

Enriching King Township through arts and culture for all

*King*  
**MOSAIC** fall 2015

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Published by



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To our King MOSAIC readers:

Arts Society King is proud of our King MOSAIC publication history, going back to 2011.

Our volunteers love to tell stories of King arts, culture, heritage and natural beauty. We have a lot to celebrate in this great region.

We have formed a partnership with London Publishing, (LP) who will handle advertising, printing and distribution.

They are the group that brings you the King Weekly Sentinel, the King Parks Recreation and Culture guide, and other professional publications. Beginning with this, our fall issue of King MOSAIC, London Publishing will discontinue the publication of Tapestry and will take over the distribution and advertising of MOSAIC.

ASK will still produce the content of King MOSAIC, with all the stories, information and features that readers have come to love and to rely on. We are very excited about this partnership. We feel that ASK will be doing, in a more cost-effective way, what we love best: "Enriching King Township through arts and culture for all."

We know that you will continue to enjoy MOSAIC, delivered quarterly, (September, December, March and June), inside the King Weekly Sentinel. Don't hesitate to get in touch with comments and suggestions at editors@kingmosaic.ca

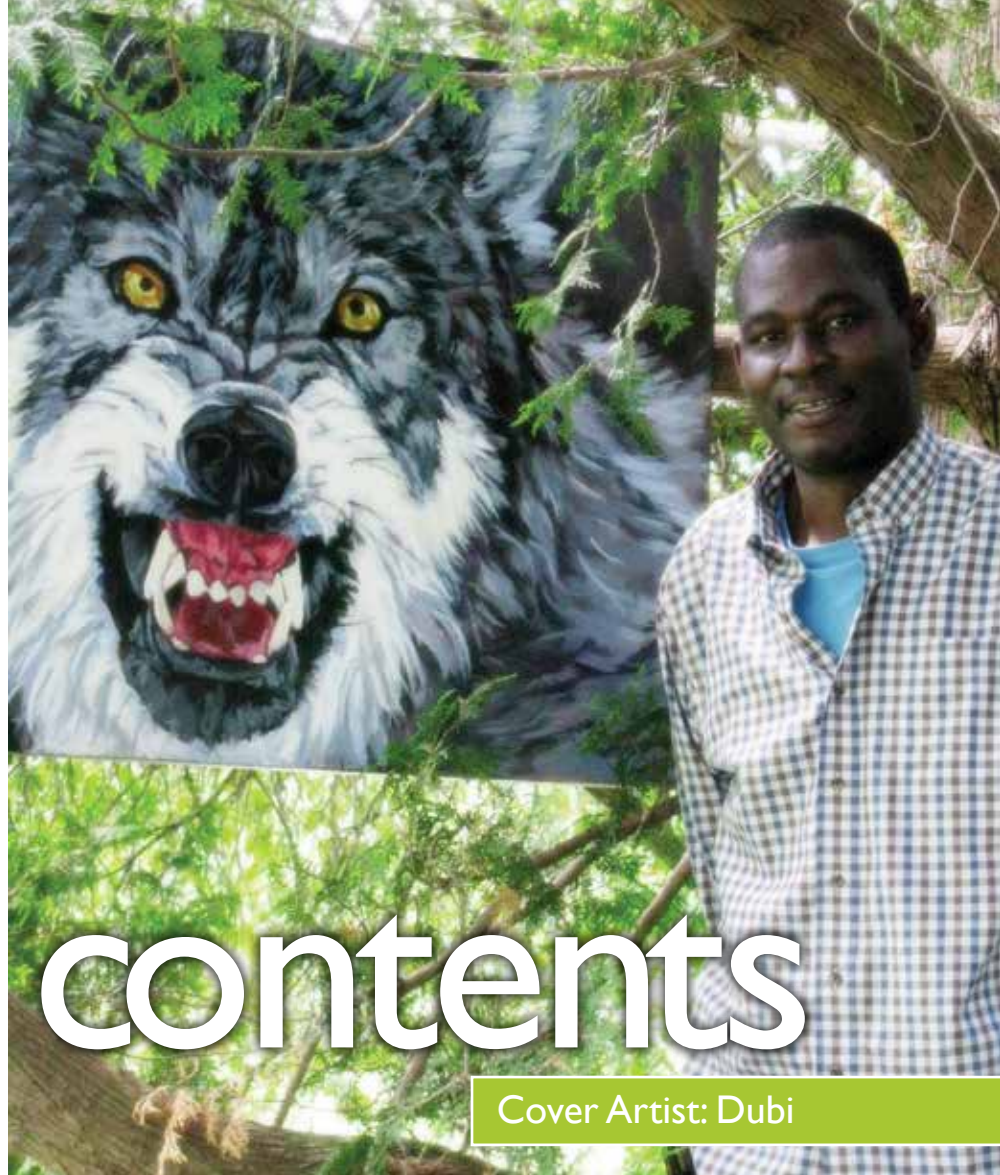


ArtsSocietyKing.ca



# 17

## The King Artist Who Would



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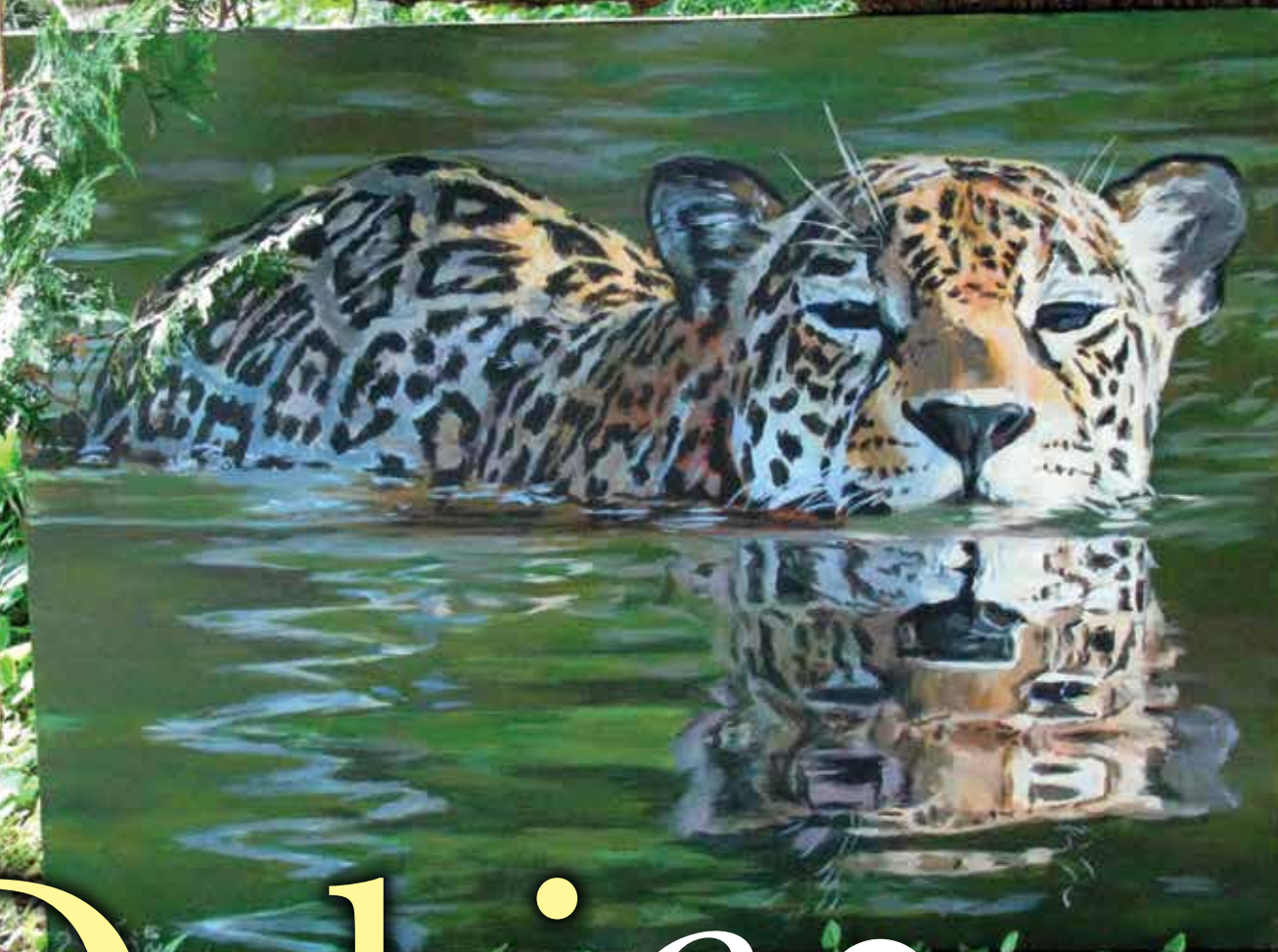
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## Whispers of War

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## ASK is 10 years old!

