**Message from the chair**

Hello North Perth Arts and Culture enthusiasts:

Our fall edition of The Palette finds the directors of the NPACC busy putting the final touches on a number of events slated for the upcoming weeks.

Sept. 27 is the North Perth celebration of the arts – Culture Days, the annual Canada-wide arts awareness and appreciation initiative. North Perth Arts Council hosts a visual arts show and sale that includes displays and demonstrations in the Anglican Church Hall. Enjoy an appreciation for art, music, drama and creative pursuits in our community.

The North Perth Public Library offers the Book in a Jar challenge, as well as a display of the entries in the two community photography contests, the fifth Annual Amateur Photography Contest, and the Alphabet Photography Contest for students. Winners will be announced that day.

The Stratford Perth Archives, Listowel branch invite you to participate in their Step Into The Past, self-guided walking tour. Drop by the Archives from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. to pick up your guide.

Plus for music lovers, Fall Music Fusion is a series of three concerts in October and November, offering an eclectic blend of music styles in unique local venues featuring several local musicians, produced in partnership with Becky Reesor.

Nov. 22 sees the return of the popular Art and Bake Sale. Details on these events appear elsewhere in this edition of the newsletter.

The NPACC works hard to present a variety of arts and culture programs to enhance the benefits of living in a vibrant community like North Perth.

North Perth Arts Council encourages you to support our efforts by purchasing advance concert tickets and attending the other events, many at no charge, to get a better appreciation for the quantity and quality of “art-involved” residents in North Perth and area.

For more event details and information about North Perth Arts & Culture Council in general, subscribe to our monthly email updates, bookmark our website www.NorthPerthArts.ca, and like us and follow us on Facebook too!

**Gary Moon**
Chair NPACC

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**Artist of the Month:** A crowd favourite at the library

Friends of the Library and NPACC continue to share in an effort to bring local artists’ work to the eyes of the public. Started about two years ago in an attempt to help fill space at the North Perth Library (Listowel branch), the Artist of the Month program gives a local artist a space to show their work.

While the public continues to enjoy the appealing art, this program also provides artists with a rare opportunity. Sally Coox noted, “It gives one even more exposure to the public,” as an aspect she appreciated.

Debbie Thompson Wilson grew up in Listowel and now resides in Guelph. She said, “It is always good for an artist to have exposure anywhere. The library was one of my favorite places when I was growing up in Listowel and when I was a student at the University of Guelph back in the '70s I had an art show in the 'old library', so it was something of a homecoming.”

Maria Martens enjoyed many aspects as the Artist of the Month, in particular the feedback received in the message book. “It was a very positive experience for me, the great feedback really boosted my confidence that I am good at what I do.”

For those interested, the exhibits can be viewed at any time in the glass case at the Listowell Library. Any artist interested in showing their work can contact info@northpertharts.ca.

Danielle Bilton stands in front of her art, which is on display at the Listowell library for the month of September.
NPACC joins with Becky Reesor to bring Fall Music Fusion

The North Perth Arts and Culture Council is excited to join with Becky Reesor in a new fall concert series. “Fall Music Fusion” originated with Becky having music to share and local and regional artists to bring together. Through brainstorming and collaboration, NPACC and the enthusiast pianist have pulled together a series of three entertaining and engaging concerts, each with their own unique venue.

Ensure a seat for you and your friends by buying advance tickets for $20 ($25 at door) per concert. Purchase tickets at Chocolates on Main, Selinger’s Music, Life’s A Party, or The Vines Collection.

Becky Reesor (former student of Agnes Marie Henderson) is a homegrown musician who has adventured Canada and abroad. She earned a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance and Music Ministry from Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) in Winnipeg. Now back in Listowel, she produces concerts locally and plays with K-W and area musicians, most recently touring a folk/rock/jazz duo across Canada with Sammy Duke.

