What’s New in November

We’re Accepting Proposals for 2016 Temporary Outdoor Art!

We are currently accepting proposals for 2016 Temporary Public Art! This is your chance to have your artworks displayed in City parks and public spaces.

All artists are invited to submit their proposals via “CALL FOR ARTISTS FOR TEMPORARY OUTDOOR ART NO. 1677”, available online at www.nanaimo.ca > Business > Bid Opportunities, or by contacting us directly.

The deadline for proposals is November 17, 2015.

Since 2010, the City of Nanaimo has been involved in a dynamic and evolving public art program that enhances and animates our City’s parks. Each year, outdoor artwork by artists is installed on a temporary basis for the enjoyment of residents and visitors, essentially becoming outdoor art galleries and showcasing artworks for a limited period of time.

Search the Public Art Inventory online @ www.nanaimo.ca/publicartinventory
Nominate someone for a 2016 Culture & Heritage Award

Do you know someone who has shown excellence in the field of arts, culture or heritage? Why not nominate them for a 2016 Culture & Heritage Award. We are currently seeking public nominations for the next round of awards (2016). These awards recognize those outstanding groups and individuals who have made significant contributions to Nanaimo’s arts, culture and heritage sectors. Recipients are honoured at a special ceremony that takes place at the Port Theatre (April 2016).

Nominations are due November 17, 2015. View past recipients & and find nomination forms @ www.nanaimo.ca > Departments > Culture & Heritage > Culture & Heritage Award or by contacting us directly.

Award Categories

**Excellence in Culture**
Presented to an organization or individual that has achieved regional and/or national recognition in the field of arts and culture (visual, performing or literary arts).

**Honour in Culture**
Presented to an individual, group or corporation that is known for their dedication and support of the development of the cultural fabric of Nanaimo.

**Emerging Cultural Leader**
Established to recognize up-and-coming, Nanaimo-based cultural leaders, this award recognizes that a thriving Nanaimo cultural community includes leaders who choose to live and contribute to the cultural life of Nanaimo.

**John Thomson Heritage Memorial**
Created in 1994 to honour individuals who demonstrate outstanding heritage service and dedication to the community.
Culture & Heritage Department Receives Outstanding Achievement Corporate Service Award

The City of Nanaimo's Culture and Heritage Department has been provincially recognized as a cultural leader after receiving the 2015 BC Museums Association Outstanding Achievement Corporate Service Award. The award acknowledges the innovative and unique creation of the Cultural Managers Working Group (CMWG), which supports and leverages the City’s initiatives that animate and encourage a creative and engaged community. Suzanne Samborski attended the BC Museums Association Conference on October 26 to accept the award on behalf of the department.

(Pictured left to right: Artist; Katherine Freund & Senior Manager of Culture & Heritage; Suzanne Samborski)

Artist Profile: Katherine Freund

The 2015 BCMA awards were custom-designed by New Westminster-based artist, Katherine Freund. Katherine has worked as an illustrator of heritage buildings, a non-fiction writer, author, columnist, a history researcher and an archivist and is a galleried mixed-media visual artist. Her varied career in history and the arts has led her to become a visual historian where she visually tells the historical story through artwork. Each award was custom-designed based on the recipient with the theme “Exploring the Past, Enhancing the Present, Enriching the Future”.

Take a Walk Through Time in Nanaimo’s Old City Neighbourhood

In partnership with the Nanaimo Old City Association (NOCA), we have released another self-guided heritage tour brochure “A Walk Through Time: Your Guide to Nanaimo’s Old City Neighbourhood”. At approx. 6.1 km total, the self-guided tour meanders through Nanaimo’s historic Old City neighbourhood, highlighting a number of key heritage buildings and sites along the way. This is the seventh in the series, which also includes:

Downtown    Newcastle    Harewood    South End
Nob Hill/Chinatown    Downtown Bike Tour

Want your very own copy? Pick one up at City facilities or get a special delivery to your door, by sending your request to us at cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca.
More What’s New...

S & W Apartments Gets an Update with City’s Heritage Facade Improvement Grant Program

You may have noticed the recent upgrade to the S&W Apartments (403-409 Fitzwilliam Street) in the Old City Quarter. The project was recently completed as part of the City’s Heritage Facade Improvement Grant Program.

