Association. Without a robust membership, programming may be reduced in the coming years. Currently, membership renewal is lower than expected, so don't hesitate: renew your membership today.

Now is the Time to Renew for 2024

Renewals can be completed by visiting <https://coaart.com/membership-dues-entry-fees/>. Here you will find a downloadable application form, various payment options, and other useful information.

An annual COAA membership costs just \$45.00. This includes your own

page in the online Members' Gallery, featuring your biography, two images of your artwork, and a link to your website and/or email information. Students can participate for a reduced annual rate of just \$25.00.

In past years, fees were collected at the fall workshop weekend, which may have caused some confusion over when fees are actually due. As a gentle reminder, membership fees are due by **December 31st** each year.

If you are not sure if you have renewed your membership please contact Christie Baker at christie@christiebakerart.com.

NOTE: All images in this publication are subject to copyright laws and should NOT be reproduced or copied without the permission of the artist. Violations or infringements shall be prosecuted.



Members' News

Barb McLeod

I am very honoured to be accepted into the Ontario Society of Artists.

On December 2nd, 2023, in the Arts and Letters Club of Toronto, I was presented with my Certificate of Induction to the OSA.



OSA President Barbara Simmons, COAA member Barb McLeod and OSA Vice President Josy Britton.

The Arts and Letters Club began in 1908! It was very humbling to be welcomed into the Great Hall along with 19 other new members for this year. It was an overwhelming day for me and a memorable way to also celebrate my birthday.

The Arts and Letters Club is a beautifully designed historic

Building - inside and outside, located on Elm Street in downtown Toronto. It stands heroically among the many tall modern skyscrapers. I know of some COAA members who belong to the OSA and I encourage fellow artists to make application to this historic Society that will bring new opportunities and experiences for artists in many fields.



Barb McLeod at the front door of the Arts and Letters Club

Doreen Renner

Doreen Renner is happy to share that during her stay in Florida, six of her paintings have been juried into three open exhibitions. She currently has two paintings on exhibition in the Florida Suncoast Watercolor Society Juried Exhibition which is being held in conjunction with the American Watercolor Society Travelling Juried Exhibition at the Manatee Art Centre in Bradenton, Florida.

Advertisements

are gladly included for a reasonable fee based on an 8.5" X 11" page.

- ~ Business card: \$25 ~
- ~ 1/4 page: \$50 ~
- ~ 1/2 page: \$100 ~
- ~ Full page: \$200 ~

Please email your ad to newsletter@coaart.com It will be invoiced as above.

Buy & Sell

COAA is trying out a new benefit to our members - if you have art related items to sell - or are looking for art related supplies to buy this is your chance to let the members know. Hopefully it will be helpful for our members and we can facilitate the connections.

NOTE: All images in this publication are subject to copyright laws and should NOT be reproduced or copied without the permission of the artist. Violations or infringements shall be prosecuted.



Members' News

The 11th Annual Museum (Kitchener) Brushoff

The pressure was on - finish a 14" square painting in 30 minutes! The music was booming and the



Museum was at capacity with 400+ tickets sold.

This annual event is a fund raiser for

the Museum. 26 artists compete in 4 elimination rounds over the evening.

The audience votes during and after each round and those with the most votes proceed to the next round. In the



final round, five semi-finalists compete for the single show winner.

All paintings are auctioned and sold with the proceeds split between the artist and the Museum. It is an exciting, fun event and I was thrilled to participate again this year.

Anne Williamson

Karen Logan

Karen was thrilled to be invited to showcase part of her nature collection at the St. James Anglican Church in Dundas.

These paintings are part of a series being used to showcase

the biodiversity of species in the Hamilton area. The hardest part will be deciding which 30 paintings to select from the almost 90 pieces she has completed so far in this series.



Our Fragile Environment

An exhibition celebrating Nature in Hamilton

June 1 to June 30, 2024

St. James Anglican Church
137 Melville Street
Dundas, Ontario



Ljuba Simovic

Ljuba is pleased to showcase her art in an Art Show at the local Valley Bank, 710 East Tarpon Ave., in Tarpon Springs, Florida again in 2024.

The show is organized by the Tarpon Springs Art Association and it will be on until early March.

So if you are heading south drop in to see her paintings.



NOTE: All images in this publication are subject to copyright laws and should NOT be reproduced or copied without the permission of the artist. Violations or infringements shall be prosecuted.

Social Media and the COAA

Facebook has been the traditional form of social media for the Central Ontario Art Association. It provides an excellent platform for keeping in touch and sharing our experiences. Posting notices about upcoming events and photos of past events allow members to stay informed and to interact with each other.

Unfortunately we have lost access to our previous Facebook account and would love to invite all members to FOLLOW us at our new [FACEBOOK](#).

The COAA is now delving into the **Instagram** platform for social media (or “Social” for short). Instagram will allow COAA to increase exposure and reach. With interesting photos of member’s art and compelling Event notices, the COAA hopes to increase membership as Instagram users share content with their social networks.

The Marketing and Promotions Chair is the administrator for the Instagram account and we are already following the educational

institutions that have Arts programs. COAA’s Instagram is also following Southern and Central Ontario Art Galleries, Clubs, and organizations. This has now become our Instagram “Social Network,” where they all see our posts and we can also see theirs.