Painting: Karola Steinbrecher.



# Dubi &

## the Grandmother's Da Vinci by Dorita Peer

He's turned my garden into a savannah, a jungle. A jaguar wades in a pool by the cedars. A chimp lounges on a branch above the hammock. A lion lazes cross-pawed in the high orchard grass. Dubi's beasts leap off the canvas in any habitat.

During his interview, my Abyssinian cat stretches cautiously to place her front paws on the small table on the porch where sits a larger than life-sized portrait of a dog. She freezes, mesmerized, deciding...then she slinks away. He was late for his interview (that's fine; artists need leeway) because he was trying to finish a recumbent tiger. He shows me on his cell phone. I love it already. Dubi has a way with animals, but long before that he had a way with people. His art has made grown men cry...

The artist began by painting custom greeting cards, with messages over-lying the paintings in Olde English calligraphy. "If you can do those, you can do portraits," said the elderly man who would later burst into tears when presented his full-colour wedding anniversary portrait done from an old black-and-white

photo. How did he do that? Dubi describes the process, but at best I have a vague sense of what in his mind's eye are hues and temperatures that colourize using some marvellous synesthesia I don't have. Of that first painting, Dubi wistfully says, "My best painting... because of the effect it had."

Dubi's father, the first Nigerian ever to achieve a PhD (in mechanical engineering at McMaster), chose to return to Africa for important work in the petroleum sector. Naturally, a son was expected to get educated and work in a profession. "A degree in biology was not a complete loss," sighs Dubi, then talks about form and symmetry. But for a boy spellbound by a cultured grandmother, art was the inevitable path. "I watched her deliver the six o'clock news on TV every night.

I admired her greatly. She had a poster-sized Mona Lisa that she admired greatly, so I said to myself, "I can do that." Nevertheless, Dubi is a humble man, a tall man with an aristocratic bow when he stoops to receive accolades, yet a man whose faith in his muse is unshakeable. In Nigeria, to make a living at art took battling racism and defying your worried parents while banking on their good connections. Since coming to Canada, the artist has supported himself and his family in the hard-slogging way familiar to all immigrants. After training as a personal support worker, Dubi settled into his role alongside Southlake Regional's finest where his alias is "The Man of a Thousand Paintings." In a surgical ward there, his litter of golden puppies lightens the gravity.

Speed is rarely thought of as an artistic as-

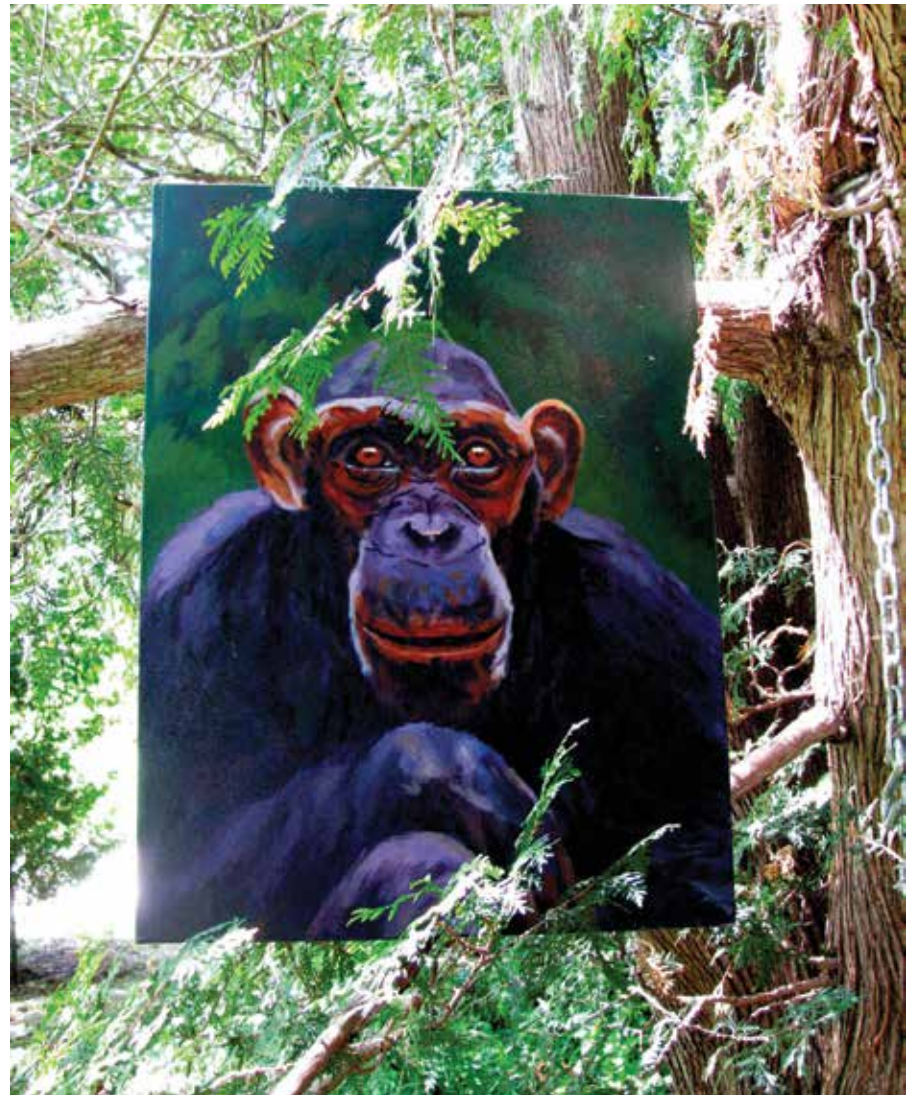


set, but it is his preferred way of working. The idea that art requires a lot of soul-searching is not true for Dubi whose spontaneous compositions arise from a natural orderedness and result in uncomplicated beauty with neither impatience nor agony to mar them. His is a practiced hand, not an experimental one. He is direct about his delivery, not clever or coy. "I want people to look at my blobs of colour, stand back and go "Wow! How did he do that?" "You have an easy attitude," his father said. Indeed, he can start boldly, or start over; mentally cut-and-paste a scene; identify a look, a gesture and nab its spirit on the fly. He seizes on every subject with delight. Then it's brush or knife or spray can or air-brush. It's canvas or wall or the hood of a car. To be told his Herford was unworthy, then to defiantly enter it in a contest and win, is how Dubi has done it. The list of his endorsers and customers glitters. Given the response his artwork has gotten, it is amazing that Dubi is not already a household name. My guess is we have caught him on the eve of his ascendancy. He charges such modest prices for his oils and acrylics, does so much work for charity, he is inundated with commissions and especially relishes the challenge of live performances. The artist is also a showman. The Blues Brothers and Bob-

by Johnson were created on stage within four hours for Aurora's Winter Blues Festival. The cheetah pair for the Rotary Club. A Raptors game for Coca Cola. Trapped in his home by its dimensions is the energetic 6 ½ by 4 foot of Terrence Ross caught in mid-leap high over a kid from the sidelines during the 2013 Slam Dunk Competition.

Cry or smile; it's up to you, but take the grand tour of Dubi's works on line at [dubiproductions.com](http://dubiproductions.com); or better yet, see him at work live at Schomberg's Art on the Street.

© Dorita Peer



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# street gallery

Sunday  
Sept. 13

Outdoor Show & Sale on Main St.

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## SchombergStreetGallery.ca

# BIOLOGIST AT THE TABLE

The life your food leads before it reaches the plate

Art Weis is Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Toronto, and former director of the Koffler Scientific Reserve at Jokers Hill.



## Hot OR Hot?



“What’s hotter, horseradish or chili peppers?”

I remember my 8 year-old self attempting grown-up dinner conversation with this query. It was the day after the feast of St. Patrick, and we were eating sandwiches of left-over corned beef, with horseradish—as daring as food got in my house. My 11 year-old sister cleared her throat, and the family took a collective breath of resignation. Margaret was winding up to pitch a dissertation. We were very proud that she was the smartest kid in our school, maybe our town, but if you asked her the time, she’d start with an explanation of the Big Bang. I don’t remember what she said, but I’m sure she was correct. Years later, when studying plant defense against herbivores, I learned that my simple question was too simple. It’s not that one is hotter than the other, it’s that they are hot in different ways.