Under this program, applicants can receive grants for up to $10,000 per street facing facade (on a 50/50 cost sharing basis). Since 2003, this program has helped to encourage rehabilitation and enhancement of heritage buildings located in the City’s downtown core, as well as promote economic growth and investment.

About the S&W Apartments

Built in 1910, the S&W Apartment Block is a very good example of an Edwardian era apartment-type commercial building. Its restrained appearance and simple massing set the tone for the architectural aesthetic in this neighbourhood and the form of the street’s development as a commercial strip. The building remains substantially intact.

The S&W Apartment Block, Nanaimo’s first known apartment building, is significant because it represents the introduction of a new housing form in the city. Until its construction, housing forms consisted of single-family homes, boarding houses, dormitories or hotels. The construction of this commercial building with its self-contained apartment units on the second floor spurred the development of similar buildings in the area and signalled Nanaimo’s move towards more sophisticated, urban housing options. The ground-level shops have housed a variety of businesses over the years, including the Farmer’s Market, and Perry & McGarrigle’s Meats. Hyman Angel also had his Second Hand Goods business here until he built his own building at 426 Fitzwilliam Street. Several prominent businessmen made their residences in the apartments above, such as George Grigor, of Grigor’s Dry Goods, and N.E. Carter, of the Sprott-Shaw Business Institute. The stores and apartments remain in full use today.

In order to design the building, owner T.J. Stephen engaged the services of William Arthur Owen, one of Nanaimo’s early professional architects. Owen was born in Swansea, South Wales in 1881, and left England in 1904 due to ‘tubercular trouble’; he practiced in Nanaimo from 1911 until 1914, after which he served as City Engineer for three years.
More What’s New...

Vancouver Island University World Days 2015 presents:
“Happy City: Your City, Your Life” with Charles Montgomery, November 3

Tuesday, November 3, 2015 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm @ Shaw Auditorium – Vancouver Island Conference Center

FREE! Show up early to make sure you get a seat!

Can the shape of your city affect how happy you are? Yes, says Charles Montgomery, who explores the intersection of urban design and the new science of happiness. Charles Montgomery is the Keynote Speaker for World VIU Days 2015 and will be speaking to the theme of Creating a Connected Community in his presentation: Happy City: Your City, Your Life.

Get full details @ www2.viu.ca/worldviudays.

VIU Presents: 10th Annual Urban Film Fest, November 6

The 10th annual Urban Issues Film Festival will be hosted at VIU Friday, November 6 from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm. This educational, seminar-style event presents a variety of short and feature films on urban issues. This year’s theme is Residential Redux and will look at a range of housing options.

Planned each year in conjunction with World Town Planning Day, the festival is sponsored by the VIU Geography Department, the Geographic Students’ Union, the New City Institute, and the Planning Institute of BC North Island Chapter (PIBC).

Get the full schedule @ http://sites.viu.ca/sustainability/uff2015.

10-Day Celebration in the works for Canada Day 150 (in 2017)

An organizing committee with representation from community organizations, businesses groups, and non-profit organizations have come together to organize Canada’s 150th birthday in 2017. Canada’s 150th celebration in Nanaimo will be celebrated over 10 days with the kick off on National Aboriginal Day, followed by Multicultural Day, and building up to the finale on Canada Day.

A Board of Directors was recently formed and is moving ahead with community engagement, programs, activities, and funding. The Directorate will be looking for committee volunteers to help with the planning and implementation of this special celebration. For more information, please contact Diana Johnstone, Co-chair, Canada 150 Board by email or phone 250-754-9996, or Wally Wells, Co-chair, Canada 150 Board by email or phone 250-741-9887.
FOCUS ON HERITAGE

Identify this piece of Nanaimo’s history and win a limited edition art print of historic downtown Nanaimo by local artist Fred Peters!

How to Participate

1. Can you identify this piece of Nanaimo’s history?
   Watch this newsletter each month as we feature a close-up visual “clue” that highlights a piece of Nanaimo’s history.

