



Peace Liard Regional Arts Council

*38th Annual Regional Juried Art Exhibit*

*Opening—May 8, 2020*

*Virtual Gallery*

*The Peace Liard Regional Arts Council is grateful to Treaty 8,  
on whose traditional territory we reside.*



*Barbara Swail—Bank Series # 14 (2019 Chosen Award)*



## ***2020 Regional Juried Art Exhibit (RJAE)***

Welcome to the 38th Annual Regional Juried Art Exhibit

### ***A Little RJAE History***

The first Peace Liard Regional Juried Art Exhibit in 1982 was prompted by the provincial government to select the best of BC visual art from each region for a Provincial Visual Art Show. Thirty-eight years of visual art exhibitions in Northeast BC have encouraged thousands of regional artists to show their works, develop their creative talent and hone their skills through exhibiting and participating in workshops.

After the first BC shows in Robson Square, Vancouver, the regional selection process came under the umbrella of the Assembly of BC Arts Councils. By 1986 the Assembly was working toward the collective BC show *Images and Objects* at the BC Festival of Arts. Five to ten artists were chosen each year to attend The BC Festival of Arts and travelled to various communities over the next 18 years. In 2000, the BC Festival of Arts was held in Fort St. John and over 1600 delegates participating in many genres descended upon Fort St. John. This was a big year for regional artists who were proud to show their artworks in their home territory among the hundreds in the *Images and Objects* exhibition.



## **(History Cont'd)**

When the BC Festival of Arts disbanded in 2002, the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council continued to hold the Regional Juried Art Exhibit with the help of the Peace River Regional District and the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality. A big thank you goes to the devotion of the Juried Show sponsors, particularly Ovintiv (formerly Encana), for their continued support.

The Regional Permanent Art Collection has grown with a chosen piece from each show added to the collection in the Peace Country over the past many years. The Permanent Collection is housed in the three Regional District Offices of Dawson Creek, Fort St. John and Fort Nelson. The artwork reflects the movement and growth in visual art in the region since 1982.



*Mary Parslow—“Spring Greens”  
2019 Permanent Collection*



## **2020 Virtual Regional Juried Art Exhibit**

In 2020, the world was impacted by the pandemic virus Covid-19 resulting in all public events being cancelled during the period in which the 2020 Regional Juried Art Exhibit was to have taken place. As a result, the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council moved the delivery of the 2020 exhibit to an online show:

<https://www.peaceliardarts.org/2020-regional-juried-art-exhibit-adjudication-gallery/>

We wish to thank all the artists who participated in this online version of the program and the resulting exhibition that showcases their amazing talent.

While we hope to see each other in person at the 2021 RJAЕ, we look to the positives of this year's show.

People from all over the world can view this year's exhibit. And through this, we hope it will raise even greater awareness of the talent that exists in northeast BC.



## 2020 Awards

As always, we thank our sponsors who, without their support, this exhibit would not be possible.

Special thanks goes to Ovintiv (formerly Encana), who has provided the monetary awards for this show since 2006.



Distinguished (Conceptual)—\$600

Distinguished (Representational)—\$600

Distinguished (Three-Dimensional)—\$600

People's Choice Award—\$200

In addition to the monetary awards, the PLRAC also provides the following:

9 Chosen Awards

Up to 10 Honorable Mentions

## Exhibitors

- 1a Kristy Auger, Fort St. John - I am Becoming Whole Again, woodblock print with beading and porcupine quill-work (\$2,000)
- 1b Kristy Auger, Fort St. John - he/she is laced up in a moss bag, Linocut print & watercolour with beading (NFS)
- 2a Kimberly Ans, Fort St. John - Dead Tree, Acrylic on Canvas (\$430)
- 2b Kimberly Ans, Fort St. John - Purple Sky, Acrylic on Canvas (\$430)
- 2c Kimberly Ans, Fort St. John - Square Tree, Acrylic on Canvas (\$400)
- 3a Haley Bassett, Groundbirch - Stop, Blackberry cane, wire (NFS)
- 3b Haley Bassett, Groundbirch - Self Portrait as Patience and Persistence, Dried grass, wire, thread (NFS)
- 3c Haley Bassett, Groundbirch - Temporary Self Portrait, Oil and acrylic on linen & fresh flowers in floral foam (NFS)
- 4a Shannon Butler, Fort St. John - Bohemian Turtle Planter, handbuilt porcelain, underglaze and glaze, electric-fired to cone 6 (NFS)
- 4b Shannon Butler, Fort St. John - Bohemian Mugs, handbuilt porcelain, underglaze and glaze, electric-fired to cone 6 (NFS)
- 4c Shannon Butler, Fort St. John - Bohemia Moth Gal Bottle, handbuilt porcelain, underglaze and glaze, electric-fired to cone 6 (NFS)
- 5a Barbara Daley, Fort St. John - Seasons of a Northern Buddha, Mixed Textile (\$300 for Set)
- 5b Barbara Daley, Fort St. John - Northern Buddha Costa Rica, Mixed Textile (NFS)
- 6 Emilie Mattson, Rolla - Reaching, Oil on Canvas (NFS)
- 7a Angela Fehr, Dawson Creek - Perfectly Still, Watercolor (\$699)
- 7b Angela Fehr, Dawson Creek - Richly Washed, Watercolor (\$499)
- 8a Darby Forest, Charlie Lake - Dragonfly Dusk, Watercolor and Ink (\$150)

