



In Touch

Summer 2024 Edition

Greetings from the Director

By Lesley Drummond, Director, KAN

Ahhh... the warm sunshine of August, mixed with a few days of showers for the garden and a couple of cooler nights to give humidity relief. August to October are my favourite months, so this is my season!

KAN has been busy: a full weekend at "Made in Kawartha Lakes" at Settlers' Village in May...a month long members' show graciously given to us at the Kawartha Art Gallery by director, Susan Taylor, that just ended...and the recent Buckhorn Festival of the Arts annual event which brought our highest sales record ever, in spite of the occasional torrential downpour and tornado warning!

I love our co-operative. Although I miss our former gallery, Art on Kent, I think KAN continues to make a huge contribution to the Arts in Kawartha Lakes. We teach classes, share our work with the public, grace the walls of downtown businesses with our creations, explore our neighbourhoods for subject matter, and provide a supportive, enriching environment for our members to grow and share. KAN is a place to feel safe and grow our Arts community. Looking forward to our upcoming group camping trip at Silent Lake in September and other plein air events. I wish everyone the best of times in the best of seasons!



KAN Potluck

On June 10 KAN members gathered at the home of Judy Jackett for a potluck dinner and art games. Thank you to Judy for opening her home and to the Events committee for organizing the event. A grand time was had by all.



Exhibiting Members Working and Upcoming Events

Last Spring, five KAN members spent two full days at **Grandview Public School** teaching the students. The artists introduced the students to a variety of different mediums from clay, to leather, to yarn, to glass.

A wonderful time was had by everyone involved. The student work was displayed throughout the school during a celebratory Art Gala for parents and community on May 7th.



Paul-leather grade 2



RoseMarie- sculpture JK/SK

Elayne Windsor had a solo show, of collage and decollage work, at the Kawartha Art Gallery during the month of June. She presented a talk about her work to a full house on June 1, followed by a workshop with some local high school students on June 7.



Bev- weaving grade 1



Elayne also has some of her work on exhibit, as part of a group show, "Shifting Lens", at the John M. Parrott Gallery in Belleville during July and August.

Exhibiting Members Working and Upcoming Events - Continued

Kawartha Art Gallery played host to 14 of KAN's members from July 23 to August 17 for a show titled "**Kawartha Creates.**" It featured paintings and glasswork that highlighted the diverse array of approaches, techniques, and mediums of KAN artists. We operate in Kawartha Lakes, and this area profoundly impacts our work. We wanted to express what Kawartha Lakes means to us, both in artwork and words (our works were accompanied by personal notes about the relationship between the artwork and Kawartha Lakes). "Kawartha Creates" was a celebration of the landscapes, the art and artists of the City of Kawartha Lakes.



Paul Williams talking technique with former KAN member, Dave Ford.



A great time was had by all - especially KAN members Steve Hunter, Max Miller and M-J Kelley, enjoying treats catered by the Pie Eyed Monk.

Made in Kawartha Lakes in Bobcaygeon in May. The last weekend in May is always a busy one for KAN members as a number of us participate in a terrific artist and artisan Show and Sale at Settlers' Village in Bobcaygeon. This was our 6th year of participating in this KL Arts Council sponsored event.

Although not a huge sales event for us, it was a terrific weekend again and a chance to connect with other artists and the general public. Many great conversations were had - about art in general, techniques, sales practices and just sharing information about our work and co-op in general. MIKL has a really lovely "vibe" for an artist/artisan experience.

The weather gave the musicians a bit of an issue on the Saturday as they tried to play while avoiding raindrops, but Sunday was beautiful and mid-20's— a perfect day. Even though there was no ice cream for sale this year, (Kawartha Dairy is already booked for next year, however!), there were yummy options for lunch, along with a beer or wine from the PEM truck and Mochi's Bakery's sinful desserts. Put the last weekend in May, 2025 on your calendar as we will be back with a double booth in full force. Fingers crossed for sunshine!



Exhibiting Members Having Fun!

Exhibiting Members Working and Upcoming Events - Continued

That's a Wrap

The City of Kawartha Lakes has chosen their artworks for the "That's a Wrap!" project, in which artworks are used to wrap traffic boxes in our communities. These works are also featured in the City's recycling calendar for the coming year. Rob O'Hoski and Lesley Drummond had their works chosen for the final year of this three-year project, in which all pieces had to focus on an agricultural theme to connect with the International Plowing Match this fall.