Let’s start with horseradish. Like the regular radish, it belongs to the mustard family, and like all mustards, it deters grubs and other insect pests with chemicals called, appropriately, mustard

oils. The warmth of your mouth evaporates the oil, sending the irritating vapors straight up your nose. But how can a plant hold on to an evaporating oil on a hot summer day? Well, in mustards the leaf and root cells have two types of compartments—vacuoles—each storing a different component for oil production. One vacuole stores the precursor, which is basically the oil molecule with a sugar tacked on. The sugar keeps the precursor dissolved and in place. The other stores an enzyme that lops the sugar off, freeing the oil to escape. So long as no one bugs the plant, the two harmless components remain separated. Bite into a horseradish root and the vacuoles break open, the components mix, stuff happens, and you have one sorry grub. Control the mix and you control the hotness. This is why prepared horseradish is bottled in vinegar. After the root is grated, adding vinegar disables the enzyme. The longer you wait to add it, the longer the enzyme has to work, and the hotter the product. Pretty neat.

In chilies, capsaicin is the culprit. This chemical is too heavy to volatilize, so it doesn’t go up the nose, but it sets your mouth ablaze. Chilies are the fruit of plants in the genus *Capsicum*. In the wild, birds disperse *Capsicum* when they eat the chilies and then later spit out or defecate the seeds. When a mammal swallows the seeds, they seldom make it through intact. It’s easy to see the evolutionary advantage to producing a chemical that mammals shun but birds don’t mind. As it turns out, mammals have a particular set of pain receptors in the mouth and elsewhere that are sensitive to heat. The capsaicin sticks to these, and the brain thinks “hot!”. The corresponding pain receptors in birds are structured a little differently, and the chemical bounces off. Their brain thinks “yum”.

To celebrate ‘hotness’ I give you my favorite recipe for shrimp—mixed with cheese and stuffed into chili peppers. Definitely not something handed down from my Irish Catholic mother.

### Chilies Rellenos de Gambasy Queso

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound of raw shrimp, peeled and cut in thirds
- 1/4 C tequila and juice of 1 lime
- 2T chopped cilantro and 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1-3T of hot sauce, such as Frank’s or Cholula (Tabasco is hotter, but has less flavor)
- 6-8 Poblano or Anaheim chilies (~10 cm long)
- 1T cooking oil
- 3T butter
- 1 C of shredded Monterey Jack cheese (or queso fresca, if you can find it at a Mexican grocery).

#### DIRECTIONS:

- Marinate the shrimp in the tequila, juice, herbs and hot sauce for ~1 hr.
- To peel the chilies, brush with oil and put under the broiler; keep an eye on them, turning often until they blister all around. Remove them to a plastic bag and let them steam for 20-30 min. The outer skin will then peel off. Then make a lengthwise incision into each chili, opening them up like a canoe. Scoop out seeds and membranes, and place the chilies on a parchment lined baking sheet.
- Drain the shrimp and quickly sauté in 1T butter—don’t over cook! Toss the shrimp with the cheese and stuff into the chilies. Reduce the marinade by half in the sauté pan, blend in remaining butter and drizzle onto the stuffed chilies. Bake in a 400F oven until the cheese starts to brown.
- Serve with a good Mexican beer.



Popeye and Olive Oil  
by Judy Sherman



## SustainableKing

### Fall Harvest in King

With the arrival of fall comes harvest time when local and delicious produce is available to the residents of King! Check out King's Farmers' Markets taking place up until Thanksgiving weekend.

#### Schomberg Farmers' Market

Trisan Centre from 9:00am-1:00pm  
September 5th, September 19th,  
October 3rd and October 10th

[www.facebook.com/TheSchombergFarmersMarket](http://www.facebook.com/TheSchombergFarmersMarket)

#### King City Farmers' Market

All Saints Anglican Church from 8:00am-1:00pm  
September 13th, September 27th  
and October 11th  
[www.kingcityfarmersmarket.ca](http://www.kingcityfarmersmarket.ca)

@sustainableking

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[www.sustainableking.com](http://www.sustainableking.com)

2075 King Road, King City, ON L7B 1A1  
Phone: 905-833-5321 [www.king.ca](http://www.king.ca)

### Parks, Recreation & Cultural Events

#### Muck Madness

September 12  
Centennial Park  
10:30 am to 2:00 pm  
[www.king.ca](http://www.king.ca)

#### York Region Mountain Bike Day

September 26  
Centennial Park  
10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
[www.king.ca](http://www.king.ca)

#### Culture Day

September 26  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
King Township Museum  
*Free activities celebrating the culture of King Township!*

#### Holland Marsh Soupfest

October 3  
Ansnorveldt Park  
11:00 am to 4:00 pm  
[www.soupfest.ca](http://www.soupfest.ca)

#### Halloween Haunted Forest

October 29 & 30  
Cold Creek Conservation Area  
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
[www.king.ca](http://www.king.ca)

On behalf of Council, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the fall edition of Mosaic.

The harvest season is a special time of the year because it brings out some of the best and most unique qualities of King Township. We invite you to participate in the many Fall events as we honour this special season in King. On Saturday, October 3rd at Ansnorveldt Park the Holland Marsh Growers' Association (in partnership with the Township of King and the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury) brings you the Holland Marsh Soupfest. This event features delicious, piping-hot soups made with locally grown produce from the Holland Marsh, prepared by local restaurants and talented chefs. Explore the incredible selection of local fall produce and goods at York Region's many Farm Fresh venues, including the special presentation of Pumpkin Pie Trail taking place September 26th to October 4th (for further details, please visit [www.yorkscene.com](http://www.yorkscene.com)).

As we move into the autumn months, I encourage everyone to remain involved in King and support our businesses by shopping local. Please visit our website at [www.king.ca](http://www.king.ca) to further explore the opportunities that await you in your home town.

Sincerely,

Mayor Steve Pellegrini

**KING**

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Networking Lunch**  
Thurs Sept 24  
Thurs Nov 26  
12:00pm - 2:00pm  
Stay tuned for details

**Health & Safety Training Fall Session**  
Tue Sep 29 - Wed Sep 30  
9:00am - 4:00pm  
Nobleton Arena, 15 Old King Rd., Nobleton

**Safety Training -NEW**  
WHMIS, Fall protection/Arrest,  
Confined Space Hazard  
Wed Oct 21  
Nobleton Arena, 15 Old King Rd., Nobleton

**8th Annual Excellence in Business Awards Dinner**  
Thurs Nov 05  
6:30pm  
Nobleton Lkes Golf Club  
125 Nobleton Lakes Drive, Nobleton

**Christmas Luncheon & Toy Drive**  
Thurs Dec 3  
12:00pm - 3:00pm  
Cardinal Golf Club, 2740 Drive Drive, Kettleby

For further details or to register visit  
[Kingchamber.ca](http://Kingchamber.ca) or call 905 717-7199

YOUR VOICE FOR BUSINESS IN KING



*H*aving lived in 3 other Canadian Provinces prior to moving to King Township, we must say King Township is the ideal community to raise a family. We have been builders prior to having a career in Real Estate and have lived in King for over 30 years. We have been very fortunate to have had the opportunity to raise and school our 3 children in this gorgeous rural area.

We specialize in marketing homes and land in King Township and surrounding area.

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# TRICK OR TREAT TAKES TALENT!

An Artistic Fairy Godmother by Virginia Atkins

The King Township resident and premiere costumer, Denise Flys, deserves the title “fairy-godmother” to a host of children inspired by her clever designs for stage clothing in school plays, Halloween disguises or birthday parties. Her KIDS COSTUMES shop was where little Trevor’s dream was realized as Peter Pan, Janey became Queen Guinevere and Greg chose his hero, Luke Skywalker. It was where kids’ imaginations took flight with beloved characters from popular books, and moving on to characters created on the TV or cinema screen. No surprise that Halloween includes the Hobbits, Elvis and the Crayola Girls not to mention the Sesame Street look-alikes.

Outside the KIDS COSTUMES shop on Toronto’s Mt.Pleasant Road, parents and kids would gather on the sidewalk to admire the window display set against a background of bright posters or a collage of kids’ finger paintings. It might feature mannequins dressed as an astronaut, the goofy pea green Muppet-clone, the Green Gables Anne, velvet flopsy bunnies and Cinderella costumes ready for Toronto’s “Trick or Treat” population. Another time there could be a display honouring the local heroes: the hydro guys, the paramedics, the firemen, all in uniforms identifying their occupations. Whatever the window showed, it was entertaining; ideas sprouted and wishes blossomed.

With her abundant talent and imagination, designer Denise Flys needed no magic wand to transform Kayla, a six-year old wannabe Cinderella into a glowing princess. As soon as the cos-

tume was fitted; there she was, twirling before the mirror as a confection in sequined gauze and a shimmering tiara. “If Halloween’s chilly next week, you might need a fancy cape to keep warm?” Kayla’s mother suggested. Oh yes, Denise had a fancy cape in stock, and there were sparkly slippers to complete the fantasy ensemble. It was just like the Cinderella displayed in her KIDS COSTUMES legendary store window. And it was Kayla’s best-ever dream.