## Exhibitors Cont'd

8b Darby Forest, Charlie Lake - Dragonfly Dawn, Watercolor and Ink (NFS)

9a Ken Forest, Charlie Lake - A Bubble in Time, Ebony and Blood Wood (NFS)

9b Ken Forest, Charlie Lake - Wings on the Wind, Moose and Deer Antler (NFS)

10 Irene Gut, Cecil Lake - Sweet as Honey, Encaustic Mixed Media (NFS)

11 Joe Johnston, Charlie Lake - Spring, Oil (\$425)

12a mary mottishaw, Dawson Creek - gift of feathers, assemblage on stretcher bars; digital image with mixed medium (\$700)

12b mary mottishaw, Dawson Creek - sustain, digital image with mixed medium and hand stitching on paper (\$980)

12c mary mottishaw, Dawson Creek - capturing th elusive, print based mixed medium on paper w/ hand stitching (\$440)

13 Delena Nelson, Chetwynd - Snare of Darkness, Charcoal & Acrylic (NFS)

14a Dustin Popesco, Groundbirch - Rita tasky, Ink (\$500)

14b Dustin Popesco, Groundbirch - Lightning god, Charcoal (\$500)

14c Dustin Popesco, Groundbirch - Jungle courage, Pencil (\$500)

15a Isam Sharkiye, Fort Nelson - In the Round, Copper (\$120)

15b Isam Sharkiye, Fort Nelson - Florals in Copper, Copper (\$160)

15c Isam Sharkiye, Fort Nelson - Wreaths in Copper, Copper (\$150)

16a Peter Shaw, Dawson Creek - Little Field, Oil (NFS)

16b Peter Shaw, Dawson Creek - September Sky, Oil (NFS)

17 Eliza Stanford, Fort St. John - In Situ, Rug-hooking wool (NFS)

18a Barbara Swail, Dawson Creek - Solastalgia 1, Photograph Hand Coloured (\$845)

## **Exhibitors Cont'd**

- 18b Barbara Swail, Dawson Creek - Solastalgia 2, Photograph Hand Coloured (\$845)
- 18c Barbara Swail, Dawson Creek - Solastalgia 3, Photograph Hand Coloured (\$845)
- 19a Sandy Troudt, Fort St. John - Autumn Interrupted, Acrylic (NFS)
- 19b Sandy Troudt, Fort St. John - Golden Glow, Acrylic (NFS)
- 19c Sandy Troudt, Fort St. John - Renewal, Acrylic (NFS)
- 20a Payge Fortier, Dawson Creek - Flowering Tea, Acrylic (NFS)
- 20b Payge Fortier, Dawson Creek - Sentinel, Acrylic (\$480)
- 20c Payge Fortier, Dawson Creek - Steadfast, Acrylic (\$1,095)
- 21 Pat Harper, Arras - The Prospector, Oil (\$1,200)
- 22a Mary Parslow, Dawson Creek - Sophia, Oil (\$350)
- 22b Mary Parslow, Dawson Creek - Rising Tide, Original Hybrid Print (\$195)
- 22c Mary Parslow, Dawson Creek - I am Beside Myself, Linocut Print (\$250)
- 23a Tracy Krauss, Tumbler Ridge - Love, Linocut on Monotype (NFS)
- 23b Tracy Krauss, Tumbler Ridge - Kindness, Acrylic (NFS)
- 23c Tracy Krauss, Tumbler Ridge - Gentleness, Acrylic (NFS)
- 24a Janet Loiselle, Dawson Creek - A Wheel that Rolls No More, Acrylic (\$400)
- 24b Janet Loiselle, Dawson Creek - A Ray of Sunshine, Acrylic (\$540)
- 25 Amy Gothard, Taylor - I'm Yours, Acrylic (\$150)
- 26a Sherry Reynard, Dawson Creek - The Save, Acrylic (NFS)
- 26b Sherry Reynard, Dawson Creek - Watching Waves, Acrylic (NFS)
- 26c Sherry Reynard, Dawson Creek - Thoughtful, Acrylic (\$1,200)



