



Arts Activities Newsletter 2003-2004

October 2003

Suzuki



BVCAC assisted the local violin teachers with deficit financing. Their group ran a Suzuki Violin Master Class Workshop and our assistance helped ensure that they would break even.

November 2003

Local Talent on Display

BVCAC presented our 8th Variety Show entitled "Kaleidoscope." The Della Herman Theatre and Griffin Lounge played host to an afternoon visual arts display and an evening musical performance. The afternoon show included more than 40 Bulkley Valley artists from the Hazeltons to Houston, displaying pottery, painting, sculptures, stained glass, and First Nations art. The evening show highlighted choirs from both the public and Christian high schools, as well as individual students who have pursued music on their own time. A very enjoyable auditory evening, and an equally enjoyable visual afternoon! This fundraiser supports our Bursary program for local students who wish to further their education in the arts.

SMART Award

A new annual award, SMithers ART Award, was designed to recognize the contributions made toward the arts within our community by a local instructor/teacher/artist. This year's recipient, a long time resident of Smithers, who was instrumental in the creation of the annual Choral Fest, BV Concert Association, is a local piano instructor, choir master, and chamber musician.

Seniors

The Telkwa Seniors Association contacted the BVCAC to see if we could provide a list of possible local performers who would be willing to perform at their monthly dinners. The seniors would pass a hat for the artists' efforts.

Dinner Anyone?

A casting call was scheduled for dinner theatre. The focus was on looking for new faces and energy. The idea is to present one act plays so that new performers won't be taxed too heavily for dialogue.



Society

Two directors spent a couple of hours with a local musician / instructor who is looking to form a society for string music presentation and instruction. Knowledge was shared, questions raised and answered. We are looking forward to the results of the meeting.

Dancing Success!

A former Bulkley Valley student and Bursary recipient claimed first prize at a Calgary dance competition! The win also included an invitation to audition for Princess Cruise Lines!

January 2004

Rehearsals got under way for the dinner theatre....

Several new members joined - including a Choir, Classical Strings Society, and the Smithers Art Group.

BVCAC co-sponsored a fundraiser for Creative Roots Performing Arts competitive dancers. It saved on expenses to help make it all happen!

February / March 2004



Classical Choral Concert

BVCAC sponsored the Jenn Markides concert.

As we had done last year for another Valley student, we produced the show for Jenn. Admission was free but donations were

taken for Jenn's continuing university education. A big thank you to Sharon Carrington, for accompanying Jen and Elaine Edmison during their duet.

Funding

BVCAC made funds available to one of our newest members in order to purchase orchestral scores - Smithers Classical Strings Society.

Fiddling Around

Both youth and adults attended this years sold out Fiddle Camp. The Arts Council assisted some fiddlers by granting funds to pay for their registration (more Affordable Recreation)

Affordable Recreation

Funds were provided to support several dancers who were not able to afford more lessons. Making funds available for local arts students is part of our commitment to Smithers Affordable Recreation.

Dinner Spells Success

A resounding success for the Dinner Theatre! Ten days prior to the first performance all six shows were sold out! The majority of Arts Council directors were involved in all aspects of the production, including directing, producing, acting, set construction, promotion, and tickets sales. An exciting element of the show was the emergence of a number of new actors! Hope to see them in other shows around town.

Midsummer Main stage

The BV Folk Music Society received funding from the BVCAC to assist in securing a headline performer for the Midsummer Festival. This was done to help boost attendance and revenue.



April 2004

Have Funding, Will Travel!

A band student received funding for a trip to Edmonton. This allowed the student's participation with fellow classmates for recitals and workshops.



Funding was provided to pay for two local artists to participate in a four-day watercolor workshop being held in Smithers.

May 2004

Directors, Anyone?

A fond farewell given to Director Rosamund Pojar. Rosamund is moving to the Yukon with her husband. She has promised to return! Good luck, she will be missed!



Logo Motion

BVCAC has received permission from both the Town of Smithers and the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako to use their logos on our printed materials. These include programs, posters, etc. We feel it is

important to recognize their financial support of the arts in the Bulkley Valley.

CD Production

Financial assistance was provided to a local band regarding their CD production.

Financing

A Valley Youth Fiddlers workshop will be held in September. Deficit financing was arranged to cover the possibility of their group not being able to cover the costs for the event.

June 2004

The End of an Era

A sad day for the local actors and BV Players, as Arts Council directors helped move what was left of BV Players costumes and props. They had long been stored at Poplar Place. The many items were given away, returned to original owners, but most simply brought to the dump and recycle station. Each article brought a new painstaking decision to be made, but with no affordable storage available tough choices were inevitable. Time to move on!

Insurance Info



The directors held an informal meeting with our insurance agent, Dale Clarke, of Pioneer Agencies, and Arts Council members. This was in response to rising insurance costs and what we can do about it. Over the next few months the options given to us will be explored and by our renewal date all the interested members

will be able to make educated decisions regarding their future.



Template Time!

Our treasurer extraordinaire has boldly offered to build a budget template which all

interested groups may use when applying to us for funding. Both parties in the application process could benefit greatly in making it easier and faster! The budget will eventually go online so interested parties can print it from our web site.

July 2004

Another Farewell

The Arts Council said goodbye to long time director, Toni Jackson. Toni is off to Kamloops to further her education. But she is planning on returning which is good news for us. All the best Toni!

August 2004

No Rest

Two directors have already had meetings with the artistic director of the Arts Council sponsored Christmas show. With busy schedules starting in September there is no rest for the people wanting to make arts happen in the Bulkley Valley.

Officially Finished

As of July 31, 2004, another history of arts in the Bulkley Valley came to a close. The Bulkley Valley Players are no longer a society. The former director's decided there was not enough interest to carry on with the current structure and dissolved the society. Funds from their account were transferred to the Arts Council accounts. If another group of individuals wishes to create another performing group, the Arts Council may make some funds available.

September 2004

CD Release

The BVCAC will produce a concert by local pianist, Serge Mazerand, to highlight the release of his new CD "Impromptu By The River". The concert is scheduled for October of 2004.



Kid's Auditions

Local school aged children, and interested adults, were auditioning this month for our Christmas Show, "A Classical Kid's Christmas". This variety show, to be performed in December, will highlight about 65 people who will sing Christmas Carols, dance and narrate the Christmas story. The hopeful performers came prepared with a song and/or a short monologue, but most of all...a BIG SMILE!