Humans love to dress up and role-play; the urge to pretend or need to disguise is common to many living organisms; nature programs us with that almost universal impulse. We seem to enjoy playing in imagined scenarios as demonstrated in so many industries and traditions: theatre, opera, film, fashion and many occupations and professions. But also fun, games and sports. The summer ‘15 PanAm extravaganza for example would have lacked a lot of meaning and magic without the dazzling uniforms and costumes. Kids role-play without instruction: they just do it, and some adults figure out how to harness the magic.

Beginning in the late 70s with “Little Merry Mary” - a cuddly doll with a sweet face, dressed and bonneted in flowered cotton, Denise scored early attention in CANADIAN LIVING magazine. Her inexhaustible depths of artistic sensibilities developed in studies at Ontario College of Art, led her to pursue a career she loves. Daughter of the renowned Charles Sauriol, author and advocate for environmental responsibility, Denise

is similarly devoted to her family, community well-being and the preservation of countryside values. She is an astute observer and she recognizes magic... the cause or result of her success?

Denise’s shop migrated from Eglinton Avenue to Albion Road, finally to Mt. Pleasant Road, each move seamlessly extending the reach of both the designer and the market. In the USA, traditional Halloween ballooned into a major industry. Outside sources for costuming pushed into Canada, altering the costs of materials and labour. Now superstores and online ordering from catalogues plus fluctuations in the Canadian dollar have introduced new consumer habits. Today the shop is gone after 30 years in business, but Denise watches trends and now limits her production to special themes online such as popular animal friends like pigs, ducks, cats, penguins and even whales; she also does 19th century settler costuming that lends reality to heritage sites like Black Creek Pioneer Village.

Halloween, once a scary witch and goblin custom arising from ancient mythology, apparently has evolved into a cheerful autumn celebration with only the tantalizing pretense of lurking demons, thanks to the good humour, enthusiasm and artistry of costume creators like Denise Flys who knows how to capture and interpret magic.





## WATCH WHAT TAKES ROOT.

Looking for a fun and educational outing for your child?

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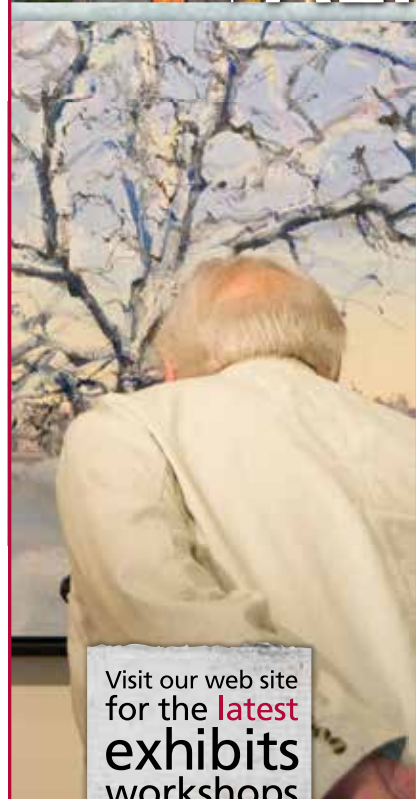
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Empty Bowls - Oct. 25



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# The One Thousand and One American Fungi of Charles McIlvaine

Author's note:

Chas. McIlvaine, Virginian, was an intrepid cataloguer and sampler of mushrooms, who roved his patch of earth like a truffle hound, consumed by and consuming his subject. He survived to tell all in a big beautiful volume, handsomely illustrated, until he died – of natural causes – in 1909. I found the tome during a stay at the Rochester Folk Art Guild, among other treasures there. By American fungi, friend Charles implies that the amateur hunter, eyes to the ground, will identify his or her own favourites on a fall ramble through King Township's own Carolinian and piney woods. NB sampling not actually recommended.

– Dorita Peer

“Pleurotus. Stem eccentric...

O. Campanella. *It is social in troups, or affectionate in clusters, or maintains a single existence...*

O. umbellifera. *All are edible but not worth describing.*”

– Chas. McIlvaine

Ears. Bells. Umbrellas.

The man knows his fungi  
who comes up with this.

O. to be his mushroom!

The ear. Or the bell.

(Not the umbrella).

To be discovered in some lost wood,  
in some forgotten meadow.

To hear him exclaim,

“Well, bless me.”

Or, “I’ll be darned!”

O. to be turned over and over  
by such wondering hands.

Perused by awed gaze.

A low-born creature, yet  
worth describing.

You, too, would sit rooted to time  
as he sketched your likeness  
in painstaking detail.

O. to be immortalized  
in his earthy tome –  
number one thousand  
and two.

RFAG September 2014



## NCR Management Plan Update

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority staff members have been working to implement priority projects set out in the Nashville Conservation Reserve Management Plan Document. A stewardship committee consisting of approximately 20 members of the public has been established to help TRCA achieve the goals, objectives, recommendations and actions set out in the plan. The first meeting of the committee took place July 15, 2015.

The Nashville Conservation Reserve Stewardship Committee will work with TRCA to implement the NCR Management Plan. Additionally, the committee will provide a forum for your public input, and help determine priority implementation actions approved by the TRCA. Later this summer, the stewardship committee has plans to build a 1.5 kilometre section of hiking trail. The planned trail loop continues to expand on the trail hub area and will allow for visitors to see the Humber River from a new perspective. In the early fall, a public hike and BBQ has been planned to celebrate this year's accomplishments. Please visit our website (see below) for event and news updates.

In other news, TRCA staff members have been working closely with The Ministry of Transportation and The TransCanada Corporation regarding the GTA West Highway Environmental Assessment and the Vaughan Mainline Expansion Project. Both of these projects have the potential to impact NCR and the surrounding communities. Periodic updates regarding these projects as they relate to NCR will be posted to the NCR webpage and discussed at stewardship committee meetings.

TRCA is still looking for interested members of the public to be a part of the Nashville Conservation Reserve Stewardship Committee. Membership is open to any interested party or individual committed to the protection of the natural environment. High school students are encouraged to join and work towards completing their mandated 40 hour volunteer requirement.

For more information, please go to [www.trca.on.ca/nashville](http://www.trca.on.ca/nashville) or contact: Adam Dembe - Planner, Greenspace Conservation at [adembe@trca.on.ca](mailto:adembe@trca.on.ca)



# Events in and Around King Township

# ... just



**September 8 to October 2** – Celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre with a very special exhibit showcasing original brass rubbing prints directly from Europe! Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca)

**September 11** – King City Seniors Centre annual membership sign-up day 10 - 11 am.

**September 12** – An afternoon of traditional home-making and a scrumptious garden tea party. Heritage and Cultural Centre, 12:30 - 3:30 pm, \$20 admission. 905-833-2331 or [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca)

**September 12** – The Wizard of Oz movie showing in support of the York Region Arts Council! Doors open at 6:30 pm, movie begins at 7:30 pm at Rainbow Cinemas at Elgin Mills. A donation of \$10 per person is suggested. For more info and tickets visit [oztrainbowcinemas.eventbrite.ca](http://oztrainbowcinemas.eventbrite.ca)

**September 13** – The Schomberg Street Gallery 10 am - 5 pm, main Street Schomberg [www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca)

**September 13 - October 18th** – King City Farmer's Market at All Saints Anglican Church. Every other Sunday 8 am - 1 pm with special themes including: Corn Roast and Bake Table (September 13), Wine Tasting (September 27), Pumpkin Pie Trail (September 27), Thanksgiving (October 11), and Field to Table (October 18). Eat fresh! Support your local growers.

**September 18** – King City Seniors Centre Annual Corn and Weiner Roast free Membership Appreciation event at 12:30 pm.

**September 18 & 19** – 27th annual Magna Hoedown! The Jim Cuddy Band will be headlining along with the Hoedown Showdown event. Dallas Smith, The Road Hammers and Wolfcreek Band will be performing also [www.hoedown.ca](http://www.hoedown.ca)

**September 19** - Food Preserves for the Home at the Nobleton Arena Hall Kitchen. Participate in traditional apple schnitzing and find out how the early settlers would preserve their food, and some new ways you can preserve your foods today! 2:30 - 4:30 pm, \$20 admission. Contact [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca) or 905-833-2331 to register.

**September 19** - McMichael Canadian Art Collection presents 'Transforming Spirit' which tells the story of Jamie Cameron and Christopher Bredt and their passionate commitment to art from Canada's Northwest Coast, showcasing work by twenty-seven of the region's most celebrated contemporary artists. Curated by Chris Finn. [www.mcmichael.com](http://www.mcmichael.com)

**September 20** - A Talk with Glenn Turner: Toronto Carrying-Place Trail. King Township Historical Society along with the Museum invite you to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the Carrying-Place Trail at the Heritage & Cultural Centre with a special talk from Toronto Carrying-Place Trail author, Glenn Turner. 2 - 4 pm with a suggested donation of \$5. Contact 905-833-2331 or [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca)

**September 21** - King City Seniors Centre presents 'Smooth Transitions' by Ingrid Davis on how to de-clutter and downsize. Nominal fee of \$2. 1:30 pm.