Different ways to attract attention to your Instagram posts include:

- Adding “Hashtags” at the bottom of your message. A hashtag is a keyword that has the “#” pound symbol in front of it. When you add your hashtag to your post, Instagram includes your post in the search engine when people look up that word. (example: #landscapeartist)
- Using the “paper airplane” icon (that also looks like an arrow) you can share a post. Tap the icon to show the people you follow and from there you can choose whom to share with.
- “Tagging” someone on Instagram is a way to indicate that they are in your post or to get their attention. You simply put the “@” at symbol in front of

their Instagram name. (eg: @centralontarioartassociation)

Speaking of attracting attention, the COAA is hoping to attract membership from younger artists and Fine Arts graduates to secure the COAA as a long-lasting art organization. We will begin to utilize Instagram’s recruiting strategies. The younger crowd seems to prefer using Instagram over Facebook, and for that reason we will start to “Boost” certain Instagram posts. “Boosting” costs very little and is an economical way to send your post out to an extended region of similar people whom you are not currently “Following.”

With that being said, we are asking members to FOLLOW the Central Ontario Art Association on our new [INSTAGRAM](#).

Both the New Facebook and Instagram links can be found on our website at the bottom of each page.

*Julie Carlisle
Promotions and
Marketing Chair*

MAT BOARD & FRAMES

Karen Logan still has a very large stock of new and used custom cut wood frames and mat board to sell for her friend. The frames are in the Women’s Art Association of Hamilton office at the Cotton

Factory. If you are interested in purchasing any the frames are priced by linear size – length x width x \$0.08 for new frames and 0.04 for used. (eg. - a new wood frame that measures 12” x 16” would cost \$16). These are custom cut frames

so most are not standard sizes , some come with glass but most do not. If you are interested in coming to see them please arrange a time to meet Karen at the Cotton Factory. You can reach her at – karen@karenloganart.ca.

NOTE: All images in this publication are subject to copyright laws and should NOT be reproduced or copied without the permission of the artist. Violations or infringements shall be prosecuted.



Membership Advantages

Some of the **advantages** of becoming a **Basic Member** of the **Central Ontario Art Association** are:

- Receive our newsletters by email or regular mail throughout the year providing information about upcoming events, member activities, shows and art opportunities;
- Enter at least two annual art exhibitions: Open members show, and Crossection juried members show plus one other;
- Participate in our online Members' Gallery. Send a brief biography (60-70 words in .doc, .rtf or .txt format and two art images (JPEG format - 2 MB maximum) by email to: info@coaart.com (Note: If you need assistance with resizing your digital pictures, most Image editing programs such as Photoshop offer tutorials. Otherwise there is no need to perfect the cropping or distortion of your images, as our webmaster, Ana Jurpik, will make certain they look great. Please do not mail hard copies of your images.
- ♦ Attend our annual "Beyond the Palette" Workshop weekend at the Bayview Wildwood Resort featuring a whole range of workshops with distinguished instructors as well as having fun;
- ♦ Opportunities to participate in art events and connect with other artists in their local areas;
- ♦ 10% discount when you show your COAA membership card at participating art supply stores; (Above Ground Art Supplies, and THE JUNCTION ARTiculations
- ♦ COAA members are given a \$5.00 rebate for each new member referred, as a way of saying thank you for helping us to grow. If unsure of your status contact Shirley at membership@coaart.com ;
- ♦ Advertise your art, workshops, exhibitions or other artistic events, reaching over 150 members. (Small blurbs, otherwise, opportunity for a paid feature ad).

COAA Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held on February 7th 2024 by Zoom and attended by a small group of 12 members. I urge all members to attend this important meeting next year as important information is shared. The minutes and accompanying reports will be shared via email or mailchimp in the next month. The following slate of executives for 2024 was approved:

President: Anne Williamson

Vice President: **VACANT**

Secretary: Mary Flatt

Treasurer: **VACANT**
Anne Williamson

Membership Chair: Christie Baker

Promotion & Marketing Chair:
Julie Carlisle

Newsletter Chair: Karen Logan

Show & Exhibition Chair:
Barb McLeod

As you can see, two important roles need to be filled:

Vice President

Treasurer

Please contact Anne at: anneelizwilliamson@gmail.com to chat about duties and responsibilities. It is essential these positions be filled in the next several months.

NOTE: All images in this publication are subject to copyright laws and should NOT be reproduced or copied without the permission of the artist. Violations or infringements shall be prosecuted.





Central Ontario Art Association

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st

Memberships paid after September 15th will carry into the next calendar year.

Preferred Payment Method		1. PayPal (visit: coart.com/membership dues) 2. E-Transfer to COAA Treasurer: anneelizwilliamson@gmail.com Security Response: COAAmembership 3. Personal cheque mailed to: Anne Williamson, COAA 471 Stillmeadow Circle, Waterloo, ON N2L 5M1	
Type of Membership (select below)		Additional Option Fees: (select below)	
Basic:	\$45 <input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter by Canada Post	\$18 <input type="checkbox"/>
Student:	\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>	Total Payment:	

Note: Above fees include the option to add two photos of your work to the website gallery at no additional fee.

PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: Street _____ Apt. # _____

CITY/TOWN: _____, ON POSTAL CODE: _____

HOME PHONE NUMBER: _____ CELL NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____ WEBSITE: _____

Website Gallery: Send a brief bio, 2 images of your art (including the title, size, medium) and contact information to Anne Williamson at anneelizwilliamson@gmail.com for posting on the COAA website.

Membership Contact Permissions (please check):

I give COAA permission to send me emails: Yes No

I give COAA permission to photograph my artwork for promoting COAA events Yes No

Signature of Member/Applicant: _____

Please send your completed membership form (and membership fee if paying by cheque) to:

Anne Williamson, COAA
471 Stillmeadow Circle
Waterloo, ON, N2L 5M1

Note: If paying fees by e-transfer, send to anneelizwilliamson@gmail.com
Security Response = COAAmembership

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received _____ Records/Card/Receipt/Processed _____ Initial: _____