

President's Message

Since my inauguration into the PineRidge Arts Council in 1994 when our membership totalled a mere 33, this totally voluntarily administrated organization, through dedication and passion has blossomed to a membership of nearly 400. What fun it has been to be a part of this artistic group of people and I look forward to even more exciting developments in the future. Here is a brief synopsis of what we have been up to over the past year.

Newspaper: Our run is 2700 and every two months we mail out approximately 1900 ArtScenes. Another 800 copies are distributed at various locations in Durham Region and beyond.

Website: Mary Cook is our Webmistress and does a fabulous job keeping our site up to date and our members informed.

Check us out at pineridgearts.org

Activities During the Past Year:

- Organized our 10th Juried Art Show at the McLean Centre in Ajax resulting in 180 entries (including 28 youth). Presented \$4,400 in awards to 19 winning artists.
- Were able to give \$1275 back to the community (over and above our Juried Art Show) by sponsoring local projects and events – to name a few:
 - Durham Philharmonic Choir • Young Singers
 - Pickering Rotary Music Festival • Durham Youth Orchestra
 - Visual Arts Centre, Clarington • Artfest on the Esplanade
 - Pickering Museum Village Foundation Rubber Duckie RACE
 - Pickering Teen Art Show • Oshawa Historical Society
- Partnered with the City of Pickering for the 12th annual Artfest on the Esplanade where we initiated a new youth event "HANDS ON ART"
- Art in Public Places exhibitions at McLean Community Centre, the Ontario Power Generation Information Centre, Pickering Chiropractic Health Centre, Chartwell, Pickering City Centre and Dentistry on Liverpool.

- Held another successful AGM/Arts Event at Papps Restaurant, raising \$1,800. Featured guests were Heartstrings Stringed Quartet from the Durham Youth Orchestra.
- Dorsey James and Susan Lindo instructed workshops in Ontario Power Generation's popular summer family program Tuesdays on the Trail.
- Partnered with Ontario Power Generation in hanging and jurying artists for their Employees' Art Exhibition.
- Worked with the Pickering Museum Village Foundation, carving and judging pumpkins during their Fall Family Festival at PMV.
- Robert Hinves, Sharon Steinhaus, Janice McHaffie and Gwen Williams exhibited their work and demonstrated their artistic talents at Chartwell Pickering City Centre.

We Wish to Thank:

- Ontario Power Generation, Pickering Nuclear for donating our AGM venue and refreshments.
- Ahmad Sairafi and Jaleh Kasraian for creating and donating our Honorary Member trophies.
- The StoneCircle Theatre and Carol Smith for being our featured AGM guests this year.
- The City of Pickering for our monthly meeting space at the Recreation Complex.
- The Town of Ajax for the use of the McLean Community Centre during our Juried Art Exhibition.
- Our Art in Public Places exhibition venues.
- Our special donors, advertisers and sponsors who support PRAC throughout the year.
- Our hardworking executive, committee people and volunteers whose aforementioned dedication and passion make our Arts Council flourish.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Schnippering, President