## **Exhibitors Cont'd**

- 27a Wayne Sawchuk, Rolla - Running out of Time, Photograph (NFS)
- 27b Wayne Sawchuk, Rolla - Packstring and Gataga Glaciers, Photograph (NFS)
- 27c Wayne Sawchuk, Rolla - The Wolves Came at Night, Photograph (NFS)
- 28 Ovvian Hill, Fort St. John - Grace Received, Brass (\$450)
- 29 Frances Obie , Fort St. John - Peace River, Multimedia (\$250)
- 30a Margaret May, Fort St. John - Charles Bridge, Prague, Acrylic (\$400)
- 30b Margaret May, Fort St. John - Parliament Buildings, Acrylic (\$300)
- 30c Margaret May, Fort St. John - Brussels in the Rain, Acrylic (\$350)
- 31a Rosemary Landry, Fort St. John - Family Time, Clay-Bas Relief (\$150)
- 31b Rosemary Landry, Fort St. John - The Nectar of the Gods, Clay-Bas Relief (NFS)
- 31c Rosemary Landry, Fort St. John - Baby It's Cold Out There, Clay-Bas Relief (NFS)
- 32a Caily Oldershaw, Pouce Coupe - Andrena's Thistle, Oil (NFS)
- 32b Caily Oldershaw, Pouce Coupe - Evening Gaze, Oil (NFS)
- 32c Caily Oldershaw, Pouce Coupe - Ascend, Oil (NFS)
- 33a Maureen Mohr, Fort St. John - Peace, Acrylic (NFS)
- 33b Maureen Mohr, Fort St. John - Humanity, Acrylic (NFS)
- 33c Maureen Mohr, Fort St. John - Scrabble, Acrylic (NFS)
- 34 Karl Mattson, Rolla - Lost, Salvaged Material & Industry Scraps (NFS)
- 35a Crystal Behn-Dettieh, Fort Nelson - Elemental Culture, Native Art (NFS)
- 35b Crystal Behn-Dettieh, Fort Nelson - Keh-Ta, Acrylic & Beadwork (NFS)



## Exhibitors Cont'd

36a Melissa Klassen, Dawson Creek - Creation, Acrylic (NFS)

36b Melissa Klassen, Dawson Creek - Amphibian Fog, Acrylic (NFS)

36c Melissa Klassen, Dawson Creek - Phoenix, Acrylic (NFS)

37 Marilyn Farrow, Chetwynd - Alluring Aspens, Clay (NFS)

38 Curtis Henry Dickie, Fort Nelson - Saviors Sent from Above, Carved and Painted Yellow Cedar Plank (NFS)

## Meet the 2020 RJAЕ Jurors



**Meghan Hunter-Gauthier** is a curator whose work is concerned with exploring the relationships between rural and urban spaces, as well as how humans perceive and value the natural environment. She holds a BFA in Criticism and Curatorial Practice from OCAD University and a Postgraduate Certificate in Arts Administration & Cultural Management from Humber College. Currently, Hunter-Gauthier is Assistant Curator with Two Rivers Gallery in Prince George, BC.



## Meet the Jurors Cont'd



**Kim Stewart** is a descendant of a Canadian Métis Fur Trade family and lives a blended Euro-Indigenous life. Using traditional Indigenous art techniques, drawing, painting and digital software, Kim constructs artwork that is informed by pop culture, memorabilia, historical documents and photos from her past. She has mentored with a variety of

Indigenous Elders and is now a knowledge holder with more than 20 years' experience in smoked-hide tanning, beadwork applique, and caribou/moose hair tufting. Her formal education includes diplomas in Fine Art, Graphic Design and Illustration, and a Master's Degree from SFU in Art Education.

Recently Kim was awarded a grant from the Canada Council of the Arts for her artistic research on the effects of *Cowboy and Indian pop culture* from the '50's, 60's and '70's on Métis Identity. Kim has been invited to be an artist in residence at Emily Carr University multiple times, and presents and shows her work at conferences and public events. Along with her studio practice, Kim teaches and mentors artists online and one-on-one.



## ***RJAE Schedule***

### **Friday May 8, 2020, 7 pm**

Virtual RJAE Exhibit Opening

Names of artists recognized for awards will be posted on the virtual gallery page and announced on the PLRAC Facebook page.

### **Saturday May 9, 2020 1—2 pm**

Virtual Artist Walkthrough—All participating artists to the RJAE are welcome to attend a Zoom meeting with the jurors to discuss their choices and to provide feedback to artwork as time permits.

