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spring 2024

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ArtsSocietyKing.ca

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We welcome your feedback, contributions, and
suggestions. Write to us at: editor@artsocietyking.ca

Write to us at

editor@artsocietyking.ca

NEW EDITOR: BARBARA MAHER-ERWIN



Please join Arts Society King in welcoming
Barbara Maher-Erwin as the new editor
of MOSAIC, beginning with the Summer
2024 issue.

After graduating from Ryerson University
(now Toronto Metropolitan University) with a
Bachelor's degree in journalism, Barbara started
her career as a reporter for a major daily
newspaper. She later transitioned into a role
in government, where she wrote Ministerial
speeches, developed communications
strategies, planned and executed special
events, and acted as a media spokesperson.
This led to a wide range of leadership roles in
corporate communications, policy formulation
and organizational development. Since retiring
from the Ontario Public Service, Barbara
has volunteered with a national advocacy
group for Canadians dealing with infertility
and with a canine rescue organization. She is
also a member of the City of Richmond Hill's
Heritage Advisory Committee.

Barbara would like to thank outgoing editor
Meline Beach for her invaluable assistance in
helping to introduce her to MOSAIC. Meline
has set a very high bar as editor and Barbara
promises to continue her work in showcasing
the extraordinary creativity of the members
of Arts Society King.

"I look forward to the opportunity to
immerse myself in the local arts community
and to work closely with the talented
writers and production staff that have made
MOSAIC such a well-regarded publication,"
Barbara said. "I wish Meline well as she
focuses on other challenges in the field of
professional communication."



CONTEST WINNER

Congratulations to Rina Trimmeliti!
In the Winter Issue of MOSAIC, Kerstin
Wyndham-West wrote about the Art of
Debate, describing six skills from that art form
that can have long-term benefits for academic
success and future career prospects.

CONTEST

In this issue of MOSAIC, Joanne Bailey
writes about the English tradition of
Afternoon Tea. Which British aristocrat was
credited with having started that custom
and in which decade?

Submit your answer to:

Editor@ArtsSocietyKing.ca by April 12,
2024, for a chance to win a **\$50 gift card**
to a local establishment in King Township.

OUR COVER VERONICA MELOCHE

Featured on the cover
of the Spring 2024 issue
of MOSAIC is **YELLOW
WELLIES**, a 16" x 16" acrylic
painting by Sharon-based
artist Veronica Meloche.
Veronica specializes in
acrylic painting and pottery,
creating colorful works that
evoke a nostalgic, childlike
feeling. Her functional
ceramic forms and mixed
media paintings are inspired
by her love of the outdoors,
her garden and her family.
Read more about Veronica
on page 4.



THE ART OF...SONGWRITING



STUDIO TOUR KING 2024...
CALLING ALL ART LOVERS

Arts Society King Contest

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On a midwinter afternoon rendered pleasant by glimpses of sunshine, I ventured to the home of **Veronica Meloche**.



WRITTEN BY **BRIAN BOAKE**

Brian is a survivor of decades in the IT industry, husband, father of two, supporter of the arts and Toronto Raptors fan.

Our Featured Artist lives and creates in Sharon. She is one of those rare and fortunate people who knew her calling early. After receiving an Honours Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at York University, she ventured halfway around the world to Brisbane, Australia. The result was a Master's Degree in Visual Art Education from Griffith University. For many years, Veronica has taught art at St. Robert Catholic High School in Thornhill. But she has never lost her creative spark.

Veronica's paintings are often inspired by two important elements in her life: her three sons, and water. Sprinkle in a healthy dose of nostalgia for her halcyon upbringing in southwestern Ontario, by the shores of Lake Erie, and you have paintings which celebrate the joy of swimming. More precisely, she often imagines the split second of

impact when a child's cannonballing body strikes the water. Shards of paint represent the bubbles churned up as we change worlds, surrendering ourselves into the danger and beauty of the deep. Don't we all, regardless of age, revel in making a splash?

There are more than 140 synonyms for "blue" in my thesaurus. In some of Veronica's paintings, like the winter landscape with the telephone wires stretching to the horizon, it looks like she's trying to use all of them. To my eye, this isn't overkill, but a serious effort to display gradations of frosted light.

Veronica's close-to-the-countryside home provides her with an opportunity to paint frozen water. We can see the contrast of snow, scrub (displayed in patches of burnt umber) and trees in her small yet effective painting of a field and ice-covered creek. Water comes from the sky too, and a spring rain is captured on the bright yellow boots of a young girl in our cover art.

Not content with her fine acrylic paintings on canvas, Veronica has become

a ceramicist. She creates useful pieces out of clay, such as garlic pottery bowls, in which she forms the "rasp" at the interior's base, which helps the cook to disintegrate the cloves. Her ceramic creations are elevated from the level of the merely functional in several ways. Using a piece of driftwood on a pottery bowl's handle was an inspired touch.

She enjoys touches of whimsy, like the lips she forms on many of her mugs, which are popular with her ever-increasing customer base. It seems apropos to mention Veronica accepts commissions; you can see her work online at Veronica Meloche (@veronica_meloche), and she can be reached at veromeloche@gmail.com.

Veronica is constantly expanding her skill set and has become accustomed to creating her own glazes with which to decorate her pottery. She uses a website called www.glazy.org, which publishes creator-submitted "recipes" of such colourizing treatments as "Temmoku Gold Tea Dust" and "Cherri Fake Nuka." Yours Truly scanned the site just for the fascinating names. Even the ingredients

offer names one can enjoy: Gerstley Borate, Bentonite, kaliveldspaat, which is Dutch for potash feldspar...I'll take the Dutch, thanks.

Veronica and I discovered a mutual interest in Canadian military history. She has travelled to France with her students to attend important memorial events such as Vimy-100 in 2017, and before that, D-Day-75 and -80. The school regularly schedules trips to Europe.

Interestingly for me as a basketball person, Veronica's middle son Keiran is living and studying in Spain, as a protégé of the Spanish professional team Zarazoga. Here's hooping (sorry, I couldn't resist) he realizes his dreams of success at the demanding position of point guard.

What strikes me about Veronica's approach to her artistic works is her eagerness, despite decades of productivity, to get to the easel, or the potter's wheel, once again. If she's suffering from ennui, I saw no evidence.

There's more to be created. We can all take heart in that credo.

To Soar with LORNE MACRAE



WRITTEN BY DORITA PEER

Dorita is a poet, writer, sculptor, painter, musician, and gardener. She made her living first as an optician, then as an equestrian trainer, coach, breeder, and international official.

One can't help comparing Lorne Macrae's writing, its gentle lessons served with light-hearted humour, with the author of one of the most charming, most translated books in the world, *The Little Prince*. In his ninth decade, Lorne is up for flights of fancy on the page. Maybe because he, like Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, was once a flyer, familiar with adventuring aloft. A member of Writenow!@King writers' group from the beginning, Lorne has long regaled us with his simple, folksy tales with a touch of fantasy. His homespun

Henry and Margaret stories let us peek into the quirks and delights of everyday people and situations. His chapter book, *Things to Say No To*, offers up a pun fest of serious nonsense. Say no to "Misfortune tellers." Or "Never separate sole mates" – as if we dared!

Lorne has been making audio readings of his stories, in his own voice, with the assistance of the King Library and its new sound booth. Recordings ensure a legacy of unlost treasures to Lorne's family of fans. One is his lifelong lady muse, Llian, a lettered scholar with an ear for a great story. Clan Macrae loves to alight at Lorne's aerie, bask in his garden, on an old farmstead at the inner marge of King township.

Here is an untitled sample of his latest – do enjoy the aerals between the lines!

Lorne
and
Doggie
Friend



The boy was lying in the sun. It was a warm afternoon. The little patch of grass on the top of the mountain was comfortable, so comfortable that he felt sleepy. Very quietly, one of the huge eagles that flew around the mountain landed right beside him. "Here," whispered the eagle. "Climb on my back and I'll take you for a ride."

Manuel climbed on to the back of the eagle and after being told, "Hold on tight," and with a few strong flaps they sailed off the mountain alongside the big grey rocky cliffs. Far below was the blue lake.

"This is fun," he whispered as the eagle sailed past other eagles. Up and up they went until he could see the curly tops of fluffy white clouds coming closer and closer. All at once, all he could see was grey. Then they were out in the sunshine again and the soft white cloud floated beside them.

"Let's do that again," said the eagle over its shoulder. Off they went into the darkness once more and, when they flew back into the bright sunshine, he could see his home far below on the mountain from where they started out. The eagle closed its wings and Manuel felt as if they would drop into the lake, but instead they landed onto the little patch of grass.

"Off you get," whispered the eagle. Manuel took a deep breath. He heard his mother's voice calling from the house.

"Teatime, Manny dear. Where are you?"
A large feather lay on the grass as he stumbled to his feet.
"Coming."

THE ARTS



WRITTEN BY PATTI SKRYPEK

Patti is a retired communications professional and active volunteer who applies her creative skills to support a number of not-for-profit organizations within the community.

I was born and raised along the mystical shores of British Columbia and studied English and Fine Arts at the University of Victoria. I have always felt drawn to the ebb and flow of water and atmospheric climate. I feel most grounded and connected with the natural world when working or relaxing outside — enjoying the changing vibrant colours and rhythms of Canada's rotating seasons and capturing my interpretations with my art.

Currently, my mediums of choice are organic pigments and inks and locally handmade watercolours created by the First Nations women on Manitoulin Island.

When creating with such fluid paints, I am able to push the boundaries between

controlling my compositions and allowing mediums to tell their stories and lead the way. Though I am fortunate to have two professional working studios in my home, I consider my learning and creating spaces to be wherever I find myself to be inspired — whether it be on the banks of a lake or ocean, a snowshoe/hiking trail or in the liminal spaces of my dreams. An example of such an inspired series would be my "Spirit Bears" Collection, which guided me through challenging times.