**September 22 to October 24** – Arts Society King presents 'Reflections of King'. A collection of original artwork featuring images and sites reflective of King Township. Located at the Heritage and Cultural Centre. All art is for sale. Open Tuesday-Saturday from 10 - 4. [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca)

**September 23** – Travel Diary 'Viking Cruise to Russia' with Valerie & Christopher Rowley at King City Public Library 7 pm. Presented by King Township Public Library and ASK. [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca)

**September 24** – Write Now @ King! 7 – 9 pm at the KT Public Library: Opening meeting for the 2015-2016 year: All published and aspiring writers welcome. Come and help us celebrate our seventh year of working together as writers. Call Sue 905 833 0490.

**September 25 & September 26** – The King Curling Club open house at the Trisan Centre and is open to the general public who register: [www.kingcurling.com](http://www.kingcurling.com)

**September 26** – Arts Society King Kids Art Workshop. All kids are invited and welcome to enjoy a themed art experience to celebrate Culture Days. Heritage and Culture Centre, 10 am to 4 pm, supervised. [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca)

**September 26** – Culture Days at the Heritage & Cultural Centre for a fun day full of activities, live performances, and crafts all celebrating the culture of King Township! 10 am - 4 pm. Contact 905-833-2331 or [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca).

**September 28 & October 26** – Nobleton-King City Horticultural Society meets in Nobleton Community Hall at 8:00 pm the 4th Monday of each month March through October. Next meetings are Monday September 28th—theme 'Canadian Words-The Song My Paddle Sings' with guest speaker Cooper Moisse--'Gardening from the Hammock' and October 26 – theme 'A Canadian Writes' with guest speaker Gary Westlake—'Garden Art for Cheapskates'.

**October** - McMichael Canadian Art Exhibition 'For Every Season' presents painted works by artists such as David Milne, Lawren Harris, J.E.H. MacDonald, and others from the permanent collection—dedicating a room for each season: spring, summer, fall and winter. Each will open on consecutive Saturdays through the month of October. Curated by Sarah Stanners. [www.mcmichael.com](http://www.mcmichael.com)

**October** is Public Library Month – events will happen throughout the month – Check the Library's website – [kinglibrary.ca](http://kinglibrary.ca) for a complete listing.

**October 3 to January 31** - McMichael Canadian Art Collection presents 'This House Was Made for Christmas' which celebrates the art of Christmas greeting cards. Curated by Sharona Adamowicz-Clements. [www.mcmichael.com](http://www.mcmichael.com)

**October 9 - 31** - 'Schomberg Scarecrows' from Thanksgiving to Halloween. Prizes to win including the, new for this year, Best Halloween Scarecrow. Also the Participation Prize draw for all early registrations [schombergscarecrows.com](http://schombergscarecrows.com)

**October 13 to November 21** – World War I exhibit at the Heritage and Cultural Centre focusing on the tireless efforts of women during the wartime – from the battlefield to the home front. Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 4pm. [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca)

**October 17** – An evening of live music to celebrate the opening of the World War I exhibit. Featuring King's 'Diva in the Rough'. Heritage and Cultural Centre, doors open at 6:30 pm. \$15 in advanced, \$20 at the door. For more information and to reserve your ticket, contact 905-833-2331 or [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca)

**October 17 & 18** – 13th Annual Richmond Hill Studio Tour, 10 am - 5 pm. Free Admission. Visit 18 sites and stops in Richmond Hill featuring 43 outstanding artists. Brochures available throughout Richmond Hill and online at [www.richmondhill.ca/studiotour](http://www.richmondhill.ca/studiotour): 905-787-1441 ext.222 or [michelle.zikovitz@richmondhill.ca](mailto:michelle.zikovitz@richmondhill.ca)

**October 19** – King City Seniors Centre presents a Fashion Show featuring styles from 'Laura'. Nominal fee of \$2. 1:30 pm.

**October 24** – Arts Society King Live Music Concert. Join us for the third presentation of the Canadian Songbook. Tickets available online [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca).

**October 24** – Join Maestro Kristian Alexander while he leads the Kindred Spirits Orchestra in celebrating the first concert of the season with Symphonie Fantastique by Hector Berlioz hosted by Alexa Petrenko. Teenage sensation Anson Hui rises to the challenge of performing Beethoven's vigorous Concerto for Piano No. 1. Symphonie Fantastique by Berlioz, which dramatically tells the story of love, passion, despair, hallucination and death. Book your tickets at 905.305.7469 or visit [MarkhamTheatre.ca](http://MarkhamTheatre.ca).

**October 25** – John Riley, Chief Science Officer and National Director of Conservation Operations, of the Nature Conservancy of Canada will present a talk based on his book, The Once and Future Great Lakes Country: An Ecological History. He presents a detailed accounting of the geology, natural and human history of the Great Lakes Region. 2 - 4 pm at the Heritage and Cultural Centre.

**October 27 to October 30** – Pre-school Haunted House – Come dressed in your costume! For ages 0-6, however all ages are welcome. Haunting from 6 - 8 pm at the Nobleton Branch Library.

**October 30** – King Township has a long history of hauntings and we have planned a spooky tour that will have you exploring the creepier side of King. Please arrive at Cold Creek Conversation Area by 6:45 pm as the bus is scheduled to leave for 7 pm. We will return to the site at approximately 10 pm. \$10 per child, \$15 per adult. For more information and to register, contact 905-833-2331 or [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca)

**October 31** – Arts Society King Kids Art Workshop. All kids are invited and welcome to enjoy a themed art session and take home your art. Heritage and Culture Centre, 10 am to 12 pm, supervised, drop-off. Must pre-register. [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca)

**November 4** – Arts Society King Annual General Meeting – visit [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca) for more details.

**November 6 to 15** – The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair is the world's largest combined indoor agricultural fair and equine competition and takes place in the heart of Canada's largest city. It's 10 days of Farm fresh Fun November 6-15, 2015. Buy tickets in advance and save – [www.royalfair.org](http://www.royalfair.org) Horse Show tickets include admission to the Fair.

**November 19 - 21** – Scots on the Rocks – A Macbeth Parody, Country Day School, Performing Arts Centre. Thursday and Friday at 7 pm, Saturday at 1:30 pm. For tickets call 905-833-1220 or go to [cds.on.ca](http://cds.on.ca)

**November 25** – Travel Diary 'China, Tibet, Hong Kong and Beijing' with Michael and Marion Hogg at King City Public Library 7 pm. Presented by King Township Public Library and ASK. [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca)

**November 27 - 29** – Hill Potters semi annual Fall Sale will be taking place Friday 12 - 9pm, Saturday 10 am-5 pm and Sunday 12 - 4 pm at the historical Guild Hall at 530 Carrville Road Richmond Hill. 905-884-0327, [hillpotters@yahoo.ca](mailto:hillpotters@yahoo.ca) or [www.hillpotters.ca](http://www.hillpotters.ca)

**November 28** – Arts Society King Kids Art Workshop. All kids are invited and welcome to enjoy a themed art experience to kick-off the holiday season. Heritage and Culture Centre, 10 am to 4 pm, supervised. [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca)

**November 28** – One of a 'King' Craft Show with Cookies with Santa featuring unique and locally made jewellery, pottery, artwork, and much more! 9 am - 5 pm. There will also be crafts for the kids and cookies to share with Santa! Perfect start to the holiday season! 905-833-2331 or [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca)

**December 4** – King Township Historical Society's Annual Christmas Concert 7:30 - 9:30 pm at All Saints' Anglican Church featuring the fantastic voice and vintage style of King Township's Diva in the Rough. Tickets available in October at the Museum. [www.kingtowshiphistoricalsociety.com](http://www.kingtowshiphistoricalsociety.com)

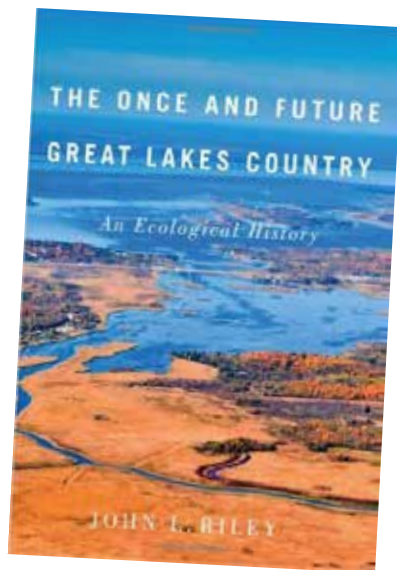
**December 5** – A Main Street Christmas in Schomberg featuring a craft show and parade, main Street Schomberg, 3 - 8 pm, \$5 adults, children 12 and under free. [schomberg.ca](http://schomberg.ca)

**December 6** – 5th annual Christmas in Nobleton from 6 - 9 pm at the Nobleton Gazebo. Santa will be handing out treats and Christmas Cheer. Enjoy hot apple cider, hot chocolate and cookies, while you listen to Christmas Carols. Please give from the heart and bring an unwrapped gift or gift card for the less fortunate in Nobleton. All donations will be given to Nobleton Christmas Drive.