This is Lesley's work that will be printed:
"My View: Wheat, Corn and Soy"



Member Rob O'Hoski submitted this painting for the That's a Wrap contest. It is entitled "Too Cold To Sit"

The Buckhorn Arts Festival

Buckhorn Festival of Art Show

On August 17 & 18th, ten artists submitted works with a diverse range of art mediums to represent KAN at the 47th Buckhorn Festival of Art. This annual weekend long event celebrates art, local cuisine and musical talent. A much-anticipated show, it is renowned throughout the Kawartha Lakes for hosting artists offering unique art experiences that draw in a broad range of art enthusiasts and collectors. This year KAN was nestled between the Settlers' Village and Lakefield collections in a small but cozy 10' X 4' space. Thanks to a skilled layout plan and Lesley working her curatorial magic, the KAN exhibit created a visually appealing display of art that garnered lots of attention and was easily accessible for close viewing. The weather could have been better, but art lovers weren't deterred. One man, a self-proclaimed artist, spent a considerable amount of time examining M-J's 'Moose' sketch. After 5 minutes of viewing, he stated he was fascinated the detailed precision of her fine line work and asked if she was at the show, as he would like to share his appreciation personally. Each artist's work was appreciated and received praise and was reflected in sales.

Congratulations to the participants for their submissions and contributions to making this a wonderful experience. As lead on the show, I appreciated that you pulled together to fill in unexpected gaps, shared responsibilities and supported each other before, after and throughout the show. A big thank you goes out to Astrid, Donna, Jewell, Joan, Lesley, Markus, M-J, Roberto, and Sharon. Your professionalism shone through and honoured KAN. Let's do it again next year!



Exhibiting Members Working and Upcoming Events - Continued

The KAN Booth at Buckhorn Arts Festival with members, Markus Leydolt and Donna Lockey.



The Programming Committee participated as a group to submit four 6"x6" paintings for the 2024 **Canada Connects Mural Mosaic Project**. The colour schemes we were given were chartreuse, orange, yellow, and purple. Amina Mohamed purchased a 3-piece kit, and Astrid Hood, Laurie Johnson, and Joy McCallister painted them. Pat Miller contributed the fourth one. The image of each painting is made into a tile, and the installation will be completed by spring 2025. We don't know the city for the mural installation yet. You can watch the progress of the tile layout at Canada Connects Global Roots National Mural Mosaic "Spectacle". Tiles can sometimes be relocated as they lay out the design, so it's a watch-and-search method to find out where each of our tiles are placed in the design.



Exhibiting Members Working and Upcoming Events - Continued

The Kawartha Art Gallery has implemented a programme to link visual art with local businesses and Judy Jackett and Lesley Drummond were chosen in the first selection round. You can find Judy's work at Equilibrium Chiropractic and the Launch office, while Lesley's work can be seen in Bistro 93 on the bar side. Getting art into the community!



Lesley will be exhibiting at the upcoming Queen's University BAE/BFA 55 Year Reunion Show this September.



Lesley Drummond and former KAN member, Joan Moss, had artwork accepted into the **Scugog Council for the Arts Juried Exhibition** in July, with Joan receiving the Juror's Choice Award. Well done, Joan!



Home Hardware on Kent Street – An Opportunity to Display for Purchase



Rob O'Hoski, KAN member, will be showing at Home Hardware on September 14 as part of their Artisan Saturdays.

Plein Air: KAN's new venture!

Written by: Anders Widjedal

The Plein Air committee, consisting of Donna Lockey, Roberto Correia, and Anders Widjedal, has been working together to plan outings in a variety of locations.

Our goal is to explore and express the beauty of the Kawartha landscape through art. At our first outing in Omemee in June, a small group of us gathered and were fortunate to have good weather. It was great to work with more experienced plein air artists like Donna and Astrid and I as I enjoyed finding my own approach to this method of working, I won't be competing with the Group of Seven any time soon.

The second outing was Windy Ridge Conservation Area. Despite the challenging climb, the weather and the view were glorious once you had recovered.

For our third outing at the river in Lindsay, Robert reported excellent weather and that the location presented some artistic challenges to be tackled, which bodes well for next year's planning.

We then headed to the park in downtown Norland where once again we were fortunate to have excellent weather and beautiful scenery. As we worked on our pieces, we had some curious passers-by stopping by to observe our progress, giving us a chance to promote KAN in that area. The day turned out to be a great success, filled with creativity, camaraderie and the joy of art.



Roberto painting in Norland



Several members of KAN have already made reservations for camping spots at the Silent Lake event, which is scheduled for September 20, 21, 22. This event is also open to anyone who is interested in joining us for a day of plein air exploration.