Over the past two years, I have also returned to teaching intuitive painting, often choosing to begin by creating sacred spaces outdoors to do so. I have also been drawn to continue my education by studying Women's History and our roles in the science and art of growing, observing and protecting our natural environment. I continue striving to learn and listen to the wisdom of nature and document our surroundings with my art.

: "Drifter", Watercolours on 100% cotton paper



MichelleHudsonArt



mjhudson64

AROUND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD



: Bananagrams

WHAT'S NEW & EXCITING AT THE KING TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY



WRITTEN BY STEPHANIE WILCOX

Stephanie is the Community Outreach Specialist at the King Township Public Library.

Though public libraries remain known for the incredible print book collections available for borrowing, we have also continued to expand the types of services, collections, and resources we can provide. Throughout 2023, we continued to offer community members an opportunity to dive into some of the new and exciting technology available, along with other fun out-of-the-box (board games, cake pans, walking poles, etc.) collection items!

Whether you're looking to enhance your games night, explore a new

creative project, or find some more time to read, the King Township Public Library is excited to share the journey with you. Happy exploring!

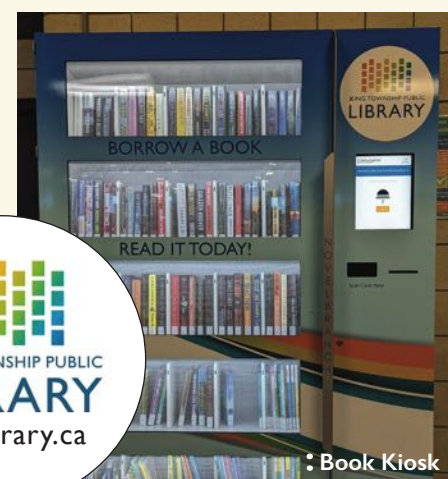
Board Games

Are you an experienced board gamer or just looking to try something new? Either way, the Library has a growing board games collection! Come browse your local branch and find something fun to take home for family time, parties or screen-free leisure. Games available include Sushi Go!, Bananagrams, Giant Snakes & Ladders, Carcassonne, and more!

To check out the full list of the Library's available board games, visit <https://king.bibliocommons.com>.



: Sound Booth



: Book Kiosk



Sound Booth

The Sound Booth is available for all your creative recording projects and endeavours. Visit the King City branch during operating hours to book your time in the booth and begin recording today!

Sound Booth Specifications:

- 4x4 Double Wall Sound Booth
- Internal Dimensions:
44 inches x 44 inches
- External Dimensions:
51 1/2 inches x 51 1/2 inches
- Height: 86 inches
- 40-45 DB reduction

For more information about the Sound Booth, visit kinglibrary.ca

The Book Kiosk

For readers on the go, parents patiently watching their children at hockey practice, or fitness centre regulars, check out your next read at the Library's Book Kiosk! Located conveniently in the lower level of Schomberg's Trisan Centre, the Book Kiosk is available to anyone with an active library card. Simply scan your library card and enter your PIN to open the Kiosk and begin browsing the collection!

Books can be both checked in and out at the Book Kiosk and are automatically checked out upon the removal of each book from their shelf. The Kiosk will print a receipt for your records. Happy reading! For more information, contact your local library branch or email info@kinglibrary.ca



On behalf of King Township Council, welcome to the Spring edition of Mosaic.

2024 Volunteer Appreciation Awards

I'm pleased to announce that nominations are now open for our Volunteer Appreciation Awards. We're inviting the community to shine a spotlight on the unsung heroes who embody the spirit of selflessness and community service.

King's volunteers contribute to many successes, selflessly donating thousands of hours for many causes.

Award recipients are celebrated during a special, invitation-only ceremony, to be held at the King Township Municipal Centre during National Volunteer Appreciation Week, the week of April 21-27.

Information about the different award categories, as well as instructions on how to nominate a person or organization, can be found at king.ca/awards.

The deadline to submit a nomination is 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1.

International Women's Day art exhibit

The third annual exhibition in recognition of International Women's Day, Food for Thought, is now open at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre, located at 2920 King Road. The exhibition features the work of 18 Ontario women artists and explores our relationship with food and culture.

The exhibition is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until March 30. Admission rates of \$5 per person apply.

For details, visit kingheritageandculture.ca.

Drawing fundamentals: still life to life drawing classes

Calling all aspiring artists, animators and illustrators back to the basics of fine art drawing skills to prepare you for life drawing.

This four-week course is designed to explore line, shape, form, composition, shading and colour in still life objects. You'll then apply that to structures in portraiture and the human figure with a live model. Build your own art practice and create your own style with professional illustrator Giovannina Colalillo. All levels welcome.

The program runs Tuesdays in March from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre, starting March 5.

The program is open to anyone age 18 or older (students under 18 may attend with parental consent provided).

Pre-registration is required. For details, visit kingheritageandculture.ca.

Please continue to volunteer, shop locally as much as you can and visit king.ca for the latest news on all things King.



Sincerely,

Steve Pellegrini
Mayor, King Township

A handwritten signature of Steve Pellegrini in black ink.



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your passion and
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• Hobbies

LIANA MARINELLI

creativelidesigns@gmail.com
@creativelidesigns

is a modern calligrapher and the creative behind Creativeli Designs. She was first introduced to calligraphy in high school, where she learned several scripts using a fountain pen. She remembers using many different ink types to create word art. In her previous life, after completing university, Liana was a high school educator. She took many art courses outside of her teaching role and completed a Digital Imaging Certificate. Liana has a passion for the art of lettering and sharing her knowledge with others. She has taught a variety of calligraphy workshops. She is teaching in-person beginner and intermediate calligraphy as well as a four-part series titled Mindful Calligraphy and an after school calligraphy program for teens this year.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST INDULGENCE?

Dark chocolate.

WHAT IS YOUR FONDEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY?

My fondest memories as a child were going to the public library. My neighbourhood library had a wonderful arts and crafts program. I remember creating art pieces from pressed flower wall art, to pastels and pencil crayon drawings. I was so excited to bring home my art and share it with my parents.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME AN ARTIST?

I have always loved creating unique things. Calligraphy was one of those unique art forms that I was drawn to with its "swirls and curls," beautiful metallic inks and brush pens. Modern calligraphy allows me to "colour outside the lines" while keeping the fundamentals of letter formation in my mind when creating a piece of art.

WHAT IS THE QUALITY YOU MOST LIKE IN OTHERS?

Optimism. It's that "glass half full attitude"



WRITTEN BY PATTI SKRYPEK

Patti is a retired communications professional and active volunteer who applies her creative skills to support a number of not-for-profit organizations within the community.

to life's challenges. As the Dalai Lama said: "Choose to be optimistic, it feels better."

WHAT WOULD YOU WANT OTHERS TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR ART FORM?

Anyone can learn calligraphy. You don't have to have good handwriting to be a calligrapher. All you need is a pencil and lined paper. Calligraphy provides mindful opportunities to escape the hecticness of everyday life as well as sparking creativity. You can create beautiful word art or add flare to a journal or sketchbook. The possibilities are endless.



• Gifts



• Daydream

SYLVA SROUJIAN

sylva@sroujian.com
@artbysylva

is an Armenian from Lebanon who lives in Richmond Hill, Ontario. Despite her background in business, she pursued her dream of becoming an artist. She has showcased her art in group and solo exhibitions. She paints with cold wax and oil, and acrylic. Her works have been accepted in many juried shows and she has won several awards. The boundless beauty of nature is the inspiration for her landscape paintings.

As an artist exploring and appreciating Algonquin's wilderness, Sylva discovered a pristine lake nestled within the ancient forest. Inspired by the quiet beauty, she created Daydream, which captures the serene mood of this hidden sanctuary. Her painting, A New Day, is a tribute to her late young cousin, Michel, who once captured the essence of daisies in a photograph before he passed away in the tragic forest fires of California. The beauty of the daisies, portrayed in Michel's unique perspective, fueled her inspiration to paint in his memory.

WHAT TALENT WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE?

I have a profound passion for art and, if given the opportunity to choose a talent, I would most like to further develop my artistic abilities, particularly in the realms of fashion and interior design.

WHERE WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO LIVE?

I would love to live in a small beach town surrounded by trees and nature, in a quiet and friendly neighbourhood, with the soothing sound of waves and the birds.

WHAT IS THE HARDEST PART ABOUT BEING AN ARTIST?

The challenges in being an artist often revolve around attaining higher personal artistic goals, navigating the competitive art market for exposure, and managing the business side of the creative endeavor.

WHAT ARE THREE THINGS YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT?

I can't live without the love of my family and friends. I also strive to maintain a happy, peaceful and healthy lifestyle, including

regular exercise and nutritious food. Creativity is essential to me. I can't imagine my life without engaging in artistic pursuits.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR HOBBIES OR INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF ART?

Beyond art, I find joy in gardening, swimming, and pursuing my passion for interior design.



• A New Day



WRITTEN BY
KATHLEEN ROGERS
Kathleen Rodgers is a fibre artist creating designs based on colour and shape for art quilts, table runners and lap quilts using her own hand-dyed and hand-painted fabrics and batiks.

STUDIO TOUR 2024

Calling all art lovers!

Visiting the country offers the opportunity to explore quaint villages and the studios of the local artists and artisans whose artwork often reflects the landscape around them. In King Township, each spring brings the Studio Tour King. Studio Tour King is celebrating its 19th year and will take place the weekend of April 6-7, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The studio tour will include fine paintings (in acrylic, oil, and watercolour), cards, fibre arts, jewellery, mixed media, wood, basketry and other arts.