2. Send your response by email only to cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca.

3. Answers must be sent by email only. The first person to respond with the correct answer will receive a limited edition art print by local artist Fred Peters. Winners will be notified via email.

Last Month’s Clue: Congratulations to Mr. Wally Taylor, who correctly identified the October clue: The gates at Piper Park (100 Cameron Road)

Piper Park (100 Cameron Road)

Excerpt from the Nanaimo Community Heritage Register

Nanaimo’s highest concentration of outdoor historic artifacts and exhibits is located in Piper Park. Until recently, the park served as an external extension of the old Centennial Museum Building, and is still used by the new Museum for historical interpretive purposes and programming.

Once called Table Rock, this small park of 1.13 acres is located adjacent to what was once the Central Sports Ground in the downtown area. The park was named for former athlete and alderman Phil Piper, who was born in Nanaimo, the son of Joseph E. Piper of Piper’s Lagoon. Since 1909 he had worked as a funeral director with D.J. Jenkins. He served over three years in France during the First World War. He was a city alderman and parks director and was known as an avid baseball player. The park was home to the Nanaimo Lawn Bowling Club before it moved to Bowen Park. Known informally as Piper Park for many years, the site was not officially designated a park and named Piper Park until 1980. By this time, the Nanaimo Centennial Museum had been built and historical buildings and artefacts (such as the No. 19 Steam Locomotive) moved to the site.

Piper Park is located on a prominent rock outcrop within the City’s downtown core. The Park is composed of mature vegetation and a series of buildings and artefacts including the old Centennial Museum building, the Miner’s Cottage, a Steam Locomotive, and numerous other smaller pieces.
Celebrating Naomi Beth Wakan’s 2nd Year as Nanaimo’s Poet Laureate

On November 21, Naomi Beth Wakan celebrates her 2nd year as Nanaimo’s official Poet Laureate. Join her at the Art Lab (Nanaimo Art Gallery) from 2:00 to 3:30 pm to celebrate this occasion. This free event will include readings by a number of poets, mingling, and refreshments. Please add it to your calendar and RSVP to Kathleen Darby at darbykm@gmail.com, as attendance is by reservation only.

In the past two years as Nanaimo’s Poet Laureate, Naomi has truly set the bar high for what a community Poet Laureate can achieve.

Just to name a few of her accomplishments, she was instrumental in forming a partnership with the Nanaimo Daily News creating a monthly poetry column which ran from 2014 to 2015 (view poems here), and written about established Nanaimo poets in ‘What’s on Nanaimo’. She has participated in the annual Mayor’s Poetry Challenge each April (watch her 2015 reading here), and given a number of readings at many civic events and festivals.

She was featured in Spring 2015 WordWorks Magazine (read the article here); and received the FBCW Honorary Ambassador Award (view the press release here). She has hosted a number of workshops and seminars with students, seniors, community and professional; as well as published two poetry collections: Naomi in Nanaimo and Naomi in Nanaimo Again.

We are delighted with her contributions and enthusiasm in this position. With one year remaining in her term, we expect that Naomi will continue to push the limits in her passionate pursuit of raising the profile of the literary arts and poetry in and around our great community. Already, she has planned a highschool poetry competition, and creation of a city-wide Poetry Map.

Read about Naomi on Island Women, at www.naomibethwakan.com, or listen to her Gabriola Co-op Radio Series “Bookmobile” (thanks to Frank Moher and Nathan Tinkham for recording and preparing these essays).
Call for Poets by VIRLibrary

The Vancouver Island Regional Library is compiling poetry written by local poets/authors to be published with their espresso book printing machine. The espresso book printing machine prints shelf-ready books in the matter of minutes and is part of the creativity commons on the second floor of the Nanaimo Harbourfront branch of the Vancouver Island Regional Library. All poetry to be considered for this publication must be written on the topic of Nanaimo and must be original work. All poems must be submitted no later than December 31, 2015 as a word.doc attachment to jbigelow@virl.bc.ca. Attach a small bio (no more than 25 words) about yourself and a black & white picture (or picture that can be printed in black & white) with your biography.

More What’s New...