Muriel exploring water colours in Norland

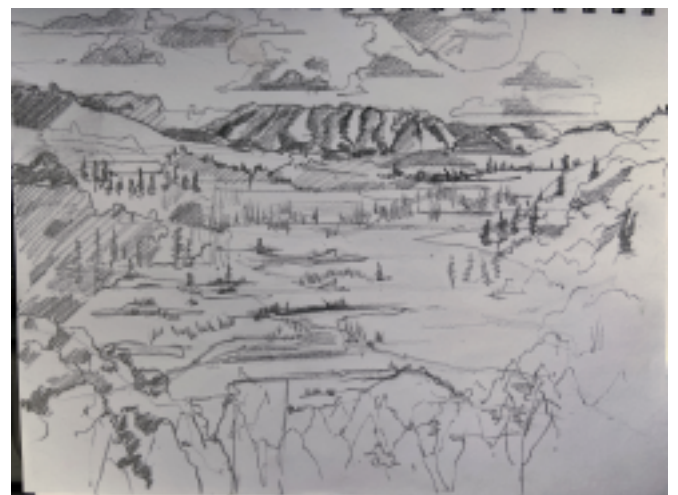
Why do plein air?

I asked Donna and this was her response.

"One aspect forces you to learn to colour mix accurately...or not using artistic licence. Sketches are blueprints for larger works. It inspires me to interpret a scene. I'm not very good at perspective....something I could practice in urban settings.

It's also a good base point for abstract work. Look at Georgia O'Keefe's inspiration from landscape and organics in Arizona, New Mexico and in New York City!

I'm finding, the more I do it, the better I get. Some days are just crappy in the outdoors, same as being in a studio."



Donna's drawing from Windy Ridge Conservation Area

Plein Air: KAN's new venture! - continued

My motivation for trying plein air was exploring the possibility of transferring my life drawing style to landscapes.

Though not a landscape artist in my regular practice, delving into this new challenge offered me a chance to broaden my artistic practice. It is also a chance to sit and observe nature.



Anders' oil pastel drawing, Norland

How can we move plein air into next year and expand this programme?

Workshops could be a great addition to our plein air group outings. It could provide an opportunity for members to learn and improve their skills while enjoying the outdoor painting experience. The workshops could be conducted by instructors or by members of our group who are willing to share their knowledge and expertise. If you are interested in teaching or joining us – let us know!



Muriel's watercolour exploration



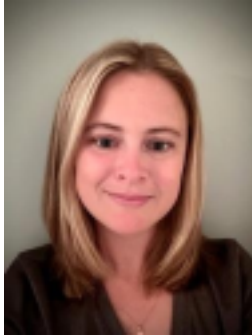
Astrid painting in Omeme



Donna at Windy Ridge Conservation

An Interview with Jessica Shepperdson

By Joan Forsythe



It is a pleasure to interview our new member of KAN, Jessica Shepperdson.

Jessica joined KAN in June 2024 on the recommendation of one of our KAN members, a teaching colleague.

She was born in Port Perry and grew up in the area before moving to The City of the Kawartha Lakes in 2018. She graduated from Port Perry High School with a two-year course in Child and Youth care, followed by a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Minor in History) from Nipissing University in 2021. She then attended Trent University and graduated with her Bachelor of Education in 2023.

I asked Jessica if a talent for art ran through her family.

She said that her Grandmother loved sharing her passion for art, starting with Jessica at a very young age, designing clothing for her paper-doll collection, then moving on to oil and acrylic painting. Her Grandmother is self-taught but is now taking lessons in watercolour. She now paints watercolour landscapes and has sold some. Jessica was also encouraged by many of her art teachers over the years to push herself out of her comfort zone and explore various types of art and Art History.

After completing her Child and Youth Diploma, she realized that her true passion was ART, so she moved on to Fine Arts in 2018. She had an exciting travel adventure to Carrera, Italy, with "Art Abroad" for two weeks, travelling with a group of peers, her professor and some sculptors. Carving marble was new to her, but she enjoyed the carving and sculpture process.



New Beginnings, 2020 - 15" by 22" Intaglio Print with Object Monotype on Gampi and Somerset.

Jessica's art medium of choice is Intaglio printmaking. The 'Intaglio' process involves the use of scrapers, etching needles and burnishing tools in order to make marks into the copper printing plate. The plate is covered in a ground that the tools remove so the acid bath can eat into the copper plate. To print the plate it must be fully degreased. A brayer (A hard rubber roller) evenly spreads the printing ink across the plate. The ink catches in the grooves that have been etched. The ink on the plate is wiped off leaving ink in the grooves. The printing paper is damp or wet, depending on the desired result. The paper is placed in the printing press, creating a reversed replica of the etched plate. Jessica is hoping to regain her connection to her art practice as she moves into her teaching career.