This year, Studio Tour King will feature 28 artists and artisans at several locations, including the King Heritage and Cultural Centre, the King City Seniors Centre, the Schoolroom (in KHCC), Schomberg Community Hall and various home studios in King City. You can check out the Arts Society King (ASK) website at www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca, click on EVENTS then STUDIO TOUR 2024, to see the participating artists, their biographies and up to five photos of their artwork, as well as a map to their locations. There will be a link to his/her website and social media accounts for additional artwork available. In March, brochures will be available around King Township, including at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre, to help you plan your route.

Arts Society King welcomes the following artists to this year's event:

George Burt started wood turning in the late 1980s, making gifts for family and friends. The first dried flower vases were turned from cedar rail farm fencing. It was his wish to preserve its memory. Later, people who appreciated his work would bring other pieces of local woods from fallen or trimmed trees and it was then he started turning vases and bowls from local woods. George always felt there was no need to buy exotic woods from other countries when our own native woods are so colourful and beautiful.

Wendy Cho's artwork is regarded as simple, clever, whimsical and storybook-like. Her signature style is bold black lines with a pop of lacquer colour, creating a glass-like effect. Inspiration for her art

includes children's stories and all her furry (and scaly) babies at home. .cats, dogs, fish, rabbits and an albino hedgehog named Stella! Wendy has been drawing from a young age, encouraged by her big sister. Her artwork spreads joy and smiles to everyone! Check out her website: www.onceuponadesign.ca.

Alexandra K. Conrad is a professional fine-art artist with over three decades of art creation experience. She graduated with honours from OCAD University and is a member of Richmond Hill Group of Artists, Arts Society King, Portrait Society of Canada, and an associate member of Society of Canadian Artists. Using warm and bright colours, she paints portraits, landscapes, cityscapes, nature and abstracts in oil and acrylic and enjoys other mediums, including woodcuts. In her art, she strives to bring out positive emotions in the viewer and introduce the viewer into a new world away from daily problems, which only art can provide.

Patricia L. Earl paints to convey the light, colour and mood of what she sees and feels around her as Mother Nature so generously provides. She doesn't have to travel far to find subjects that inspire her. The gentle rolling hills, farmlands, forests and wildflowers that she loves to paint are found in abundance in Ontario's countryside, on the hiking trails and in her own backyard. Some of her inspiration comes from her view from the pillion/backseat of their motorcycle as she and husband Jim travel the Ontario countryside or American southwest. Pat enjoys painting with both acrylics and watercolours in her studio and on-site/en plein air. Watercolour is her preferred medium, as she enjoys the freshness and spontaneity of the medium. Whether her painting begins by applying paint with brush or pouring colours directly on the paper, the painting process is fun and magical! Pat enjoys the constant challenge of keeping the white of the paper and uses the transparency of watercolours to make the subject matter glow.

Wendy Emery studied Fine Arts at York University. Her background includes graphics, design and photography but her lifelong love of the magical qualities of glass fusing is truly her happy place. As a fused glass artist she is very detail-oriented, drawing inspiration from nature and the



• Alexandra K. Conrad:
• Quidi Vidi Rock, Newfoundland

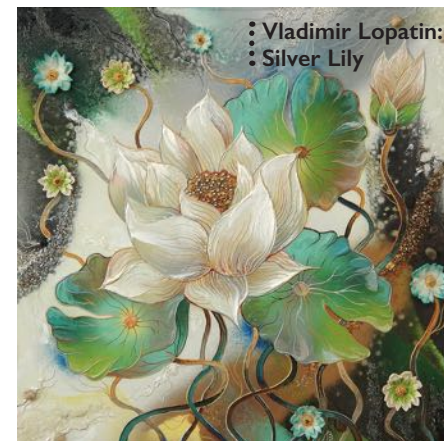
everyday physical world. Her intricacy of design mirrors everything from natural wonders like bees in her garden to the mundane bubbles in her morning cup of coffee. She loves to have them forever preserved in the breathtaking format of fused glass.

Andrea End's inspiration is the sunlight. She creates landscapes using the reduction linocut printmaking method. In this technique, a multicolored print is made with the use of a single block. Through a series of progressive cuttings, inkings and printings, the image slowly emerges while the actual block is destroyed. Andrea participates in numerous juried shows, group shows and solo shows, primarily in the Greater Toronto Area. She sits on the Board/Executive Council of the Richmond Hill Group of Artists and is a founding member of the Artists' Co-op of Richmond Hill. Andrea is a long-time resident of Richmond Hill. Website: andreaend.ca; Facebook @AndreaEndArtist; Instagram @andreaendartist

Jackie England resides in Mississauga, but was born in Nottingham, England, and immigrated to Canada as a young child. She returned to the UK to further her education and became introduced to the realm of horses. She spent many years riding and showing horses, before turning to drawing and painting. Jacqueline has worked in various mediums, such as pastel, watercolour, gouache, acrylic, graphite and oil. Her greatest wish is that, upon viewing her paintings, the viewer will be able to feel and see what she saw and have a greater insight into the animal it portrays.

Eva Folks is a visual artist who is drawn to the surreal. She has won first-place awards and honourable mentions for her work. She has juried art shows and critiqued for art groups. Eva is also an instructor and art blogger and has sold her work to clients worldwide. Check out her website: www.evafolksart.com.

Dan Glassco discovered wood working in 2012 when the first boards came off his newly set-up sawmill. Today, he is running a sawmill, wood drying kiln and an almost fully equipped workshop. Dan started making cutting boards and rustic furniture, and now also makes paddles, pens and other small turned items. A lot of the wood he uses is cut, milled and kiln dried by himself from his family owned



• Vladimir Lopatin:
• Silver Lily

woodlot. His favourite woods are Wild Apple, Sumac, Juniper, Maple, Black Walnut and Black Cherry. Dan uses hand tools, handheld power tools and stand-alone machines to create his work.

Karen Hunter has been designing and making jewellery since 1983. She started participating in craft shows in 1989. In 1990, she took a workshop, working with Niobium and Titanium, where she found the metal for her! All of the jewellery is handmade by Karen at her home studio and workshop, and each piece is hand cut and formed. After all of the work is done to each piece of Niobium, it is anodized, a technique of using electricity to create the rainbow of colours. Karen started quilting in 2012, and her love of colour and pattern was expanded.

Janice Jones worked as a Registered Nurse for 40 years and has always had a passion for the arts and being creative. She started painting with Judy Sherman, learning oil painting techniques, in 2019. She has taken many Zoom art classes with McMichael Gallery and has had two of her works hanging in the gallery. She has taken perspective, mixed-media courses and colour workshops. She has sold nine paintings to date, has had five commissions for work and has been juried into four art shows.

Maryam Khani was born in Tehran, Iran. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in engineering in 2002. In late 2005, she moved to Canada. There, she pursued her education until she became a mother. Her husband introduced her to the world of art and became her biggest supporter. Maryam's primary focus shifted to her children, providing them with a safe, loving, and nurturing environment. A career change followed, leading Maryam to become an artist. She saw art as a means to express her feelings and thoughts while continuing to provide a secure and loving place for her boys to grow. In January 2014, Maryam joined Kingcrafts in King City, where she started working with pottery. She also began learning watercolour in October 2016. Her pottery and watercolour pieces have been showcased in various art exhibitions across Canada.

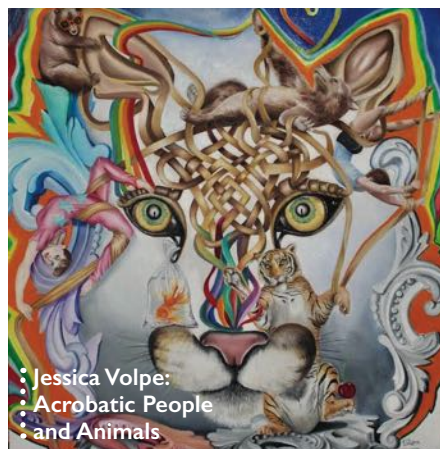
Ann Livingstone graduated at 55 with an Honours BA in Fine Arts from U of T, Erindale Campus/Sheridan College



Joe Trimmeliti:
Monarch
Butterfly



Dan Glassco: Stool



Jessica Volpe:
Acrobatic People
and Animals



Rubina
Panjwani:
Necklace

in 2000. Since childhood, she has been drawing/painting. When she finds a subject, Ann tends to work in a series but there are always new avenues beckoning. She enjoys painting horses, especially from a different perspective, cats doing or being in different situations, animals generally. She is fond of painting fields of lupins by the sea, another favourite that calls to her. All in all, her subjects are something that Ann has seen or half-remembered and she endeavours to put them on canvas in her own inimitable way.

Vladimir Lopatin was born in Leningrad, Russia. He attained a Bachelor of Arts degree at the Academy of Arts and Design. He likes and can work in different medium. Nature gives him an endless supply of forms and patterns for inspiration. His art is stylized fantasy rather than realism. His work can be found in private collections around the world.

Olena Lopatina was born in Kharkov, Ukraine and graduated from the Academy of Art and Design with a Bachelor in Fine Arts degree. She moved to Canada in 1997 and now lives in Aurora. She is a member of the Richmond Hill Group of Artists, Arts Society King and Artists for Conservation. Her love of art came at an early age. The inspiration of nature – landscapes and waterscapes – became the themes of her paintings. Olena finds beauty in her surroundings and enjoys using oils to portray that beauty.

Hans Martin started watercolour painting as a retirement hobby. He learned from Donnah Cameron II, as well as from attending workshops offered by the Society of York Region Artists and Arts Society King. His paintings are in private collections across Canada and as far south as Mexico. Hans enjoys painting scenes from his backyard, King Township and his travels. Old houses and barns, lakes, rocks and trees and the occasional flower are his favourite subjects but he has also painted good friends and vegetables! Check out his website: www.hansmartin.art and social media, Facebook: Hans Martin (hans.martin.52035772)

Veronica Meloche's acrylic paintings are often of her own children and her attempt to explore idealized childhood memories and nostalgia. She creates mostly functional ceramic forms and is intrigued with painterly applications of

glaze and the memory of the human touch on the clay.

