NPACC has planned a busy 2009

2009 Concert Series
North Perth Arts and Culture Council will continue its concert series with three concerts booked for the coming year. Attendees responded positively to the variety of programming and comfortable atmosphere of the Theatre Three-Eleven venue for last year’s concerts, which featured local and area musicians, as well as national award winning performers. NPACC is grateful for the sponsorship from area businesses, which helps ensure these high caliber performances will continue.

Royal Saxophone Quartet ~ April 19:
The Royal City Saxophone Quartet, formed in Guelph in 1991, has earned its place in the Ragtime genre. Their recordings Ragtime for Rent and Ticklin’ Time have been featured on CBC Radio, commercial classical stations, and National Public Radio in the USA. Concert tours have taken the group to ragtime and jazz festivals throughout Canada and the United States. Sponsor: Selinger’s Music

Paul’s Odd Friends ~ May 31:
This concert offers an eclectic mix of music and performers. Paul Dekker, producer of this event, reports, “...from the vast talent base on this part of the planet, I have pulled together, what I’m confident you will find to be, a great group of talented singers and musicians. In most cases these people don’t earn a living in the music business but they do find enjoyment and fulfillment in their respective talents, and that shines through in the playing. So join us as we showcase some of our favorite music along with a few of our own songs presented with some creative visuals. Having played and laughed with these fine musicians I am honored to call them, ‘Paul’s Odd Friends’.”
Sponsor: J. H. Keeso & Sons Limited

Waterloo County Carollers ~ November 22:
The third concert promises a charming holiday season experience, with a Victorian Christmas program. Founded in 1986, Waterloo County Carollers consist of professional singers who get together every Christmas to make music. Throughout the year these singers perform individually, both internationally and on the local front, participating in choral groups, solo recitals, oratorio and orchestral programs. Among those performing in this group is Wallace Township native, Carol Treitz.

All concerts in the series will take place at Theatre 311, at 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. Tickets make great gifts for any occasion. Individual concert tickets are $20.00; series of three concerts is $50.00. Tickets are available at The Bookery, Chocolates on Main, and Selinger’s Music, all in Listowel. For more information, visit www.NorthPerthArts.ca.

Artists’ Workshop Weekend
Response from our initial Workshop Weekend in 2007, encouraged us too offer this program again this year on the last weekend of April. Registrants in our first venture included individuals of all ages, both novice and experienced artists. The workshop will offer hands-on sessions under the direction of professional artists, in a variety of media. Watch for finalized details on our website.

Kids’ Summer Art Program
Due to the success of the 2008 program, we are again offering this week-long event for young people next August. A variety of classes, taught by professional artists, will offer lots of choice for registrants. Details and registration forms will be forthcoming in future issues of The Palette and on the website.

Other Events
For updates on other activities, a listing of other community arts and culture events and information sources, go to our web site: www.NorthPerthArts.ca.
Congratulations to:

Anne-Marie Smith, of Listowel, who won the painting donated by Ruth Schlegel

and

Connie Robinson, of Palmerston, who won the painting donated by Jim Tubb

Tickets were sold throughout 2008, and the winning tickets were drawn at the Ali Matthews concert on December 30th

Thanks to:

Ruth and Jim for their generous donations and to everyone who bought tickets in support of North Perth Arts and Culture Council

The final concert in the NPACC Concert Series for 2008 took place at Theatre 311 on November 30. It featured Ali Matthews with Rick Francis. This duo drew an enthusiastic and appreciative audience. The performance of seasonal music put everyone in the mood for the festive season. Ali was pleased to showcase selections from her new Christmas CD, Looking For Christmas.

CD Release Concert a heart warmer

Agnes Marie Henderson fans no longer have to wait for live performances to experience the talents of this marvellous pianist. With the release of her first solo CD, Piano Reflections, it can be a 24/7 encounter.

Approximately 150 people were not disappointed at the release concert held Sunday November 8th at Knox Presbyterian Church. Agnes played selections from the CD, and soloists Lynn Kerr, Nancy Skinner, Marion Bristowe, Karli Purcell and Alicia Lockie performed vocal creations written by Agnes.

This is the first compilation for Agnes featuring only herself. The collection is a reflection of Agnes’s individual style and techniques. It features well known selections such as Time to Say Goodbye, Moonlight Sonata and Medley from the Notebook, all personally arranged by Agnes, as well as those written by her: Reflections, Moments in Time and Summer Storm. All combine to create calming, relaxing, flowing currents of emotion for the listener.