Piece of Me, 2019 - 24" by 24" Oil Painting on Canvas.

An Interview with Jessica Shepperdson - Continued

I asked her what she is most proud of in her art career. She told me that she had done a piece, 'New Beginnings,' a mixed media print, started during Covid. Looking back at this piece, she sees it foreshadowing a new perspective on her life. The piece describes her ability to grow and explore different possibilities. The work 'New Beginnings' is a soaring Birch Tree print with monotypes taken from a slice through the growth rings of a tree near her home in the Kawarthas.

I asked Jessica what she likes to do in her spare time. She told me that she enjoys camping and exploring in nature. Her guilty pleasure is binge watching interesting series on TV. (Don't we all??) She looks forward to teaching art courses in her new teaching career starting very soon. We welcome Jessica to KAN and look forward to learning more about her chosen art medium, Intaglio printmaking.



Self Portrait, 2018 - 12" by 15"
Intaglio Etching on Somerset.

Updates on KAN Workshops

Your 2024 Programming Committee - Joy McCallister (Lead), Laurie Johnson, Pat Miller, Barb Callaghan, Heather Atherton, Astrid Hood, Jessica Shepperdson and Amina Mohamed.

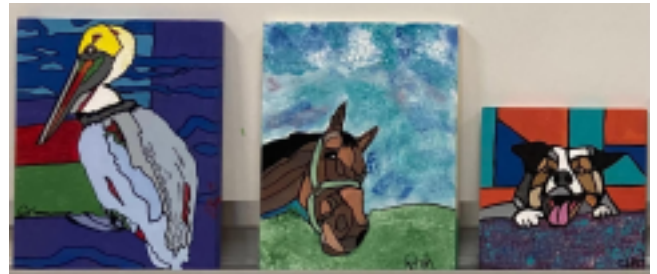
Our thanks to the students who supported our programs this year, many of whom are returning students.

We do appreciate your continued support. Our fall classes are filling up and we look forward to a colourful fall in the classroom.

A few spots are still open, so take a look at our website under "Events". Planning for 2025 is well underway and will include some different things for you, such as Cold Wax Encaustic and Wool Painting, both to be offered to children as well as to adults, the return of Fusion Painting and Scratchboard, a series of children's classes, and other adult classes.

Class registration for 2025 should be open in January.

Fusion Painting



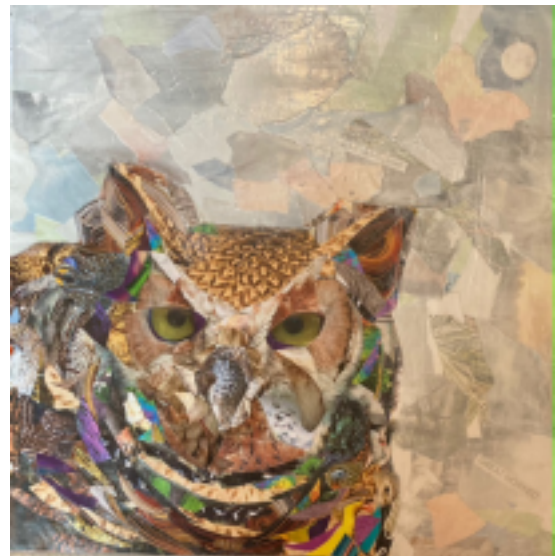
Updates on KAN Workshops - Continued

Wool Painting



By Joy McCallister

My first experience with collage art took me down an unexpected path of summer meditation and absolute fun. This piece is 12"x12" on a cradled wood panel, and based on a photo I took of a Great-horned Owl at a Birds of Prey Demonstration at Carden. Most of the bird pieces are cut bird parts - feathers, eyes, beak, and even a few legs - with a few touches of gold papers. The background is made of torn pieces pushed back with matte medium and white paint. I have titled this piece, "Be Whoo You Are". It was such a hoot to do this!



Children's Watercolours



Children's Summer Acrylics



\$15 Credit for KAN Classes in 2024!

Non-members who take three KAN classes in 2024 are eligible for a \$15 KAN credit. The \$15 credit can be applied to a student's 3rd class in 2024 provided the two preceding classes have been paid for, or it can also be applied towards a future KAN class, or it can be applied to a one-year KAN membership, the normal fee for which is \$45 per year.