Many of **Mary Morganelli's** paintings tell you a story, offering glimpses of peace, serenity, relaxation, inspiration, meaning, and emotion, while some were just done for fun. In her everyday life and travels, Mary takes many photos and lets her imagination go in her artwork. In a short time, she has again found passion in painting. It is a peaceful way of relaxation for her. Her desire is for her art to touch lives, bring a smile to your face and beauty to your eyes. She aims to share the gift she was given to become a gift for others. You can find her work at her website, www.mariellart.com.

Rubina Panjwani works with different shapes and gauges of wire with semi-precious stone and turns them into wearable art. When it comes to creativity, she truly believes that there are no rules; rather, the important thing is to put our heart and soul in the task, and always dream big.

In her work, **Ivanka Pipinikova** is inspired by nature landscapes. She is always fascinated by the amazing colours of the seasons, and reflections in the water of the various lakes and rivers. Figures of people have also always been a source of inspiration for her. She mainly paints with oils, but she is continuously exploring and experimenting with other mediums. Constantly growing and evolving as an artist, Ivanka aims to create beautiful, impactful art that conveys the feeling and mood of a moment in a way that the viewer can become a part of. Check out her social media, Instagram: @ivanka.p.art

When **Jacqueline Hope Raynor** discovered the encaustic process, she knew she'd found her art form. It is always a joy to walk into her studio and smell the heady aroma of beeswax, reminding her of summer gardens. She moved to the Beaverton area two years ago and spends her creative time making artwork that explores two of her passions: colour and texture. Colour creates the mood and texture invites you in to explore the details. The Japanese idea of Wabi Sabi (beauty in imperfection) appeals to her creative process. She loves incorporating happy accidents into her work and producing unique pieces full of whimsy and delight. Nature is a never-ending source of inspiration.

Kathleen Rodgers retired in 2015 as an elementary school teacher. A summer course at Haliburton School of Design introduced her to hand-dyed fabrics and art quilts. After exploring traditional quilt blocks for years, Kathleen began creating fibre art designs based on colour, shape and movement for wall hangings, table runners, and journal covers using her hand-dyed fabrics and batiks. As an artist, she has explored various mediums, taught workshops, and sold her work at studio tours and art shows.

Kathleen has supported various organizations and boards, including the Coldwater Mill, Studio Art Quilters Associates (SAQA), and Arts Society King (ASK). She likes to support artists and artisans by organizing exhibitions and sales opportunities. She is also part of a fibre arts group that creates thematic exhibitions that travel to galleries and museums around Ontario. Check out her website: KathleenRodgersArtisan.ca and social media at Facebook: [KathleenRodgersArtisan](https://www.facebook.com/KathleenRodgersArtisan) and Instagram: @KathleenRodgersArtisan.

"My work is a visual commentary on world circumstances. With a little humour and a gentle nudge, the message is delivered." After a successful career in graphic design, **Judy Sherman** travelled to Florence, Italy to study classical painting. In 2006, she received an Ontario Arts Council Emerging Artist grant. Judy was interviewed for Rogers TV, "Colour and Vision," was published in American Art Collector Magazine and has appeared on CityLine on CityTV. She has juried shows, conducted workshops, teaches privately and is presently teaching for McMichael Art Gallery. Judy has won awards, is represented in galleries and is collected worldwide.

Sylva Stroujian is an Armenian from Lebanon who lives in Richmond Hill. Despite her background in business, she has pursued her dream of becoming an artist. She has showcased her art in group and solo exhibitions. Sylva paints with cold wax and oil, and acrylic. Her works have been accepted in many juried shows and she has won several awards. The boundless beauty of nature is the inspiration for her landscape paintings. Her outdoor experiences, such as camping and hiking in locations like Algonquin Park and Lake Superior,

provide the motivation for her artwork. You can check out her artwork at <https://artbysylva.com> or social media, Instagram: @artbysylva and Facebook: Artbysylva.

Joe Trimmeliti graduated from George Brown College in 1974 in Graphic Design. He was a Senior Staff Artist in the Toronto Public Library art department for 15 years. Currently, he is self-employed in sign-making and graphic design. Joe has recently rekindled his love of painting and has been successful in several fine art shows and sales.

In her studio practice, **Jessica Volpe** explores narratives of motherhood, childhood and gender as she breaks down ideas of femininity. She explores human nature with the use of anthropomorphic animals and surreal imagery.

Lynn Wilson lives and paints colourful, bold and strong energy pieces on mixed media, including large canvas (florals, abstracts, streetscapes and intuitive), altered book journals, clay sculpting and hand painting on raw silk, in her home studio in King City. Canvas had always typically been her medium of choice, but she discovered altered book journaling and intuitive painting in 2017. Her journal pieces incorporate many mediums, including acrylics, metallics, distressed oxides, iridescents, inks, graphite, calligraphy and collage. Lynn often uses her intuitive pieces done in her altered book journals as inspiration to paint images on large canvas. Check out her website, www.artbylynnwilson.com and social media at Instagram: #lynnski777.

Michelle Zikovitz has been weaving baskets for over 30 years and teaching for the past 20 years throughout Southern Ontario. Michelle prefers to mostly create functional baskets that incorporate her hand-dyed reed whenever possible. Reed is her personal choice of material. Michelle enjoys teaching basket weaving using her specific designs so students can learn many basketry techniques while completing a basket they are proud to showcase. Check out her website: www.michellezikovitz.ca.

If you are looking for something to do in April after a long cold winter, take a drive in the country and visit the local art studios and support the artists and artisans. The artists look forward to seeing you and sharing their work with you on this year's Studio Tour King 2024!



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WORKING FOR YOU





THE Art OF...

SONGWRITING

Len Mizzoni, a singer-songwriter, producer, arranger and versatile musician residing in King City, has made his mark in the music industry.



WRITTEN BY MELINE BEACH

Meline is a freelance communication and public relations professional who volunteers for a number of worthy causes in King.

Born into a musical family, Len Mizzoni was immersed in the world of music his whole life. He has worked with seasoned professionals and was a former member of the Juno Award-winning band Frozen Ghost. With over 200 songs written and recorded in the past seven years, Mizzoni mastered the art of songwriting as a harmonious blend of emotion, melody, and lyrical expression.

Creative Process

Len Mizzoni starts with the music first. It could be a chord pattern or even a beat.

"Once I have the general structure of a song, which will include an intro, verses, pre-chorus, chorus and bridge, I will arrange the different sections of a song and structure to an arrangement that I feel makes sense from start to finish, mindful that most songs are approximately three minutes in length," says Mizzoni, who doesn't have any rituals or routines when it comes to songwriting.

At this point, he starts thinking of lyrical ideas, working on the chorus or hook first before further building out

the song, the longest process being melody development, which includes recording many "scratch" vocals, singing and or playing different melodies until he's reached a level of happiness with how the song moves and feels.

Not one for rituals or routines when it comes to songwriting, Mizzoni relies on his creative mood to arrange music and words, which can take days or even weeks and strike at any hour, regardless of day or night and place. While his home studio is his sanctuary, sometimes he'll get an idea for a melody or lyric while driving, which he seizes as he pulls over and quickly records in his phone so he doesn't forget it.

The journey doesn't end here; Mizzoni will leave the song for a few days before listening to it multiple times with fresh ears, fine-tuning the lyrics and melodies each time. This process allows him time to think of ideas for how he wants to fill in the spaces around the vocals. When the masterpiece takes shape, he records the lyrics and harmonies.

When faced with a creative block, as all writers do, Mizzoni switches gears and works on something entirely different to regain his focus. While he prefers to write independently, Mizzoni is open to collaboration and works with different producers, and sometimes friends, who have given him the music to a song that

needs lyrics. This collaboration is a shared narrative and an exchange of ideas that can enrich the creative process, beyond individual expression.

Inspiration

As a multi-instrumentalist who plays piano, guitar and saxophone, Mizzoni enjoys listening to and writing from diverse musical styles, especially a fusion of smooth jazz, R&B and pop. He draws inspiration from life experiences fuelled by emotions, fleeting moments and revelations. It's a process of matching lyrics with melody with trial and error and a lot of listening for the song to evolve until it feels right.

"I'm inspired lyrically by life," says Mizzoni. "Sometimes a feeling comes over me from something I've seen or read, which can inspire me to pursue an idea. I try to find the words that express what I'm feeling but in a unique and fresh way.

"I Know Who I Am," my last album, reflected my feelings after the sudden loss of my granddaughter. Having my music was a blessing as it helped me get through the grieving process. My sweet little Gabriella inspired most of the songs on the album."

Mizzoni's songwriting journey is peppered with memorable experiences, like the time when he wrote lyrics for an instrumental piece by Bob Acri.

"A song from my self-titled album 'Sleep Away' is very special to me. After hearing the original instrumental written by American pianist Bob Acri, I was so inspired that I wrote a lyric for the song. Once completed and recorded, I found out that the original song never had any lyrics. I reached out to the record company in Chicago that owned the publishing of the song. They loved what I did with 'Sleep Away' and decided to release it. The song is currently on over 100 playlists on Spotify, reaching 500,000 listeners."

Despite fleeting attention spans and evolving digital platforms, Mizzoni's craft continues to resonate across generations. His song "Sad Songs" from the album "Better Days" has gone viral on TikTok, inspiring thousands. The creative songwriting process, for Mizzoni, is profoundly rewarding, moving not only himself but also those touched by his music.

"Songwriting has always been my passion since I was a teenager," says Mizzoni. "I feel so blessed to still have music and songwriting in my life at my age."

With plenty of untapped ideas and a lot left to say, Mizzoni continues to pursue songwriting as a part-time hobby and appreciates the fact that a good song doesn't come with a best-before date.

For more information or to listen to Len Mizzoni's music, visit www.lenmizzoni.com.