Agnes wrote, arranged and performed all the music on the CD. She also added instrumental tracks to make up the accompaniment. The only other musician involved was Chris McIntosh who played the drums for the piece In 100 Years.

The CD was mixed and mastered by Thomas Ireland at Time Square Media. CD cover design by Mark Hussey and photography by Nicole Kaufman.

After hearing the CD one knows only time separates this local musician from making a mark in the music industry. CD’s can be purchased at Selinger’s Music and The Listowel Florist, both in Listowel.
**Dennis Nuhn returns to stage May 1 & 2**

Many locals will chuckle as they recall Dennis Nuhn’s vibrant stage presence in various roles while performing with Music Alive in a by-gone era. He has made a few return performances since that time, and is currently learning his lines for his role as high school janitor in the comical mystery, *Come Back to the Gym, Mary Lou, Mary Lou.*

In the play, Mary Lou disappeared on prom night 40 years ago. The question is, will she return for the 40th School Reunion?

Written by Rob Bundy, directed by Duncan McGregor, this production will take place at the Blyth Memorial Community Hall on May 1st and 2nd. Tickets for dinner and theatre are $35; theatre only $25, available at the Blyth Festival box office at 1-877-862-5984 toll free.

This event is a fundraiser for the Foundation for Education, which supports ‘artitudes’ in Avon Maitland Schools. The foundation has a 13 year history of supporting, enriching and enhancing activities for children in the schools. Funds are raised for foundation programs offered to the schools, as well as activities within the schools that are not funded by traditional sources. More information is available at www.foundationforeducation.on.ca.

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**Artist Spotlight**

Thirteen O’clock is a local band that has been together since 2004. Mitchell Dekker plays drums, Alex Mason guitar, and Cam Kechabaw bass. The genre includes Rock and Roll, Punk and some Alternative music. Their first album, called Mobius, was released on December 13, 2008. It is available digitally on the web at iTunes.com, Amazon.com and Napster.com.

The album is comprised of original songs. Alex writes the music, Mitchell the lyrics and both work together on the arrangement. Mitchell describes the CD as ‘a good collection of what we have been doing since our inception. We encourage you to check it out and enjoy.’

Although each is headed to college or university next year, the members hope to keep the band together and continue to pursue their music careers.
For more info - www.wellingtonarts.ca/mintoarts

**Basement Café**
Harriston Public Library, Lower Level Auditorium: 88 Mill Street Harriston

**February 7:**
**Bill Candy in Concert**
Bill brings a combination of guitar and vocal mastery to the stage as he presents a program of folk, country, blues and jazz, utilizing captivating vocals and slick guitar work. His successful career started with the 1991 release of his single, *I Can't Say That it's True*.

Opening Act: Peter Judd, Kitchener story-telling singer/songwriter. His song, *How to Build a Wall* won the humour category at the OCFF’s Songs from the Heart Contest in 2005.

**Minto Heritage Gallery**
Atop the Library in Harriston
Hours: Tuesdays 7-9 pm
Thursday and Friday 2-4 pm and 7 to 9 pm
Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**January 9 – February 21:**
**Simple Harmonic Motion by Laurie-Lynn Percy**
Laurie-Lynn’s inspiration to paint “is based on the physical interaction I have with nature and the profound feelings created by an ever moving, fantastical shift in the power between solid, liquid and gas” which has resulted in her Simple Harmonic Motion series.

Laurie-Lynn has a gallery in Neustadt. Information about the artist and samples of her work can be viewed on her website: www.artistsincanada.com/percy/

**February 27 — April 11:**
**Doll Collection by Marie Randall**
Marie began collecting dolls 10 years ago in search of her own childhood doll, which she finally came across before Christmas. She has a collection of approximately 300 dolls, dating back to the 1870’s. Although she focuses on dolls produced by Canadian companies, she does own a few from France and Germany. She sews the clothing for many of the dolls. Marie is a native of Holstein.