Improvements at Cappy Yates Park

A community dedicated to the transformation of Cappy Yates Park has started work on this historic park with a goal to create a space that is welcoming and accessible for the people of Nanaimo. A full plan has been created and to date, a new entrance feature has been installed.

Get involved and stay up to date @ www.facebook.com/CappyYatesPark.

Old City Quarter Association’s AGM & Cocktail Reception, November 5

The Old City Quarter Association welcomes you to come out and meet the current Board of the OCQA and find out all the exciting things that have happened over the past year in the neighbourhood. The AGM will be held on November 5, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Oxy Pub (432 Fitzwilliam Street -- please enter at the back rear entrance to lower floor meeting area off of parking lot).

Harbourfront Library Renovations Complete

Renovations at the Harbourfront Library are complete and the library has been re-opened to the public. An open house will be held on Saturday, November 7 at 1:00 pm. For more information, visit www.virl.bc.ca.
More What’s New...

A Terrible Beauty invites you to contemplate the impact humans can have on natural landscapes. The exhibition is organized and circulated by the Vancouver Art Gallery with the generous support of the Killy Foundation. It is hosted by the Nanaimo Museum in partnership with Nanaimo Art Gallery. Emily Carr’s work is well known for its innovative modernism as well as its recording of First Nations cultural history. The Nanaimo Museum is open Monday to Saturday, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. For more information, visit www.nanaimomuseum.ca.

Don’t forget to come by and check out the Museum’s current feature exhibit A Terrible Beauty: Edward Burtynsky in Dialogue with Emily Carr. You can enter to win an Emily Carr gift shop prize pack worth $500!

Nanaimo Museum Presents: My 1st Museum Visit

Tuesday November 24 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Bring your preschool aged child or grandchild to visit the museum! There are activities to keep small hands busy including Touch tours, I-Spy game and petroglyph rubbings. This is a great way to introduce your child to the museum in a fun way. The program is drop-in and caregivers must be present at all times. Activities are geared towards children 3-4 years old but...

Nanaimo Museum Presents: Behind the Scenes Tours

Thursday November 12 & 19 from 1:30 pm to 2:15 pm

Ever wondered how the museum creates an exhibit? This tour will take you behind the scenes with museum staff members to see our exhibit preparation area. Learn how we select topics, design exhibits and select artifacts.

WordStorm’s Living Room

November 12 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm
North Nanaimo Library (6250 Hammond Bay Road)

A free and open democratic reading where people read their own works and listen to others in a circle format. Designed for new, emerging and established poets to come and share together in a sense of poetic community. Each poet will have the opportunity to read original work (max. 3 minutes). Listeners are welcome.

WordStorm’s Vault Reading Series

On the last Tuesday of every month, WordStorm meets at The Vault Cafe, 499 Wallace St. Nanaimo, BC to hear new and published writers read their work, and talk about it briefly. Each event begins with an Open Mic, followed by several featured readers. Come down anytime to hear some great writing, and sample some of Nanaimos finest baked goods! Get full details and a list of featured readers @ www.wordstorm.ca.
Dear Members and Friends:

In a recent conversation, I was asked to talk about the ways Nanaimo Art Gallery supports the practice of local artists. I was chatting with someone who has been involved in aspects of our program over the years, but who wasn’t familiar with the overall picture of our organization. It’s a good question, and one we ask ourselves at the Gallery regularly. Nanaimo—the land, our stories, our cultures and our communities—are at the very heart of the Gallery’s work, and we consider our audience, our relationships with artists, and our role as a public Art Gallery every step of the way.

From our physical space, to the design of our programs, to our expanded staff team, Nanaimo Art Gallery is in a process of transformation and we’re working hard to make good on our vision of ‘inspiring and challenging our community through art’. The Gallery’s guiding documents, including our Vision for a New Gallery (2008) and our Proposal for Facility Development at 150 Commercial Street (2013) were created with input by artists, creative professionals and many others from across sectors. Changes at the Gallery have helped to attract increased investment and our program is getting noticed here at home and across the country. Thanks to support, advice and encouragement from our community, the

Our program is guaranteed to have something that invites you to think, dream, ask questions, see things from different angles, and talk. Our team of staff and volunteers are friendly, enthusiastic, and are happy to welcome you to the Gallery and provide information and insight on our programs. Admission is by donation, so take advantage of our important community asset and visit the Gallery often—bring your friends along!