ON NOW AND ONGOING: WRITENOW!@KING

WriteNow!@King is a writers' group partnering with King Township Public Library who meet on the first and third Thursday afternoons each month from 2 – 4 PM.

New and experienced writers are welcome to participate in stimulating writing exercises, guest speakers and feedback from peers.

Location: King City Public Library,
1970 King Road, King City
Contact: info@kinglibrary.ca for more information

ON NOW TO MARCH 22: GEORGINA FIBRE ARTS EXHIBITION – KING TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CENTRE

Come enjoy the fibre artworks of Georgina Fibre Artists in the KTMCC main space.
Location: KTMCC, 2585 King Road, King City
Time: Monday through Friday,
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Website: www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca/events

FEBRUARY 29: FRAUDS AND SCAMS – NOBLETON SENIORS

Learn how to recognize which calls and emails are fraudulent with Danielle Froud of the York Regional Police Office. Continue to visit the website for additional programs happening on Thursdays.
Location: Nobleton Arena Upstairs,
15 Old King Road, Nobleton
Time: 10 AM – 12 Noon
Contact: Phone 905-833-6565 to register
Website: www.king.ca/seniors

MARCH 1: GUEST SPEAKER – KING CITY SENIORS

Chantal from York Region Police will discuss their Project Lifesaver program which combines radio technology with co-ordinated police response to locate wandering and disoriented loved ones.
Location: King City Seniors Centre,
1970 King Road, King City
Time: 10 AM
Contact: Call the Centre at 905-833-6565

MARCH 1: A TRIO SOIREE – THE BROOKE, ERNESTO & KIRIT TRIO

A night of music showcasing local talent featuring the piano, flute and violin.
Location: All Saints Anglican Church King City,
12935 Keele Street, King City
Time: 7:30 PM
Email: ernestodelucamusica@gmail.com

MARCH 5 TO 26: DRAWING FUNDAMENTALS: STILL LIFE TO LIFE DRAWING CLASSES – KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

Calling all aspiring artists, animators, and illustrators back to the basics of fine art drawing skills to prepare you for life drawing. This four-week course is designed to explore line, shape, form, composition, shading and colour in still-life objects and later to apply them to structures in portraiture and the human figure with a live model through life drawing. Build your own art practice and create your own style with professional illustrator Giovannina Colalillo. All levels welcome.
Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre,
2920 King Road, King City
Time: 6 PM – 9 PM
Website: www.kingheritageandculture.ca for more details

MARCH 5 TO MAY 30: MOBILITY MATTERS – NOBLETON SENIORS

Seated gentle exercises for all areas of the body using light weights and resistance bands every Tuesday and Friday.
Location: Nobleton Arena Upstairs,
15 Old King Road, Nobleton
Time: 1 – 1:45 PM
Contact: Phone 905-833-6565 to register
Website: www.king.ca/seniors

MARCH 7: CPR & DEFIBRILLATOR – NOBLETON SENIORS

Learn the basic emergency services with Kevin Ritson of King Fire and Emergency Services. Continue to visit the website for additional programs happening on Thursdays.
Location: Nobleton Arena Upstairs,
15 Old King Road, Nobleton
Time: 10 AM – 12 Noon
Contact: Phone 905-833-6565 to register
Website: www.king.ca/seniors

MARCH 7: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY “FOOD FOR THOUGHT” EXHIBIT – KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

Celebrate International Women's Day at the KHCC this year with our guest speaker (TBA) who will make our exhibit “Food for Thought” come to life! Stay tuned.
Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre,
2920 King Road, King City
Time: TBA
Website: www.kingheritageandculture.ca for more details

MARCH 9: COLD CREEK MAPLE SYRUP FEST – TOWNSHIP OF KING

Join in the family fun and festivities, enjoy pancakes with maple syrup and other local foods, outdoor activities and vendors, \$12.00 per person or \$40.00 for a family of four.
Location: Cold Creek Conservation Area,
14125 Concession 11, Nobleton
Time: 10 AM – 2 PM
Contact: Email events@king.ca or call
289-800-2620
Website: For more information visit
www.coldcreek.ca/MapleSyrupFest

MARCH 11 TO 15: DIY-HISTORY MARCH BREAK – KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

Calling all kids to become a DIY-er this March Break at the KHCC to specialize in all things history! Participate in our drop-in activities designed to put history to the test and into action while engaging with our current exhibits. Drop in any time between 10 AM and 4 PM. New activities each day.
Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre,
2920 King Road, King City
Time: 10 AM – 4 PM
Website: www.kingheritageandculture.ca for more details

MARCH 11 TO 15: ARTVENTURE MARCH BREAK CAMP – McMICHAEL CANADIAN ART COLLECTION

Driven by the talent of experienced McMichael art instructors, our camps will involve guided exhibition viewing, outdoor activities, and in-studio artmaking exercises that will encourage campers to discover their creative power and meet new friends.
Location: McMichael Canadian Art Collection,
10365 Islington Avenue, Kleinburg
Time: 9 AM – 5 PM
Contact: March Break Camps | Kristina at
905-893-1121, ext. 2216

MARCH 15: GUEST SPEAKER – KING CITY SENIORS

Lynne Asbury will be discussing staging your home for sale.
Location: King City Seniors Centre,
1970 King Road, King City
Time: 10 AM
Contact: Call the Centre at 905-833-6565

MARCH 16: ART LAB WORKSHOP SERIES – ARTS SOCIETY KING

Marek Badzynski, our judge for the 2023 Autumn Reflections En Plein Air Contest, is back! King artists will love his architect's insights in applying his unique pen and layers of watercolour to any subject. A world-travelled instructor with Urban Sketchers, he brings the fun factor to exploring the Japanese art of Fude. ASK members \$20; Non-members \$70 (includes membership)
Location: King City Seniors Centre,
1970 King Road, King City
Time: 9 AM – 4 PM
Email: info@artsocietyking.ca
Website: www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca for details and registration

MARCH 17: FAMILY SUNDAY – McMICHAEL CANADIAN ART COLLECTION

Join us all day long for drop-in hands-on art workshops, interactive tours and storytelling circles created just for families.
Location: McMichael Canadian Art Collection,
10365 Islington Avenue, Kleinburg
Time: 11 AM – 4 PM
Contact: Family Sundays/McMichael Canadian Collection; Kristina at 905-893-1121, ext. 2216

MARCH 21: TAI CHI – NOBLETON SENIORS

Learn the basics of Tai Chi – gentle exercise and stretching with mindfulness. Continue to visit the website for additional programs happening on Thursdays.
Location: Nobleton Arena Upstairs,
15 Old King Road, Nobleton
Time: 10 AM – 12 Noon
Contact: Phone 905-833-6565 to register
Website: www.king.ca/seniors

MARCH 22: COMEDY IN KING – CHRISTMAS IN KING & ARTS SOCIETY KING

Back by popular demand, Christmas in King is thrilled to present Yuk Yuk's Comedy in King. Don't miss out on the funniest night in our community with Martha Chaves, Chuck Byrn and Fiona O'Brien. At the same time, you'll be supporting an important cause that, last year, provided more than 500 people in King Township with gifts, hampers, turkeys and more. Get your tickets today for just \$60 each at www.christmasinking.ca
Location: Kingbridge Centre, 12750 Jane Street, King City • Time: 8 PM
Website: www.christmasinking.ca

MARCH 23: ONE-OF-A-KIND FELTED BRACELET WORKSHOP FOR ADULTS – KINGCRAFTS STUDIO

Learn how to create unique wearable art using this wet-felting technique. It is fun and easy, incorporating merino wool, soap, water and embellishments. You will soon be inspired to make many other felted items.
Level: Beginners Fee: \$57.00 Material Included
Location: Kingcraft Studio, 12936 Keele Street, King City
Time: 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Website: www.kingcrafts.ca

MARCH 25 TO APRIL 19: MAYOR'S CELEBRATION OF YOUTH ARTS – ARTS SOCIETY KING

Come join Country Day School, King City Secondary School and Villanova College art students and faculty to celebrate the opening of this unique art show on April 4. Vote for your favourite pieces for the “People's Choice Award.” Enjoy the music of the Mayor's Youth Action Team. Exhibition continues through to April 19.
Location: King Township Municipal Centre,
2585 King Road, King City
Time: Monday thru Friday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM;
April 4 Opening Reception 6 – 8 PM
Email: info@artsocietyking.ca for more information
Website: www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca

MARCH 25: VERMICOMPOSTING DEMONSTRATION AND PRESENTATION – NOBLETON & KING CITY GARDEN CLUB

Jessica Tong of the York Region Food Network will present the vermicomposting process, including how to get started and maintain a compost, with a lively demonstration.
Location: Kinghorn School House,
2920 King Road, King City
Time: 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Email: nobletonkingcitygardenclub@gmail.com
Website: www.gardenontario.org/site.php/nobletonking

MARCH 26: ANNUALS FROM SEED – SCHOMBERG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Timely presentation from Ken Brown. Check out his free newsletter entitled “Dallying in the Dirt” at www.gardening-enjoyed.com/Newsletter
Location: Schomberg Community Hall, 325 Main Street, Schomberg
Time: 7:30 PM
Contact: For further information email
schomberghortsociety@gmail.com or call
Eleonora Schmied at 905-939-7454

MARCH 28: MAKE YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION COUNT – NOBLETON SENIORS

Come learn about hair, clothes and jewelry. Continue to visit the website for additional programs happening on Thursdays.
Location: Nobleton Arena Upstairs,
15 Old King Road, Nobleton
Time: 10 AM to 12 Noon
Contact: Phone 905-833-6565 to register
Website: www.king.ca/seniors

APRIL TO JUNE: SPRING SKATING WITH THE NOBLETON SKATING CLUB (NSC)

Learn to skate with Nobleton Skating Club (NSC): Canskate, Power and Starskate sessions
Location: Trisan Centre, 25 Dillane Drive, Schomberg
Email: nobletonskatingclub@outlook.com
Website: www.nobletonskatingclub.com

APRIL 5: GUEST SPEAKER – KING CITY SENIORS

Presentation on Alzheimers by Jaime Cruz from the Alzheimer Society of York Region.
Location: King City Seniors Centre,
1970 King Road, King City
Time: 10 AM
Contact: Call the Centre at 905-833-6565

APRIL 6 AND 7: STUDIO TOUR KING 2024 – ARTS SOCIETY KING

Celebrating its 19th year, the Studio Tour

features 28 artists and artisans in eight locations, including the King Heritage & Cultural Centre (KHCC), King City Seniors Centre, Schomberg Community Hall and various studios. See article in this MOSAiC for details.