# The Once and Future Great Lakes Country

*An Ecological History*

by John L. Riley



**October 2013**

**FROM THE BOOK:** *In comparison with a century ago, there is now more forest cover, cleaner water, recovering native biota, and an improved quality of life. It is nothing like the original “paradise,” but there are many new and ambitious environmental policies and pursuits, restoring some of the region’s ecological integrity even while we intensify development in some parts of it. We see around us, finally, some signs of homegrown maturity in our home place. Restoration is taking hold. Slowly, the natural geography and a new commonwealth appear to be reasserting themselves. In this good fortune, Great Lakes country may well be anomalous among regions of the world, and we have reason to be careful as a result.*

North America’s Great Lakes country has experienced centuries of upheaval. Its landscapes are utterly changed from what they were five hundred years ago. The region’s superabundant fish and wildlife and its magnificent forests and prairies astonished European

newcomers who called it an earthly paradise but then ushered in an era of disease, warfare, resource depletion, and land development that transformed it forever.

The Once and Future Great Lakes Country is a history of environmental change in the Great Lakes region, looking as far back as the last ice age, and also reflecting on modern trajectories of change, many of them positive. John Riley chronicles how the region serves as a continental crossroads, one that experienced massive declines in its wildlife and native plants in the centuries after European contact, and has begun to see increased nature protection and re-wilding in recent decades. Yet climate change, globalization, invasive species, and urban sprawl are today exerting new pressures on the region’s ecology.

Covering a vast geography encompassing two Canadian provinces and nine American states, The Once and Future Great Lakes Country provides both a detailed ecological history and a broad panorama of this vast region. It blends the voices of early visitors with the hopes of citizens now.

*John L. Riley is senior science advisor at the Nature Conservancy of Canada. He has had careers as botanist, geologist, ecologist, and conservation professional with the Royal Ontario Museum, the Ontario Geological Survey, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and Ontario Nature. He lives in Mono, Ontario. The book won the Fred Landon Prize of the Ontario Historical Society and was shortlisted for the J.W. Dafoe Book Prize. It has been generously reviewed, by such notables as Margaret Atwood, Graeme Gibson, Alice Munro, David Suzuki, David Crombie, Reed Noss and Robert Bateman. John will bring paperback copies of the book to sell and sign after his talk.*

*“The Once and Future Great Lakes Country is wonderfully written, and Riley’s profound knowledge of the region’s ecology shines through on every page. The reader sees much of Canadian history in an entirely new way.”*

—Alan MacEachern,  
Department of History, Western University

*“John Riley has written the book I once thought I might write and am now glad that I was too slow off the mark. His knowledge, practical experience, and determination make this a singular work that combines historical scholarship, scientific understanding, and subtle, low-key advocacy. It could not have been written by a mere historian or a mere scientist.”*

—Ramsay Cook, from the Preface

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**At the door** Adults: \$40 Students: \$25

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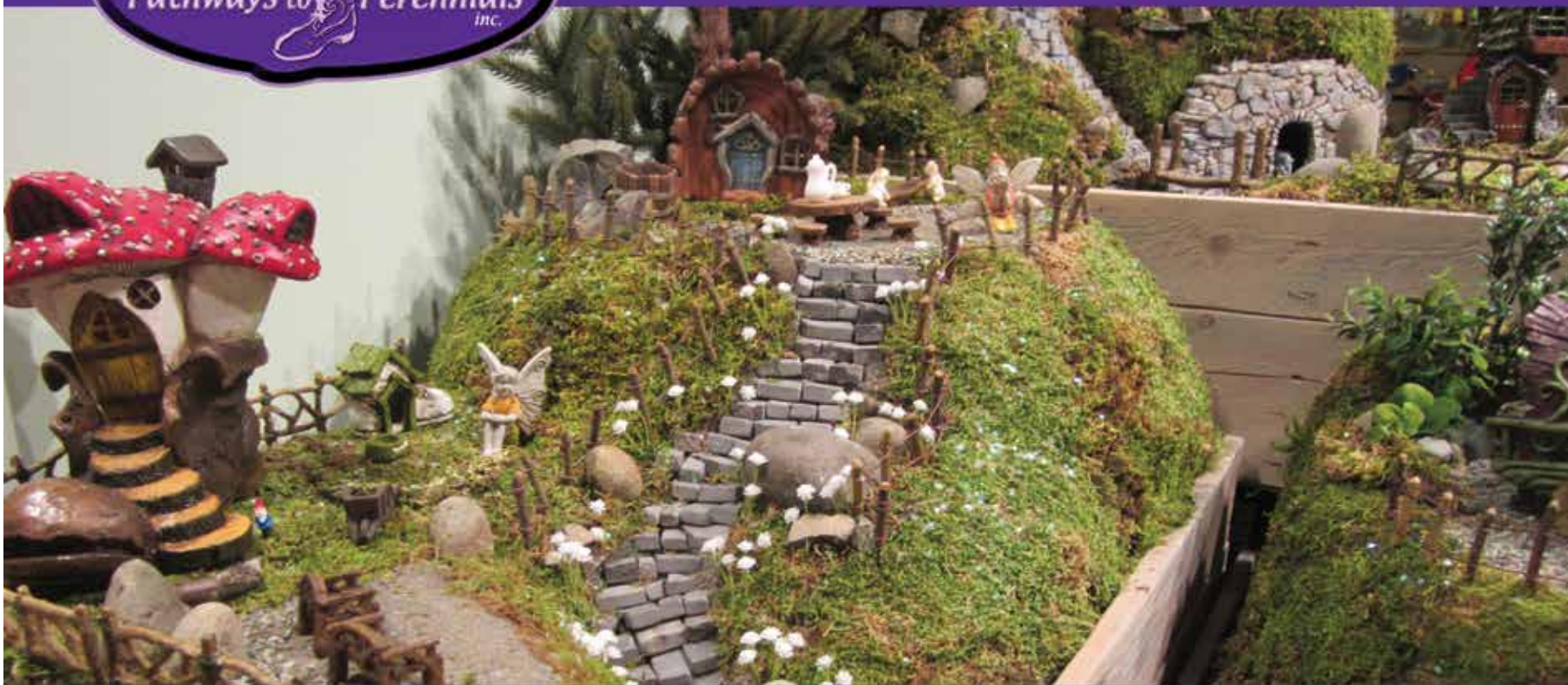


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# Whispers OF WAR

by Kathleen Adamson

Remembrance Day, established at the end of World War I, will be with us again as a reminder of what sacrifice is all about.



With the hundredth anniversary of The Great War, it is high time to read the wonderful, terrible accounts of World War I and view programmes about that maelstrom which scarred a generation, yet in some ways, gave birth to Canadian national identity. Now whole generations look quizzically at the faces of soldiers carved in stone, read endless lists of unknown names and sense abstractly the deep sadness of that war, but they can never speak to a soldier of that conflict or probably people who were children in 1918 when the war ended. Those of us of retirement age however, do remember those who lived through the Great War, and do remember the stories passed down to us in fragments fast slipping away. These are the whispers of war that still haunt many of our generation. The whispers are faint, imperfectly remembered and grow more faint still, as our generation too prepares to exit the stage. Yet as we prepare to go, we whisper their stories told to us, to the incoming generation so they may know what was done for us all, how great the price was and what may yet need to be done by their generation if peace and indeed survival are to be our lot in Canada.