When asked what inspired her to create a concert series, she explains, “I love music. All types. Not everything within each type, but each genre can be enjoyed, admired, understood and learned from.” You’d be surprised at how much and how many people in Listowel love music. All types. Mostly a few genres prevail, but you’ll find a house music fanatic, or jazz aficionado, and if you look hard enough you’ll discover worlds of music you never knew existed. I’m interested in this: what is there for us behind all this music? Who is there? How will I change by listening to it, singing to it, or dancing with it?”

Enter Fall Music Fusion. Three concerts, three venues, three atmospheres, three foods, EIGHT types of music! This is a trilogy of musical styles, atmospheres and foods.

CONCERT #1 – CLASSIC AND CONTEMPORARY KEYS
October 23, 7:30, Fireside Room, Listowel Evangelical Missionary Church
Agnes Marie Henderson - Contemporary songs with Kathleen Skinner
Becky Reesor - Classical piano cycle with Actress (Jessica Hamilton) and Live Painter (Claudette Martinez)

In every aspect of society, we see when apprentices accomplish so much, they begin to reflect those who taught them, then choose their own adventures! In North Perth, it’s difficult to live here, and not know the talents of pianist Agnes Marie. Henderson. Agnes, piano teacher and music director at Knox Presbyterian in Listowel, taught Becky as a young artist. With the fire cracking at your side, guests of “Contemporary Keys” will be cozy and comfortable listening to Agnes and Becky show what magnificent things can be accomplished with 88 keys. Located in the Fireside room of the Listowel Evangelical Missionary Church, the venue was selected to make people feel at home. Including local special guests - vocalist Kathleen Skinner, actress Jessica Hamilton and artist Claudette Martinez - music, drama and art will collide in front of the audience to explore aspects of life experience.

At “Contemporary Keys” you’ll hear Agnes’s original music: deep and personal lyricism, strength and beauty resonating to the bone. A selection of her original songs will be released on CD this fall with Mary Smith. Becky, Jessica and Claudette let imagination run wild exploring what three classical songs look like in playing, acting and painting. All of the featured artists are local.

Jessica Hamilton has been a known actress throughout the years in Theatre 311 and as a teen in Black Door Theatre. Claudette Martinez is an incredibly colourful painter from stunning realism to evocative abstract. This is a must see for any music lover.

CONCERT #2 – ROCK, COUNTRY, AND THAT BANJO GUY
November 9, 7:30, Listowel Legion Upstairs
Karli Purcell - Country
Sammy Duke Trio - Folk Rock
Anthony Damaio - Folk-Punk Banjo

This is a one-of-a-kind night of quickly rising rock and country musicians. This will be light-hearted, rockin’ and stompin’ music night. Upstairs at the Legion, enjoy snacks and beverage and the company of your neighbour. Unique to this event is the variety of young country and rock in one night. See them before they fly off to big-time stages! Karli June (Purcell) is a well loved Listowel sweetheart. Since she was a girl she’s been performing and charming audiences from the Christmas concert to the Listowel fair. Now she opens for country stars such as Terry Clark and has had an international break in Nashville. Sammy Duke is a rockin’ KW musician. Guitarist, percussionist, pedalist and vocalist... he is a one-man-band who still plays with a trio! Add keys and djembe to the mix and you have the Sammy Duke Trio. This folk-rock is groovy and deep, inspired by Celtic, heavy metal, and world music. Anthony Damaio is Mr. Banjo himself. He sits on a suitcase, puts on his harmonica and rocks that banjo like no one else. Fusing folk, country, punk and down ‘n dirty blues, he is highly an entertainer; a sight to see and hear. Recently returned from a Winnipeg stint, Anthony is a Guelph busker, songwriter and festival performer. An epic show for Listowel’s favourite music styles.

CONCERT #3 – CULTURAL MUSICAL TRIFLE
November 20, 7:30, Listowel Evangelical Missionary Church

Agnes Marie Henderson - Contemporary songs with Kathleen Skinner
Becky Reesor - Classical piano cycle with Actress (Jessica Hamilton) and Live Painter (Claudette Martinez)

At “Contemporary Keys” you’ll hear Agnes’s original music: deep and personal lyricism, strength and beauty resonating to the bone. A selection of her original songs will be released on CD this fall with Mary Smith. Becky, Jessica and Claudette let imagination run wild exploring what three classical songs look like in playing, acting and painting. All of the featured artists are local.