Location: KHCC, 2920 King Road, King City; Schomberg Community Hall, 325 Main Street, Schomberg; King City Seniors Centre, 1970 King Road, King City + 5 studios
Time: 10 AM – 4 PM

Contact: info@artsocietyking.ca;
studiotour@artsocietyking.ca
Website: www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca

APRIL 12 TO MAY 31: TIMELESS TALES: THE HAUNTS

Arts Society King and King Heritage & Cultural Centre have colluded once again and come up with a scintillating fourth annual Timeless Tales writing contest. Historic King Township buildings have been chosen as prompts that York Region writers can use as settings for their timeless tales of fiction that amaze and amuse. Prizes in four age categories: Grades 1-4; Grades 5-8; Grades 9-12; Adults 18 - 101! Plus, publication in the 2024 Timeless Tales Anthology.
Email: info@artsocietyking.ca
Website: www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca for details, rules and registration

APRIL 19: POTLUCK LUNCH – KING CITY SENIORS

For potluck lunch, attendees are asked to bring either a main course item or a dessert to share.

Location: King City Seniors Centre, 1970 King Road, King City
Time: 12:30 PM

Contact: Call the Centre at 905-833-6565

APRIL 20: WORKING WITH ENAMEL (ADULT WORKSHOP) – KINGCRAFTS STUDIO

Come and learn to enamel! We will create one blue or one green flower from start to finish. The flower is approximately two inches in diameter with an eight-inch stem. You can keep it for yourself or give it as a gift. Mother's Day is just around the corner! Workshop includes full instruction, tools and supplies.

Level: Beginners

Fee: \$80.00 Material Included

Location: Kingcraft Studio, 12936 Keele Street, King City

Time: 10 AM – 1 PM

Website: www.kingcrafts.ca

APRIL 22: MAUREEN BRUCE ART EXHIBITION – KING TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CENTRE

Come enjoy the artworks of Arts Society King artist Maureen Bruce in the KTMCC main space.

Location: KTMCC, 2585 King Road, King City
Time: Monday through Friday
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Contact: Call 905-833-5321

APRIL 22: THE GARDEN OF REGRETS – NOBLETON & KING CITY GARDEN CLUB

Helen Battersby will speak about all the plants we wish we'd never planted – learn how to avoid them (before you do), how to live with them (if you have them), or how to love them (if you must).

Location: Kinghorn School House, 2920 King Road, King City
Time: 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Email: nobletonkingcitygardenclub@gmail.com

Website: www.gardenontario.org/site.php/nobletonking

APRIL 23: VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION – TOWNSHIP OF KING

Each year, the Township of King hosts a Volunteer Appreciation Night to honour and celebrate one of the Township's most important resources: its volunteers. Award categories include: Citizen of the Year; Special Recognition; Non-Resident; Senior Citizen of Merit; Lifetime Achievement; Youth of Merit. Nominations close March 13, 2024.

Location: King Township Municipal Offices, 2585 King Road, King City

Time: 6:30 PM

Contact: For more information, visit king.ca/awards or email events@king.ca

APRIL 23: THE MIRACLE OF MONARCH BUTTERFLIES – SCHOMBERG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Presentation by Ashley Gatto, Master Gardener.

Location: Schomberg Community Hall, 325 Main Street, Schomberg
Time: 7:30 PM

Contact: For further information email schomberghortsociety@gmail.com or call Eleonora Schmied at 905-939-7454

MAY 3: GUEST SPEAKER – KING CITY SENIORS

Iryna from Hearing Canada will be discussing hearing loss and what to do about it.

Location: King City Seniors Centre, 1970 King Road, King City
Time: 10 AM

Contact: Call the Centre at 905-833-6565

MAY 4: 1920s GIN JOINT & JAZZ – ARTS SOCIETY KING & KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

Enjoy an enchanting evening of gin tasting lead by a connoisseur followed by the sultry tunes of jazz featuring King's own "Diva in the Rough," Catherine Hughes, in a dimly lit 1920s speakeasy. Dance with flappers and dapper gents. The clinking of glasses and the infectious energy of the Charleston will create a spirited atmosphere transporting revelers back to the glamour of the Roaring Twenties.

Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 2920 King Road, King City

Time: 6:30 – 10:30 PM

Email: info@artsocietyking.ca

Website: www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca for details and tickets

MAY 4: SPRING INDOOR COMMUNITY YARD SALE – TOWNSHIP OF KING

Calling all buyers and sellers – join us for the annual Community Indoor Yard Sale. Sellers – Secure a table today. Free to buyers!

Location: Trisan Centre, 25 Dillane Drive, Schomberg

Time: 8 AM – 12 PM

Contact: For more information, visit king.ca/CommunityYardSale or email events@king.ca or call 289-800-2620

MAY 4: SMALL WIRE BIRD (ADULT WORKSHOP) – KINGCRAFTS STUDIO

Come out and create your own whimsical wire bird. Your sculpture is approximately eight to 10 inches tall and waiting to be named!

Level: Beginners

Fee: \$63.00, material Included

Location: Kingcraft Studio, 12936 Keele Street, King City

Time: 10 AM – 1 PM

Website: www.kingcrafts.ca

MAY 11: ANNUAL PLANT SALE – NOBLETON KING CITY GARDEN CLUB

An opportunity to purchase locally grown plants at a reasonable price.

Location: Laskay Hall Grounds, 2920 King Road, King City

Time: 10 AM – 1 PM

Email: nobletonkingcitygardenclub@gmail.com

Website:

www.gardenontario.org/site.php/nobletonking

MAY 11: ANNUAL PLANT SALE & SPRING BLOOMS POP-UP ART SHOW & SALE – SCHOMBERG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY & ARTS SOCIETY KING

Our much-anticipated sale of selected nursery stock, as well as plants from our members' gardens, partnering this year with Arts Society King for their Pop-Up Art Show & Sale showcasing beautiful artworks by local artists.

Location: Schomberg Community Hall, 325 Main Street, Schomberg

Time: 8 AM to 2 PM

Contact: For further information email schomberghortsociety@gmail.com or call Kathleen Gorsline 905-939-2505 (plants) and info@artsocietyking.ca (art)

Website: www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca

MAY 17: GUEST SPEAKER – KING CITY SENIORS

Speaker to be announced

Location: King City Seniors Centre, 1970 King Road, King City

Time: 10 AM

Contact: Call the Centre at 905-833-6565

MAY 20: NOBLETON VICTORIA DAY – TOWNSHIP OF KING

This year's event will feature numerous vendors, a fair, and exciting musical acts – including a Youth Battle of the Bands – on our main stage throughout the day. The event will end with an extravagant fireworks display. Check out our website for details and to apply for the Youth Battle of the Bands.

Location: Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Arena, 15 Old King Road, Nobleton

Time: 12 PM – DUSK

Contact: For more information, visit king.ca/NobletonVictoriaDay or email events@king.ca or call 289-800-2620

MAY 27: GARDEN DISASTERS – NOBLETON KING CITY GARDEN CLUB

Tena Van Andel will speak about how to prepare for garden disasters – some manmade, some natural – and to survive, and even thrive, through them.

Location: Kinghorn School House, 2920 King Road, King City

Time: 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Email: nobletonkingcitygardenclub@gmail.com

Website:

www.gardenontario.org/site.php/nobletonking

MAY 28: GUEST SPEAKER – SCHOMBERG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Speaker to be announced.

Location: Schomberg Community Hall, 325 Main Street, Schomberg

Time: 7:30 PM

Contact: For further information email schomberghortsociety@gmail.com or call Eleonora Schmied at 905-939-7454



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ENJOY A SPOT OF AFTERNOON TEA!

HERITAGE



Illustration by Cheryl Uhrig



Teacups Photo by Michele Nash



WRITTEN BY
JOANNE BAILEY

Joanne is a retired college professor and registered nurse. She is an active volunteer with the Schomberg Community Farm, Arts Society King, and the Nobleton Seniors' Centre.

That most British of indulgences, afternoon tea, began in the 1840s as a social gathering among the upper class in England. The story goes that Anna, the 7th Duchess of Bedford, was feeling hungry before dinner so she asked her servants to prepare some snacks to be consumed with her cup of tea. Luckily for the Duchess, the 4th Earl of Sandwich had invented the sandwich some 100 years earlier when he asked to be brought a slice of meat

between two pieces of bread so he didn't have to leave the gambling tables to get his sustenance. Afternoon tea became a routine for Anna and her compatriots as they started to invite guests over for tea and treats in the mid-afternoon. It must have seemed like a jolly good idea to the attendees because the popularity of the event soon spread among the upper crust. It even took on a colourful tone as many of the attendees would wear ornate outfits and tiny hats called fascinators that featured bright colors and intricate details.

Afternoon tea is more than just a few nibbles served while relaxing on a damask settee in your flashiest duds, though. It is a showcase of artistry, from the decorative work on the teapots and teacups to the

intricate designs on some of the delectable morsels that are served, such as petit fours. These tiny cakes are topped with marzipan and then enrobed in either fondant or chocolate and elaborately decorated with piping. When skillfully arranged on a plate, they are indeed works of art.