My stories, one of which I venture to put forth here, are not exceptional. Far more that I have read are even more stunning, funnier or amazing, but they are my family's whispers to share for what they contain. Being of Anglo-Irish background, (my mother born in London, England, 1904) my early years were spent in an atmosphere very British, and west end London. My grandmother, with whom I spent many hours, was the Duchess of Duke Street incarnate: all starch, discipline and cups of tea. One day, when I was four she plunked me on a tall stool, looked sharply into my face with her green eyes, and told me Uncle Alf was coming from London for a visit and I would have to be very good. I knew what that meant! She did not bubble-wrap his condition, for she explained that he had been "in the War", in the trenches, had been gassed by the Germans, and had shrapnel in his hip, so that he had had many operations on the hip, leaving his leg eight inches short, and necessitating the wearing of a very thick boot. Her voice grew taut, when she told me, "You mustn't stare at his boot or ask him about the puffer, the black rubber thing he squeezes so he can breathe". I nodded silently and remembered my P's and Q's, when Uncle Alf arrived. He was a small, wiry man in a black suit, who did not smile. I sat quietly by my dad on a bench across the room while lunch was being served, and listened to his halting London speech intently. Suddenly his eyes met mine, intelligent and with a bit of snap like granny's. Despite granny's warnings, I just had to go and sit by him and hold his hand, though I did not know why. A wan smile lit up his face and he



continued on with the family talk. Not a word was said between us, but there was no need. I never saw Uncle Alf again after he went back but I never forgot him. Later I heard a story about him that was echoed much later in *The Longest Day*, where James Caan rescues a friend at gunpoint at a medical station! In Uncle Alf's case, he had been gassed and wounded, and awoke to find most of his buddies dead around him. Somehow he staggered from the battlefield to a Red Cross Unit manned by two nurses, who demanded payment first before they would treat his wounds. Being ever so slightly testy at the timing of this affront, he pulled out his service pistol, and with a bit of threat and bad language, managed to get treatment without further ado. Our family unfortunately, have always preferred to donate to other charities ever since, having had that story burned into our minds.

There are many more stories from World War I in our family, as there probably are in yours, so I urge you, or your grandparents to share them with your children. Just as mine may be slightly inaccurate, omitting of detail, or out of context, yours may be also, but what matters to our children is that we keep whispering.

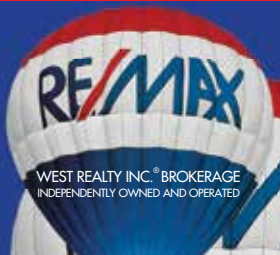
**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Kathleen's training and background are in archaeology, with a PhD in Ancient Near Eastern studies, specializing in art and texts in cuneiform, Hebrew, Greek and Egyptian. She taught at Oxford and after marriage to environmentalist husband, taught at the University of Calgary. She led archaeology tours abroad to Europe and the Middle East, lived in Baghdad where she had Saddam Hussein as a next-door neighbour and lived and worked in Germany, Switzerland, England and Kuwait. Since retirement Kathleen has been involved with local history (1837 Lloydtown Rebellion). Classed as a cancer survivor, she treasures each day, living in King with her wild birds and rescue animals.

The King Township Museum will once again be mounting a Great War exhibit this fall. For more details go to the events page of this magazine.

Painting: Karola Steinbrecher.



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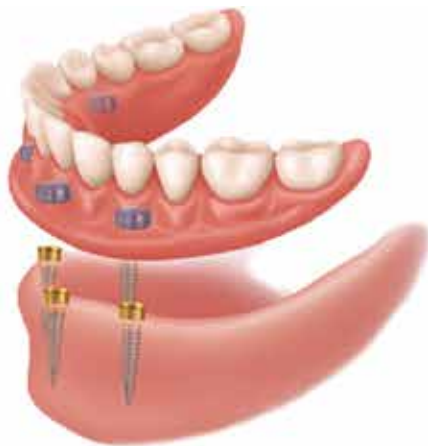


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# George Burt : The King Artist Who Would

by Sue Iaboni

BEFORE I EVEN have my notebook open, George Burt begins to tell me about Sumac trees – how they grow larger than normal from the nutrients in the Marsh and even glow in black light; or The Buckthorn tree, an invasive species from Europe whose thorns were reportedly used at the Crucifixion; or the blood-red Manitoba Maple discovered behind the Presbyterian church in Schomberg. He stops to take a quick breath before continuing. This is clearly a man who loves wood.



George spent most of his adult weekday life in sales management for the food industry. But on the weekends he dove into his hobby. In the 50's and 60's, as a self-taught scuba diver he worked with a Jacques Cousteau company. He began admiring the underwater habitat and taking an active interest in the wood he found there – in driftwood and shipwrecks.

When George retired in the 1980's, his first project was using this wood to create Christmas gifts – wreathes, reindeer - for grateful family members. Then he met someone from the iconic Cullen Barns in Whitby who encouraged him to sell his creations. This led to demonstrations at fairs in Kettleby and Pottageville, and restoration work at Black Creek Pioneer Village where he restored bread paddles, and made mortars and pestles, and drawer pulls.

Believing that there is no need to import exotic woods from other countries, George has found other local sources of beautiful wood in King that he rescues from rot and decay. He uses old cedar-rail fences to create beautiful vases. He has given new life to old telephone poles in the shape of vases too. A while ago he spied water-logged Tamarac "marshwood" on the edge of the Holland Marsh and got



permission from the landowners to use some. With this wood, presumed to be over 10,000 years old, he has made wine coasters, gavels, pens and bowls.

He has sold his work all over the world: France, Tibet, China, England; and closer to home at the National Art Gallery in Ottawa, and in Barrie, Muskoka, Alliston, and the Toronto One Of A Kind Show. Christmas In Kettleby, The ASK Studio Tour and the Schomberg Street Gallery are his local hangouts.

George interrupts his life story to return to his passion and its impact on our lives. "We rely on wood so much," he says, "for beds, fruit, shade, heat, even positive ions in the atmosphere." And for his artistic creations. Some of his more

unique creations include pens made from EMS backboards, gavels for his beloved Union Masonic Lodge in Schomberg, buttons for seamstresses, and cremation urns. His favourite woods are from fruit-bearing trees such as Apple, Black Cherry, Black Walnut, Mulberry, and Yew.

"Let the wood speak for itself" is George's way of approaching his projects. He visits his "shop" every day; a rental space in Schomberg where he can imagine and dream as the wood chips gather on the floor. If you would like to see more of George Burt's work, join the 1500 people who attend the annual Schomberg Street gallery, this year on Sunday September 13. For more information, go to the ASK website at ArtsSocietyKing.ca

## The First Day of School

Teacher Scott Garbe talks about the first day of school and what it means. Students may not realize this, but teachers have first day jitters too. They have so many plans and hopes for the coming year; trying out new curriculum, igniting students' imaginations, and engaging them in meaningful thought. Can they accomplish all this in 10 short months?

Scott says he fell in love with the possibilities of teaching when he and his wife taught drama at an American school in

Monterrey Mexico for 4 years, resurrecting a theatre program that had been dormant for 10 years. After returning to Canada in 1996, Scott was hired at The Country Day School (CDS) and has been there for almost 20 years. He loves the community feel of the school and the opportunities that are offered through the drama curriculum. Regardless of the particular scene or show students are working on, they learn creative thinking, the effective expression of their ideas and stories and, most of all, collaboration. They

are forced to develop empathy by focusing on the moment, putting down their phones and ipads, and working together, sharing ideas and feelings.

Scott especially loves the new Performing Arts Centre, built in 2001 by world-famous architect Jack Diamond. He admires Diamond's approach to design, where the main principle is to create a building that serves the needs of its inhabitants. For example, at CDS the foundation for the Performing Arts Center was poured separately from the rest of the building. This means that the performance area is completely sound proof, an important attribute of any theatre.

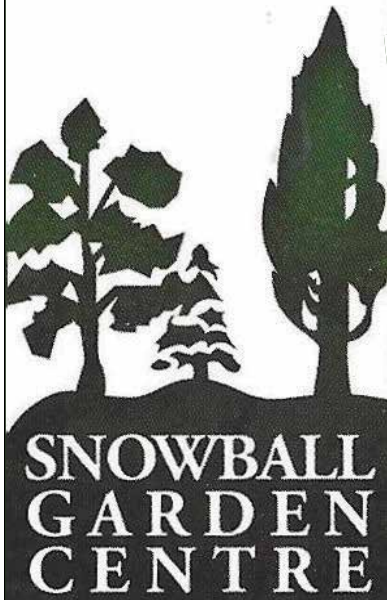
The theatre area itself is flexible in its design, allowing for the presentation and seating components to be moved to create a thrust stage, a traditional proscenium arch stage, theatre in the round, or an alley stage with audience seating along both sides. This means that a variety of performance experiences can be produced. Scott likes his choice of shows to be flexible too, so he can reflect the interests and talents of his students as he sees them growing and developing from Junior School right up to High School graduation.

With this year's shows Scott hopes to draw on these talents. He also hopes to draw in the wider King community to see some great theatre without having to drive downtown, look for parking, and pay high ticket prices. The first show, Nov 19, 20 and 21, Scots on the Rocks, is a Macbeth parody, aimed at people who would appreciate a funny adaptation of Shakespeare's classic tale, Monty Python style. The winter show, March 3, 4, and 5, One Man, Two Guvnors, has just finished a stint on Broadway starring actor James Cordon. It takes place at a summer resort on Brighton Beach, the perfect antidote for the winter blahs. And the final play in April is the classic Wizard of Oz – Young Performers edition.