### **Saturday May 9th, 2020 2 pm**

Videos of artist talks will be available on the PLRAC website and shared on social media.

Exhibit will remain available for viewing on the online gallery website.



## ***2nd Annual Ekphrastic Writing Exhibit***

### ***What is Ekphrasis?***

Ekphrastic writing focuses on a writer's response to a work of visual art. It is an exchange between the artist and the writer who uses words to interpret, inhabit and imaginatively engage with the artist and the work.



### ***How Can You Participate?***

- ◆ From May 8th to 30th, regional writers are invited to view the artwork of the 2020 RJAE via the online gallery accessed at: <https://www.peaceliardarts.org/2020-regional-juried-art-exhibit-adjudication-gallery/>
- ◆ Create an Ekphrastic piece or pieces inspired by the RJAE artwork (writing can be poetry or prose, 200 words maximum per entry up to a maximum of three entries).
- ◆ Send up to three submissions to Donna Kane at [edplrac@gmail.com](mailto:edplrac@gmail.com) by June 30, 2020.
- ◆ \$10 fee per submission. Fees can be made by cheque to the PLRAC, Box 27, Rolla, BC V0C 2G0 or by E-Transfer to [edplrac@gmail.com](mailto:edplrac@gmail.com) or by PayPal on the PLRAC website: [www.peaceliardarts.org](http://www.peaceliardarts.org) .

### ***How it Works***

- ◆ One piece of writing will be chosen for the Distinguished Award with up to nine additional pieces of writing selected for recognition by award-winning writer and Wild Words North alum, Jeanette Lynes (results will be announced in August, 2020).
- ◆ The winner receives \$200 and a broadside print of their work. Writers whose pieces are selected for recognition will receive a broadside of their work (produced by the PLRAC). The broadsides will be exhibited at the 2020 Virtual Wild Words North Writing Festival September 24-27, 2020 with additional broadsides for sale online.



## **In Memorium: Sue Popesku (1948-2020)**



Words cannot express the sorrow felt by the Peace-Liard region and beyond upon learning of Sue's death on April 19, 2020. In the 38 years of the Regional Juried Art Exhibit, Sue was there. She served on the Board of the Peace Liard Regional Arts Council many times since its inception but most recently as President from 2014-

2020. We include here an excerpt from a Press Release published by Alaska Highway News on April 21, 2020.

“Fort St. John has lost one of its most esteemed and prominent community builders. “She was devoted to the arts in the community. She saw it as something that gave cohesion and staying power, otherwise it would be largely a transient population here,” her husband Sorin said. Originally from Chicago, Popesku met Sorin in the early 1970s in Australia. They were both teachers, and moved to Fort St. John in 1974. It was here where Popesku quickly became one of the city's most tireless volunteers, fundraisers, and builders. Indeed today, much of her legacy and dedication can be seen across the city: the Cultural Centre, the Museum, the Hospital Foundation, the Artspost, the street banners, the flower pots. If you can name it, Popesku was likely to have her hand in it, whether that was leading the charge herself, or mentoring anyone with a creative idea to entertain or make the city better. Popesku was a dependable force behind the scenes, and brought in millions in grants and



community dollars to support the development of the growing city, whether it was for the hospital foundation or an arts group, or making sure the cultural centre was built and opened in 1992. If there was one thing Popesku loved as much as art, it was history. She was passionate about the pioneer days of the Northeast frontier, and supported local museums through the Northern Heritage Trails Society, organizing events in Fort Nelson, Fort St John, Tumbler Ridge, Chetwynd, and Hudson's Hope. She was instrumental in the construction of the current North Peace Museum building in the 1980s. She was also known for compiling volumes of history books filled with event programs, newspaper clippings, photographs and more for local community groups. If there was something to be done, or a creative idea to be developed, Popesku was there to lend a hand. Donna Kane, executive director of the Peace-Liard Regional Arts Council, called Popesku a "dynamo." "Her positivism, her charisma, and her belief that if you could imagine it, it could be done, has seen countless projects, small and huge, take place," Kane said. The two worked together to create a special arts exhibit celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Alaska Highway in 2017. That can still be seen outside the Dawson Creek Art Gallery today.—*Matt Preprost, Tom Summer (Alaska Highway News, April 21, 2020)*

***The PLRAC Acknowledges the Support of***

BC Arts Council

Province of British Columbia

Ovintiv

Northern Rockies Regional Municipality

Peace River Regional District

Dawson Creek Art Gallery

Dawson Creek Chamber of Commerce

Dawson Creek Community Futures

Brown's Social House Dawson Creek



**The PLRAC thanks Meghan Hunter-Gauthier and Kim Stewart for serving as the 2020 Jurors for the 38th Annual Regional Juried Art Exhibit**