Payment for the KAN class to which the \$15 credit is being applied must be paid by e-transfer or cheque.

Life drawing starting October 2024

KAN is offering non-instructional life drawing sessions.

Sessions will be held on Wednesday nights between 6:00 - 8:30. October 2- December 4

For more information, please contact

Anders Widjedal: anders@kawarthaarts.ca.

Art Medium Feature - Mixed Media

By Sharon Myatt

Mixed media art is a style of art that combines multiple mediums or materials into a single art piece. This type of art is extremely diverse, with many different interpretations showcasing the range of this style. Through the combination of materials such as cloth, paint, wood, or paper, among others, a beautiful layered effect with varied tactile qualities is achieved. The sheer diversity of the materials and mediums used make mixed media art an exciting style to explore!



Salute to the Ukraine – Twigs, Thick Gloss Gel, Netting, Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paints.

A Short History of Mixed Media Art

Mixed media art was first introduced in the early twentieth century. The first painting that was deemed a mixed media piece was Pablo Picasso's 'Still Life with Chair' which he painted in 1912. The collage-style piece featured several materials such as oil cloth, paper, and rope. This was the first of many mixed media pieces that followed in the years to come by artists such as Kurt Schwitter, Henri Matisse and Joseph Cornell.



Playing – Leathers, Glass, Art Paper, Fabrics, Nail Gun Nails, String, Foil Wrap, Modelling Paste,

Types of Mixed Media Art

There are several different types of mixed media art. The most popular methods are collage, assemblage and sculpture. More modern approaches include installation art, found object artworks and book alteration. Collage is created by attaching a variety of materials such as paper, cardboard, newspaper or other flat materials to a surface. Assemblage is a similar technique but it incorporates the use of 3D materials such as small objects to take the work to a more sculptural level. Sculpture is also considered a form of mixed media when a variety of different materials are incorporated in the piece. Mixed media painting is a powerful and versatile form of art, allowing artists to bring their own unique styles to the forefront through a wide variety of techniques and textures.



Abandoned But Not Forgotten III – Twigs, Moss, Ferns, Thick Gel Medium, Leaf Pieces, Acrylic Paints.

To put it simply, this type of art breaks the boundaries between a wide range of art forms. As time goes by, the mediums that mixed media artists use have grown exponentially and included everything from conventional, everyday items to non-conventional ones. Sharon began using mixed media about seven years ago when she enrolled in two week-long mixed media courses through the Haliburton School of Fine Art. What Sharon loves most about mixed media is the versatility, variety of textures, the creative imagination required and the use of interesting media which combine to create one of a kind pieces of art. People often say, "You can tell Sharon's work as it often jumps out at you."

Call for KAN Membership

New members are always welcome. Membership provides many benefits, as outlined below.

Exhibits: *We participate in many local shows and galleries. We are all encouraged to help find opportunities for everyone to share their work throughout the Kawartha Lakes and beyond.*

Networking: *We meet monthly, in hope of creating an environment that fosters creative thinking, artistic networking and information sharing. We work to encourage the youth of our community to get involved in the arts. We look for opportunities to connect with other local artists, develop and showcase artistic abilities and to actively promote art in the Kawartha Lakes region.*

KAN Website: *You are entitled to an artist page on our website to promote your artwork. It typically includes a brief bio and one or more images to represent your work. You can also provide a one-page bio with an image for the KAN artist binder we put out at shows. Individual artists are showcased regularly on our Facebook page. We are currently running monthly art challenges and post the results on our Facebook and Instagram pages.*

Art Supplies: *Your membership card gets you a discount at a number of art suppliers such as Aboveground Art Supplies in Toronto and Curry's Art Store.*



Education: *KAN offers art classes and educational workshops to the general public and to artists looking to expand their skill set and meet other local artists. You are entitled to a \$15.00 discount on each class. We are always looking for artist instructors, so these classes and workshops also provide you with an opportunity to teach.*

Membership in KAN costs \$45 per year, \$25 for students. *Everyone shares the running of our co-operative by joining one or more of our committees.*

To purchase or enquire about any works from our artists or if you have any questions about the Kawartha Arts Network, please contact KAN at info@kawarthaarts.ca.



We KAN be social!

Web site: <https://kawarthaarts.ca/>

E-mail: info@kawarthaarts.ca

Kawartha Arts Network

632 Janetville Rd
Janetville, Ontario
LOB 1K0



Kawartha Arts Network



[kawarthaartsnetwork](https://www.instagram.com/kawarthaartsnetwork)