Scott's mandate for the coming year is impressive – teaching life skills and values to his students, while creating meaningful theatre experiences for the student body and the King Township community. If you would like to be a part of the audience, go to cds.on.ca or call 905-833-1220.





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### ARTS SOCIETY KING FALL EVENTS

Please mark your calendars for these and other fantastic events. Through the generous partnership with King Township and support from grants, sponsors and donors, we are excited to offer arts and culture programming and experiences.

### GALLERY EXHIBIT

Reflections of King  
A collection of original artwork featuring images and sites reflective of King Township. Located at the King Township Heritage and Cultural Centre. All art is for sale.  
**September 22 - October 24, 2015**

### KIDS ART

Held the last Saturday of the month at the King Township Heritage and Cultural Centre (formerly King Township Museum). Always themed and unique, drop-in, supervised and materials provided. Registration required by emailing [info@artsocietyking.ca](mailto:info@artsocietyking.ca).  
**September 26, October 31, November 28**

### MUSIC IN KING LIVE MUSIC CONCERT

A collection of musicians and singers featuring the sounds of world-renowned and favourite artists Paul Simon and Carole King. Tickets \$35 + hst available online at [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca) or by calling ASK at 905-939-9357.  
**Saturday, October 24**

**Arts Society King is officially 10 years old!** We recently shared that in August 2005, 'the Arts Group' launched and through the hard work of many, arts, culture, heritage and nature, would all be recognized and celebrated in King.

Many of the founding members gathered on July 9 to celebrate at the Music In King Live Concert at Country Day School. In addition to the sounds of the Canadian Songbook, over 115 guests sang Happy Birthday to ASK, and past president Lynda Rogers reflected on the many successes and partnerships in her heart-felt remarks.

So what is ahead you ASK? We will continue to enrich King Township through arts and culture for all. We endeavour to expand on our partnerships, increase our community reach and keep on growing. At least for another 10 years.



**WEBSITE**

The ASK website is updated almost daily! Please check back for new programming information AND enjoy original art (of an ASK artist member) on the home page.

[www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca)

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Authors' Night

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For more information and to purchase tickets go to... [www.headwatersarts.com](http://www.headwatersarts.com)

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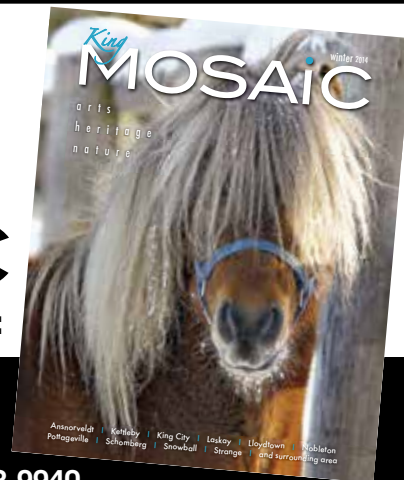


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# Keeping it *local*

I was visiting a new client today at his beautiful farm on the 17th. I was taking a look at the house that he and his wife have owned for over 50 years. It has an incredible view of King Township looking north, like so many of my clients in the neighbourhood, it was just around the corner from my house. In fact, I mentioned to my client that I had spent some time at his place over 30 years ago when I went to King City Secondary and his daughter was having a weekend party. He didn't seem to mind that I had been there or that his daughter had thrown a party while he and his wife were away travelling. This sit-

uation and this client is exactly what I had in mind when I started my company 10 years ago after leaving the investment business.

I had become very tired with the rat race downtown and I wanted to find something that would reward me both financially and personally. I wanted to feel that at the end of the day or at the end of the job I had accomplished something. We all work hard, we have to today in order to have any kind of a lifestyle, so it sure feels good when someone recognizes your work and thanks you for it. My plan 10 years ago was to grow my painting business into a successful painting and

general contracting business locally. I wanted to be able to work within 10-20 minutes of my house and work for people I grew up with and who shared many of the same values as me. I knew at the time that King was very special. Having travelled extensively, I recognized that our area north of Toronto was very similar to many other cities that have a unique rural community outside of the city that was very desirable to live in. I knew that King was poised for some fantastic growth and I wanted to make sure I was part of it.

Fast forward to 2015 and not only is King growing at a rate I have never seen in over 40

years of living up here, but it has turned into "the" place to live. I have enjoyed the growth, there is a little less countryside to look at, but we needed a little larger tax base to pay for the new roads, schools and retail development up here. My business has benefitted greatly. Not only has my painting business grown, but I have also expanded into general contracting, renovations and property development.

Best of all, I can drive to work, with a coffee in my hand at 8 in the morning and know I'll be just a few minutes until I get to see my first client of the day. It couldn't get any better than that.

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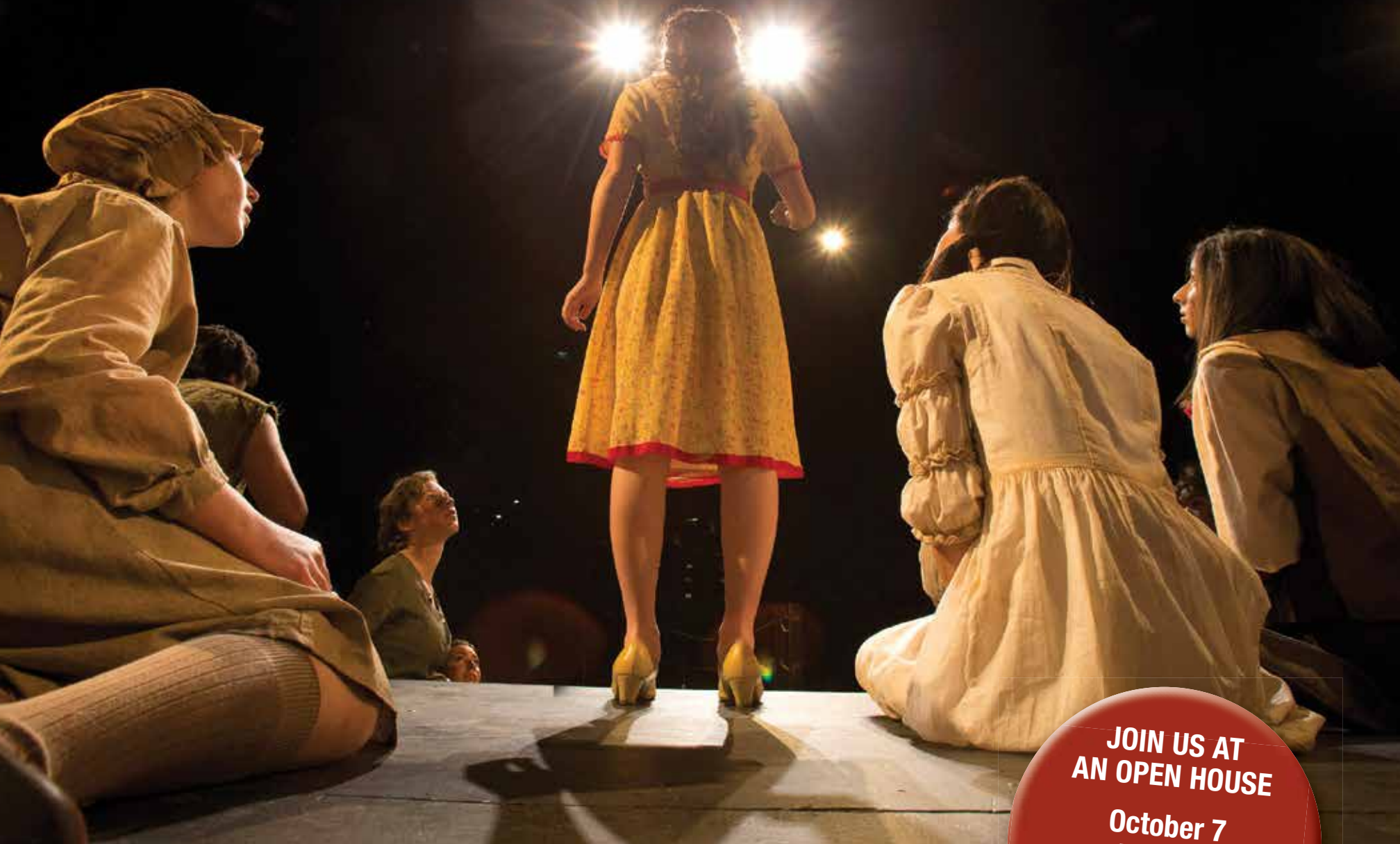
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