Serving these pastries alongside an ornamental teapot adds to the aesthetic. Teapots have long featured sculpturing and painted designs that have made them both admired and valuable. According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the most expensive teapot in the world is a solid gold, diamond-encrusted vessel created by an Italian jeweller, which is worth an eye-popping \$3 million. Probably not dishwasher-safe.

Tea has held an important place in literature, culture and art throughout history. England is only one of many countries that have embraced tea as a significant symbol within their culture and developed rituals around it. From the tea-based traditions of the Indigenous peoples of North America, to the ceremonies performed in Japan, China, Morocco and Turkey, tea has been a central element in many cultural observances.

More than a beverage, tea is a universal symbol of comfort and connection. Perhaps that is why the Duchess's inadvertent discovery that a selection of snacks makes a fine accompaniment to afternoon tea has stood the test of time.



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: SS No. 24 Amsterdam in 1967



: Toll Gate

CROSSING THE River, AND MORE



WRITTEN BY BERT DUCLOS

Bert is an avid outdoors enthusiast, who appreciates archaeological history and cultural heritage conservation.

Flowing from near Schomberg to its mouth at Cook's Bay on Lake Simcoe, the Holland River extends more than 25 kilometres northeast. It serves as the municipal boundary between Simcoe County and York Region, and the boundary of their respective municipalities of the Town of Bradford-West Gwillimbury with East Gwillimbury Township and King Township. Approximately 8,500 hectares of wetland borders its length, the Holland Marsh.

To car riders hustling along the most direct route through this northeast corner of King Township it would seem an unremarkable strip of commercial geography. Look a little closer.

For nearly 14,000 years, to Indigenous peoples, from the Lithic and Archaic periods to the Wendat in the 1300s, the Haudenosaunee in the late 1600s and then the Anishinaabeg, this area supported their hunting and fishing and was integral to their north-south transportation routes. To the Anishinaabeg, the Holland River was known as Escoyondy to the Ojibwe and as Miciaguean to the Mississauga. In 1793, Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe

named the river after Major Samuel Johannes Holland, Surveyor-General of Lower Canada and Upper Canada. A native of the Netherlands, Holland was responsible for the 1791 survey of the south Lake Simcoe area.

Though now recognized as a natural heritage and geographic treasure, the province's Euro-Canadian colonists considered the Holland River, its east branch, and the surrounding marsh as a nuisance and a barrier, the land worthless and the river barely navigable.

Elizabeth Simcoe's diary entry referring to her husband's September 29, 1793 trip down the Holland River, reads in part, "... passed a terrible bog of liquid mud..."

Accompanying Simcoe, Alexander McDonnell, Home District Sheriff, wrote in his journal, "... we dragged our Canoes till we came to the River over a part of the Swamp where it would be impossible to walk without their support it being a Quagmire, the skin or surface of which was very thin...", and "... padled (sic) down the river which is a dead water, bordered on each side with Quagmires..."

"... a mere ditch swarming with mosquitoes, flies, bullfrogs and water snakes," John Galt, superintendent of the Canada Company, wrote of his 1827 visit to the area.

Simcoe's 1793 trip resulted in the establishment of Yonge Street from

the Upper Canada capital of York, the community of Holland Landing on the East Holland River, and the ensuing importance of the Lower Landing further north on the river's east shore. At the onset of the 19th century, this northern terminus of the land route and the start of the water route was the only practical access north of York to the new colony's interior for its military, traders, industrialists, settlers and, later, tourists.

Penetanguishene Road

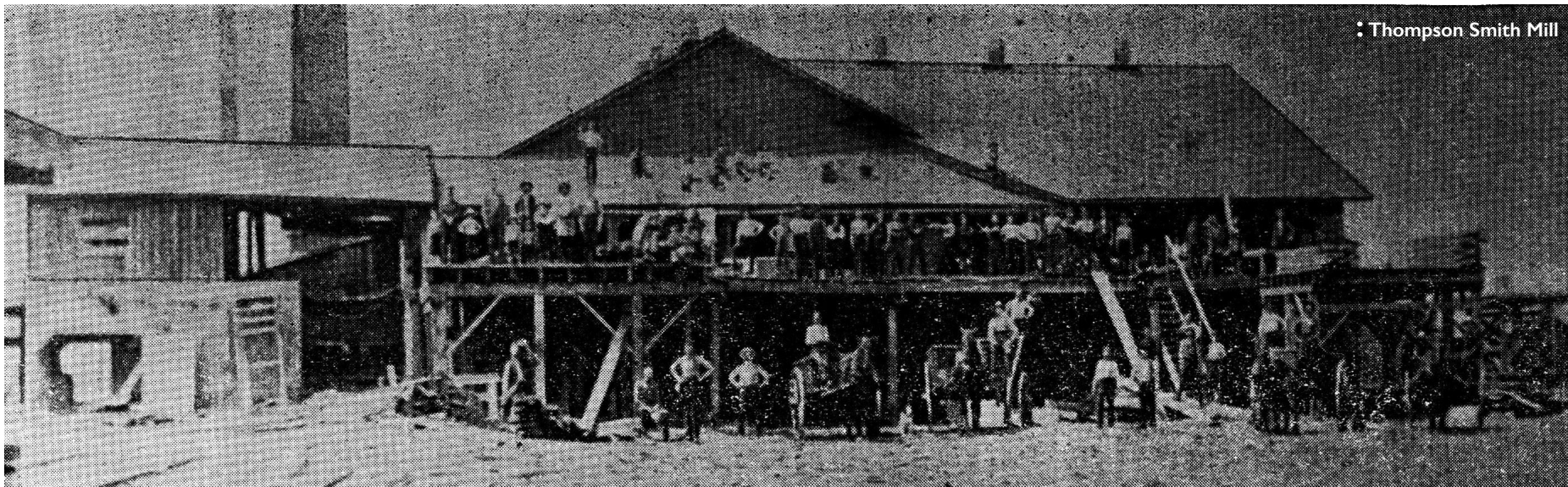
Renewed development of the Penetanguishene Naval Yard led to the 1815 completion of the Penetanguishene Road, the only land route north of Lake Simcoe's Kempenfelt Bay. The Executive Council of Upper Canada issued an order in council on April 26, 1819, offering 200-acre lots to settlers willing and able to clear their land and improve their frontage on Penetanguishene Road. The order created an increased demand for access into the southeast of what was to become pioneer Simcoe County.

Some began to look west of the Lower Landing and the East Holland River for a land and alternative water access to Penetanguishene Road. Indigenous routes across the marsh and the unbridged Holland River likely already existed, perhaps noted by Samuel Holland's surveyors and

Lt. Gov. Simcoe in their travels. Density of the marsh, width and upper navigation limits of the river influenced the practical location of a crossing.

The autumn of 1819 found the first settlers to cross west over the Holland River; the families of Irishmen Captain Lewis Algeo, Robert Armstrong and James Wallace. Mary Letitia Armstrong, Robert's daughter and Algeo's wife, is considered the first woman colonist to cross the Holland River. Later that year, 14 Scottish families from the western Red River Colony soon followed, crossing the river and settling in the new Township of West Gwillimbury and the future town of Bradford. As there was yet a bridge, records re-count the 1819 crossing of the river by Andrew McBeath, his younger brother Charles, and brother-in-law Alexander Gunn on a raft, with a rope strung between trees to pull it across. Samuel Lount of Holland Landing, who assisted his brother George in the 1819 surveying of West Gwillimbury, shared the location of this crossing.

Increased traffic brought improved facilities to this crossing of the Holland River. A rope-pulled ferryboat replaced the raft and James Wallace built Wallace's Wharf on the west shore. In 1824, West Gwillimbury's growth led the Upper Canada government to fund a road from



: Thompson Smith Mill

Holland Landing to Bradford to include a causeway over the marsh and a floating bridge over the river. Robert Armstrong and his sons built the road and causeway, a corduroy road of logs packed with earth. The four-kilometre-long Bradford Road, an oddity running in a straight-line northwest where the grid of parallel north-south concession roads and east-west sideroads prevailed, was in the years ahead to become one of the busiest routes in the region.

Nonetheless, Holland Landing flourished due to its location on Yonge Street and the East Holland River and its importance for those travelling north. Daily stagecoach service between York and Holland Landing started in 1833. As the final stagecoach stop, travellers could stay at one of five Holland Landing hotels before continuing onward, joining mail and cargo, by way of schooners and steamboats from the Lower Landing.

The Bullfrog

Recognizing the strategic value of the juncture of the corduroy road from Holland Landing at the Holland River crossing, on December 23, 1836, the Surveyor General's Office instructed George Lount to survey village lots on the east side of the river. Named Amsterdam, perhaps as homage to Samuel Holland, the Dutch-born former Surveyor-General, the village plan was to include a site for a storehouse and a wharf to serve the growing need for water transport on Lake Simcoe. Lount's 1837 survey showed a railway line and contained Dutch street names, including Rubens, VanDyke, DeWitt, DeRuyter, Keyser, Rotterdam, Hague, and Osten, among others. The only building standing at the time was Milloy's House, a tavern, on the south side of the causeway immediately east of the floating bridge. Built by William Milloy of Bradford, it was nicknamed "The Bullfrog" due to the sounds of the marsh. More than a hundred soldiers were quartered there during the winter following the failed 1837 Upper Canada Rebellion.

An 1851 eyewitness observed, "In the very midst of the swamp, an insane

attempt has been made to plant a village. For any man who could exist, on frogs and muskrats, and who (above all things) was mosquito proof, it might be a desirable locality." Surveyed again in 1854 and in 1866, the proposed village of Amsterdam never developed into a settlement. Another proposed village, named Manheim, adjacent to the north of Amsterdam, also never panned out.

The 1850s saw many meaningful changes to the fortunes of the Lower Landing and the community of Holland Landing, as well as the Holland River crossing.