See you soon,

Julie Bevan, Executive Director

In short, here are the top ten ways Nanaimo Art Gallery serves local artists…

1. Local professional artists regularly participate in exhibitions alongside artists from across Canada, the United States and abroad. Silva features Peter Culley, Robert Guest, Kate Stehuk and Elias Wakan.

2. Art Lab hosts exhibitions by local artists that connect to our education programs. On November 7 & 8, Grant Leier will exhibit new works alongside artwork made by participants in his workshop That Was Then | Assemblage | This is Now.

3. The Gallery is participating in the 17th annual Nanaimo Artwalk on December 5 & 6. Our Pop-Up Shop features over 20 local artists and artisans! Visit nanaimoartwalk.jimdo.com for details.

4. The Gallery follows CARFAC fee guidelines and pays artists for Gallery exhibitions and talks. CARFAC is important for artists—learn about it at www.carfac.ca.

5. In the range of 20 local artists are hired annually as instructors for TD Artists in the Schools and Art Lab programs. Our education programs foster a life-long love of art and an understanding of the work that artists do. We hire local graphic designers, writers, and other creative professionals who also contribute in different ways.

6. The Gallery Store features work by over 50 Island artists on consignment. Proceeds from sales go back to artists.

7. Art Lab offers amazing workshop opportunities for artists to develop their skills, and informal opportunities like Open Studio to get together and experiment.

8. Curator Jesse Birch regularly visits artist’s studios to look, learn, share ideas and give feedback.

9. Our programs reach beyond the Gallery walls; this year exhibitions extended to MGM Restaurant, the Miners Cabin at Buttertubs Marsh, Nanaimo Museum, Wildwood Ecoforest, Newcastle Island, and George Sawchuck’s Forest Gallery. We work with a range of community partners to realize programs.

10. Our exhibitions present the world to Nanaimo, and Nanaimo to the world. We bring inspiring, renowned artists to our community and create opportunities for them to participate in dialogue and exchange with local artists, students, and other members of our community. Visitors come to Nanaimo specifically to see our shows, and through publications and press coverage we share Nanaimo’s unique culture far and wide.
More What’s New...

17th Annual Art Walk
The 17th annual Artwalk will be held December 5 & 6, 2015 from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm (both days). Nanaimo is home to an astounding number of incredibly talented and accomplished artists. This year 46 artists who work in a variety of mediums open their studios or set up displays in businesses in downtown Nanaimo to offer work for view and sale. This year features many new and exciting artists, new locations and as well as favourites from years before. Find more information online @ www.facebook.com/NanaimoArtwalk.

Ministry’s Multiculturalism Grants
Multiculturalism Grants in 2015/16 are offered by the Ministry of International Trade, and will be administered by the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch. These grants are separate from community gaming grants. Application information was made available online starting October 26, 2015 at www.gaming.gov.bc.ca/grants/multiculturalism.htm.

Follow us on Instagram!
@cultureandheritage
We’re so happy to announce that last month, we surpassed 200 followers! Please help us reach our goal of 300 followers by the end of 2015. See what all the fuss is about! Follow us at www.instagram.com/cultureandheritage.

Help send the Nanaimo Youth Choir (NYC) to New York City (NYC)!
The Nanaimo Youth Choir is raising funds to go to New York City’s Carnegie Hall. They have partnered with New York Style Pizza (Nanaimo) for the ‘NYC to NYC campaign. The restaurant has named their pepperoni pizza the “NYC to NYC pizza”. To help raise funds for the trip, 10% of all sales from the “NYC” pizza (eat in, take out, or u-bake) from now until June 2016 will be donated to the Nanaimo Youth Choir! View their Facebook page @ www.facebook.com/NanaimoYouthChoir.

Connect With Us

Our office is open Monday to Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact us:

Phone: 250-755-4483
Email: cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca
In Person: Service & Resource Centre
           (411 Dunsmuir Street)
By Mail: 455 Wallace Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6