**Friday, April 17, 2:00 to 9:00 p.m.**
**Watermarks** — A display by Saugeen Artists’ Cooperative members

**January 26**
**John Looser and his Extreme Birdhouses**
Filming for television program Planet Earth
Starts at 8:00 a.m.
# 44050 McNabb Line, south of Cranbrook

**February 12-14 and 19-21**
**The Vagina Monologues** — by Eve Ensler
8:00 p.m. Theatre 311, Listowel
Call 519-291-2033 for tickets

**February 23**
**First Year Anniversary Open House**
Complimentary Wine and Cheese
Surprise Entertainment
7:00 – 9:30 p.m.
Christin Dennis Photographer, Custom Framing & Fine Art Gallery, 135 Main St. W. Listowel
Call 519-418-5555

**April 18**
**Fundraising Art Auction**
Part of St. Joseph’s Church Fundraising Gala
Artists wishing to donate art for auction contact Bev Seim at 519-291-4400

- Check our web site for more detail on these events

**NPACC MEMBERSHIP**
Artists, as well as members of the public, interested in arts and culture in our community, are welcome to become members of NPACC by linking to the ‘become a member’ button on the left side of our website at:

[www.NorthPerthArts.ca](http://www.northpertharts.ca)

or call Brenda Kaufman: 291-4167 or Gary Moon 291-2583

Membership is free and ensures you receive information about upcoming events by receiving this newsletter via email.

*Members are entitled to submit information about arts and cultural events on the webpage and in the newsletter, in accord with NPACC guidelines.*

To submit for newsletter email: the_maclennans@wightman.ca
To submit for the website email: admin@northpertharts.ca
This is the second of a four part series. See the September Issue of The Palette on our website for the first part in the series.

Part 2:
The Artist Statement or Performer Bio:
As an artist, you want to get your story out to the general public and to your potential buyers. While it is easy to have your artwork on display to see, or your music on CD to listen to, or your writing in print form to read; there is more to you as an artist than that.

The public wants to know more. They want to know about you, your work, what influences your creativity. What do you do that is different than others in the same field? What do you want the reader to get out of your artwork? Hence, the artist statement was developed.

This specialized document is one page, letter size and contains some predetermined elements. An image that represents your style of art, a photograph of your latest CD cover, or an image of the book jacket of your work, is the first item to include. There should also be a portrait of you in your work environment or a professional business type portrait. These images, along with your name and contact info, are very important and a strong starting point.

The more challenging part of the document is the body.
First paragraph. Start by telling the reader, in a simple and easy to understand way, what you do. Add to that, by stating the goal of your art.

Second paragraph. At this point you explain how you do your art, what materials you use, what themes inspire you, what techniques are part of your work.

Third paragraph. This final paragraph is where you comment on your latest work. Lead the viewer into how they could interpret your work. What are you trying to achieve in your work at this point?

To finish it off, state your name again and contact information. A phone number that doesn’t go unattended, a studio location or mailing address, a web site address for future reference and an email address that works. On the subject of email addresses, use a name that is relevant to you, easy to remember at a glance, and doesn’t bounce back. cutseybabe@trendymail.com isn’t a good one if you only occasionally check the mail, or empty the mail box so you can receive mail. (That is another commentary for the future).

How do you use this document? You put it on display with your artwork. You send it out with other promotional materials when you announce an upcoming performance or showing. When anyone asks to find out more about you or your art; hand out this item as well.

A properly presented artist statement will steer your client into understanding and appreciating your work. It makes it easier for them to purchase your offerings as they feel they know more about it and you.
Listowel watercolour artist, Brenda Kaufman received a grant from the Ontario Arts Council to teach workshops in the schools through the Artists in Education Program.

Her workshop, ‘Poss’ Abilities Within Watercolours is designed for the grade 5 level and involves five full days of instruction by Brenda in the classroom. She takes over the classroom for the day, with the full time teacher present so skills are learned by the teacher, as well as the students. Basic watercolour techniques are taught and shared through hands-on experience. She also facilitates daily discussion of different artists who have, despite physical challenges, excelled in their fields such as Andre Bocelli. Brenda herself is a living example of this, as her rheumatoid arthritis has not interfered with her creativity as a water colour artist.

The program has been completed at Elma Township Public School with Ms. Lazari’s Grade 5 class, and at Wallace Public School with Ms. Spencer’s grade 5/6 class during October and November. Students at Eastdale and Central public schools will participate in the workshop in January and February.

In evaluating the success of the endeavour to date, Brenda reports, “I believe from the response of the students so far, the workshop has met my expectations. The support from the principals and staff of the schools has been amazing. The schools are responsible for the material costs and assuring the teaching time be available. I appreciate that they have met the commitment with great enthusiasm.”

Educational institutions are eligible for this program. Further info can be obtained from the Ontario Arts Council website @ www.arts.on.ca and sourcing out the Artists in Education program.