Jessica Hamilton has been a known actress throughout the years in Theatre 311 and as a teen in Black Door Theatre. Claudette Martinez is an incredibly colourful painter from stunning realism to evocative abstract. This is a must see for any music lover.

NPACC and Becky Reesor are bringing you a trilogy of three concerts, each with a unique theme and atmosphere, to celebrate the cultural mosaic that is Listowel. Mark your calendars now and prepare to be entertained and engaged in a musical feast of fall. Come listen!
CONCERT #3 - BLUESY, JAZZY, FOLKSY
November 23, 2:30, Hardwood Haven B&B
John Wiebe - Guitar, singing
Tom Cummings - Drums and Vibes
Becky Reesor - Keys, singing

Pull up a chair and put your feet up. The afternoon will host stories and songs shared amongst the three musicians. Doing old favourites and original music in folk, jazz and blues, they will also feature some “free form music” which is improvised ambience on the spot. Unknown to many is that the venue, Hardwood Haven, used to host many concerts when it was the home of Listowel’s first Mayor. Listen for not only the stories the words tell, but stories of the music with all the different instruments. The atmosphere will be relaxing and light with conversation and hor d’oeuvres. It is a unique return to the tradition of house concerts. Feel free to chat, and even request a favourite carol, as it is nearing holiday time!

John Wiebe plays guitar and mandolin in any style you can imagine. From restaurants and concert halls to weddings, he’s played all over south-western Ontario with many musicians.

Tom Cummings is a stellar drummer and vibraphone player. Born and bred into ‘deep south’ jazz, he’s played for big names including Cher and Ray Charles and many stages in the U.S. and Europe.

Becky Reesor is joining these fantastic musicians with her growing jazz and blues chops on guitar, vocals and keys.

This is music Listowel rarely hears, and an historic venue that was built to be enjoyed! Share in the tales, tunes and edibles before winter snows us all in.
**Art Squared opens the door for all of North Perth to put their creativity on display!**

The North Perth Arts and Culture Council is excited to present a new opportunity for all members of the community. Art Squared is an exhibit where the only rule is the art must be presented on a 12X12 piece. Beyond that, it is up to you. The work will be displayed for the month of November at the Listowel Library.

Once one starts to imagine the possibilities, you realize how endless they are. One could place a picture on matting, share homemade jewelry, let their young toddler finger paint to their hearts delight, and so on.

Entries will be accepted at the library up to Oct. 30 with a preferred drop-off time of 5-7 p.m. on that day. Any inquiries about this opportunity can be emailed to info@northperthsarts.ca.

**NPACC joins Horticultural Society for 22nd Annual Garden Tour**

Several visual artist members of the North Perth Arts Council were participants in this summer’s 22nd Annual Garden Tour presented by the Listowel Horticultural Society. The addition of art works on display in the garden and outdoor living space environment was a new experience for the artists and viewers alike. Chatting about flowers, gardens, water features and landscapes, all common foci of painters and photographers, were common themes during the day. Many local residents as well as visitors from further afield followed their maps to discover the beauty in the gardens in Listowel and Gowanstown.

NPACC artists involved were: Carol Mason with gourd art, Rosemary Galloway with drawing, Gary Moon with photography, Claudia Martinez with painting, Pete Daize with photography, Sally Cox with coloured pencil art, and Mark Robinson with photography. The high participation of artists reflects the talent in the community and a welcome reward to the art council’s efforts this past year to bring artists together.

North Perth Arts Council would like to thank Sandra and Doug Boertien, Patricia and Gary Moon, and Donna and Dave Whittaker for offering their gardens for the artists’ displays. Also, thank you to the Garden Tour organizers for including the art element this year.

Mark your calendar for the first Saturday in July 2015 for the Annual Listowel Horticultural Society Garden Tour.