Incorporated on January 1, 1850, the Township of West Gwillimbury's eastern boundary with the Township of East Gwillimbury was set at Yonge Street, bisecting Holland Landing. By then, navigation between the Lower Landing and Cook's Bay via the East Holland River and the Holland River was mostly by small craft. The 4.5-kilometre East Holland River portion of the route was shallow, narrow with many turns and often choked with reeds. Larger boats frequently ran into the marshy banks with passengers having to push off by poles. Finding the Holland River deeper, broader and easier to navigate, in 1850 the steamboat Beaver relocated to the floating bridge crossing to Bradford, later joined by the steamboat Morning, and an extension of the stagecoach line from Holland Landing.

Plank Road

West Gwillimbury purchased the road from Holland Landing to Bradford and replaced the corduroy surface with three-inch thick, three-foot long planks. Completed by October 1851, the plank road eventually stretched from Holland Landing to Bond Head. Defraying maintenance costs, tollgates were set up; one located east of the Holland River floating bridge, John Naper its first keeper. With heavy traffic causing the planks to split, as well as accidents, the cost of replacing the planks became prohibitive. In late 1858, the planking was removed and the road reverted to clay and gravel.

Legislation passed in 1845 provided

for the 1851 chartering of the Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Railroad Union Company to provide train service from Toronto to Kempenfelt Bay. Simcoe County's commitment to raising capital for the project heightened fears among West Gwillimbury residents of increased taxation. In 1852, following rigorous debate and petitions, against Simcoe County Council's protests, York County annexed those parts of West Gwillimbury Township east of the Holland River, known as the Old Survey. King Township's new boundary shifted north to the river, with the 2nd Concession West (Bathurst Street) running north to the river as its eastern boundary with East Gwillimbury Township. The arbitration of 1853 awarded Simcoe County a sum of £536 by York County. Being far short of what Simcoe County Council demanded and expected, its arbitrator refused to sign the award.

Launched in 1853, Canada West's (formerly Upper Canada) first railway reached Bradford on June 15. From Holland Landing to the Holland River crossing, the railway ran parallel and south of the planked Bradford Road. The new railway service mostly replaced the stagecoach from Holland Landing. The Holland River crossing, a fixed link between Simcoe County and York County, Bradford and King Township, was now served by a railway, a planked road, reliable water freight transportation, and popular steamboat excursions. It became the region's new focal point for travel and trade. After half a century, the supremacy of the East Holland River, the Lower Landing and Holland Landing began to pass.

A few years after the railway's arrival, lumber merchant Thompson Smith and partner James Durham set up two large sawmills on the east shore of the Holland River on each side of the railway line and plank road. In August 1869, Thompson Smith's Mill acquired patents from the government for lots of the still vacant Amsterdam village site. The tugs Victoria and Isabella moved log booms south on the Holland River from Lake Simcoe,

feeding the thriving lumber mills, the operations employing upwards of 150 men. In 1862, to facilitate the passage of log booms, James Durham had the Holland River floating bridge cut in two. Following its repair, in April 1871, a 420-foot fixed bridge became the river's first permanent foot and vehicle crossing, replaced by a steel version in 1908. Down Bradford Road, the new schoolhouse S.S. No. 24 Amsterdam, built in the late 1800s just east of the bridge, served the growing local population.

Motor Vehicles

Population growth and the onset of motorized vehicles increased the need for an improved road and a bypass of the route through the community of Holland Landing. Part of the province's plan for a cohesive Highway 11 included the opening in 1922 of a new section of the highway bypassing Holland Landing, the Holland Landing Road, parallel to and south of Bradford Road and the railway as far as Bathurst St. The old plank road route in York took on the name of Toll Road. When a new Holland Landing bypass realigned Highway 11 further west in 1958, the Holland Landing Road became Highway 11B, then York Regional Road 83 in 1981. With provincial downloading, in 1996, the realigned portion of Highway 11 became York Regional Road 1.

Milloy's House burned down in 1860, the tollgate closed in 1917, York's last, and S.S. No. 24 Amsterdam closed in the 1950s, demolished in the sixties. Now a residence, only the tollgate keeper's house remains, the last remnant of a remarkable era and the shared cultural heritage of three municipalities. For almost 130 years, until the opening of Highway 400 on July 1, 1952, the significance of this vital route, the former corduroy and plank road leading to the crossing of the Holland River, was unsurpassed.

Special thanks to the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library Archives for use of photographs and to David di Giovanni, Manager of Cultural Services for research assistance.

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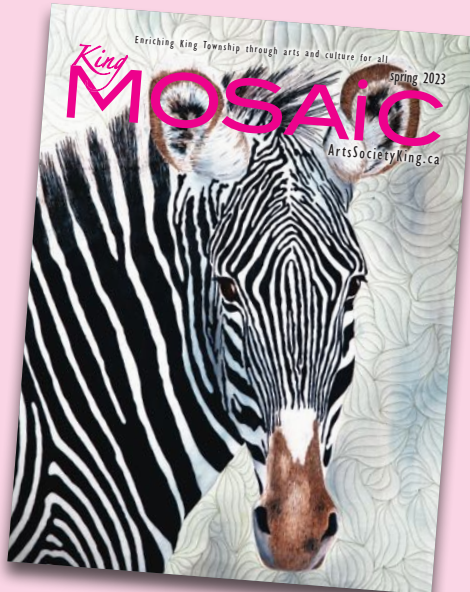
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IN ITS ROOTS The CREATOR'S GAME

Lacrosse, and its **distinct Indigenous history** in Canada, has been gaining attention on the world stage after the Olympic Committee approved its return to the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.



WRITTEN BY
KRISTI KUKK

Kristi is the Heritage & Programs and Volunteer Coordinator with the Township of King and the KHCC.

Conversations have been buzzing over whether the Haudenosaunee Nationals Men's Lacrosse Team will be allowed to compete as a distinct nation, as opposed to becoming amalgamated into the Canadian or United States national teams. It is worth keeping in mind that the Haudenosaunee Nationals currently play in international championships, as they rank third in the world today. Additionally, with regards to political status, the Haudenosaunee have their own issued passports (which allowed their holders to travel without issue from 1927 until stricter security measures were enforced after 9/11); and, their territory, spanning across the United States and Canada, pre-dates the current colonial borders that divide them.

The conversation comes down to the fact that lacrosse's history is what entwines the sport today with Indigenous identity and nationhood and makes the Haudenosaunee Nationals' admission at the 2028 Summer Olympics more imperative. As early as 1637, Jesuit missionary Jean de Brebeuf documented Indigenous villages near contemporary Midland playing a stick-and-ball game called "Crosse"; however, the sport had been played in Ontario long before the

17th century by Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe groups. The Ojibwe called it "baggataway," while the Mohawk used "tewarrathon," both translating to "the Creator's Game." In language alone, it was more than a stick-and-ball game, as it held deep cultural and spiritual significance. Each game would be called by tribal elders and religious leaders to commemorate seasonal changes, major events, or concerns occurring within the Nation, such as honouring the dead, curing the sick or encouraging weather conditions. Not only was it used to strengthen relationships between tribe members, but it was also used to bolster alliances or avoid potential military conflicts between neighbouring tribes. For example, it was a common way to diplomatically settle wagers, granting the winning tribe hunting rights to a particular territory.

Although there is no detailed description of exactly how the game was played before the 19th century, its rules are known to have varied widely from village to village or even between matches. The number of participants could exceed 100 players, the "playing field" could span across several kilometres, and matches were often played from sunrise to sunset. To train its warriors, wrestling and challenging one's opponent was directly encouraged, while passing or dodging were considered cowardly.

While the sport was regularly used for training, there is one recorded



occasion of its use in military strategy. To capture Fort Michilimackinac in 1763, an Anishinaabe group invited the British outside the walls to watch the game and celebrate the birthday of King George III. Mid-game, the players dropped their sticks and picked up their weapons to launch a surprise attack, which allowed them to temporarily occupy the fort.

Into the mid-18th century, lacrosse's popularity was appropriated into Victorian culture and Euro-Canadian identity. Between the 1840s and 1860s, occasional friendly exhibition matches were played between Mohawk and early-settler teams, including the August 1860 match to honour the Prince of Wales's visit. By 1867, its popularity quickly grew to become a codified sport after the newly confederated Canada established its first national governing sport body: The National Lacrosse Association of Canada. Shortly after, in 1868, William George Beers, who would later be known as the "father of modern lacrosse," was the first to print a lacrosse rulebook but also to heavily promote the sport alongside popular Victorian moral virtues of gentlemanly sportsmanship, self-discipline and exercise. Select exhibition matches between Mohawk and settler teams continued to be held into the 1880s following the rules set by Beers. The Kahnawà:ke Lacrosse Club was a renowned team during this time, even touring in Britain and playing in front of Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle. However, into the late 19th century, the

matches were just that: exhibition. In 1880, Indigenous players were barred from competing in the National Lacrosse Association championship. On a national and global stage, Indigenous teams were increasingly excluded from playing against Canadian or European teams unless curated through an Anglo-Canadian lens.

In the 1904 St. Louis Olympics, Canada won gold and bronze in lacrosse, as it had multiple teams representing Canada and competing at the same time. The bronze-winning team was the "Mohawk Indians": an exclusively Indigenous lacrosse club. Yet, when Canada decided to unify its lacrosse clubs and compete as one distinct national team in the 1908 London Olympics, no players from the Mohawk Indians or any other Indigenous teams were included. This was the last time lacrosse was offered as a medal sport in the Olympics.

The 2028 Olympics has the potential to address the complex history surrounding this sport, from Indigenous origins towards moments of inclusion, adaptation and, later, exclusion. With a history indivisible from Indigenous culture and identity, to recognize the Haudenosaunee as an Olympic team is an opportunity to reclaim and celebrate the "Creator's Game."

This is the KHCC's first of four sport history articles this year to celebrate the new Township Wide Recreation Centre, set to open in 2024. For more information, visit us at: <https://www.king.ca/townshipwidercreationcentre>.

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