

Creating a vibrant community that celebrates the *Arts*

Beyond the Looking Glass in the Kiwanis Gallery



Alone on a Swinging Bridge,
Pigment Print Photograph,
Roberta Murray



Evil Eye, Pigment Print
Photograph, Roberta Murray

October 16 to November 25
Beyond the Looking Glass:
Photographs by Roberta Murray

What do you fear? Darkness, loneliness, the boogeyman? Do those fears follow you around hidden in the shadows of your life? Do you catch glimpses of them out of the corner of your eye without being aware they even exist?

When Roberta looks through the viewfinder of her camera she sees what lurks hidden in the shadows. *Beyond the Looking Glass* explores a place where dreams and nightmares exist together, and the line between truth and fiction becomes blurred. Using deliberate camera manipulations, created textures, and combining high and low tech equipment, Roberta creates stories in her photographs which could just as easily be interpreted as creepy or serene. You be the judge.

Join Roberta for First Friday Red Deer, November 2, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. on this journey beyond the looking glass. Refreshments will be served.



Red Deer Symphony Orchestra

Interview by Mike Lupul

The Red Deer Symphony Orchestra is a fully professional orchestra that performs live symphonic music for up to ten thousand people in central Alberta every year. It was founded on May 13th, 1987 and recently celebrated its silver anniversary.

The Red Deer Symphony differs from amateur orchestras in that their members are paid and play at a professional level. Accordingly, the Red Deer Symphony performs with a much higher degree of quality than an amateur orchestra would. While many cities have amateur orchestras, Red Deer is one of very few cities of its size to have a fully professional orchestra. When you consider the variety of instruments that a symphony employs, you will understand that it is very hard to maintain a fully professional orchestra in such a small city. However, the Red Deer Symphony, known for its reputation for being extremely fun to work with, has never had any trouble attracting and retaining skilled musicians. While the Symphony plays mostly classical music, they are known to play an eclectic variety of other music. The audience trusts that the orchestra's world renowned director, Claude Lapalme, will choose great pieces of music to play, allowing them to attract a full crowd for any performance.

One might ask, "Why should Red Deer have a symphony?" There are four important answers to this question. First, the Red Deer Symphony attracts many professionals to the area. Many of these professionals are musicians, however, an increasing amount of other professionals wish to live in a city that has a thriving arts scene, in which the Symphony plays a large role. Second, Red Deer enjoys numerous economic benefits as the result of having a symphony. Approximately twenty-five percent of all concert subscribers come from out of town. When these subscribers travel to Red Deer to attend a performance, they usually go shopping, go out for dinner, go out for a drink after the show, or stay at a hotel. The Red Deer Symphony also does its business locally, whenever possible. This includes renting space in venues, hiring transport services and conducting bookkeeping. Third, through their many Education and Outreach Programs, the Red Deer Symphony is able to provide educational services to a multitude of children attending schools in Red Deer. They support music programs in the schools and give the students a chance to hear live music, an opportunity that many children will never enjoy at that stage in their lives. Fourth, members of the Red Deer Symphony often mentor and teach aspiring musicians in the community. Just recently, one RDSO musician's student was accepted into The Julliard School, a prestigious school in New York that teaches music, dance, and drama.

If you would like to know more about the Red Deer Symphony Orchestra, please visit their website, <http://www.rdso.ca/>, or attend one of their Main Series 2012–2013 performances.

**A Response to the Article *Arts in Decline* resulted in
a Letter to the Editor of the Red Deer Advocate, October 10, 2012
and a call to Arms for all Artists and Arts Organizations!**

Arts Council exists to promote local culture

We were disappointed to see the headline *Arts in Decline* on the front page of the Saturday, September 29th issue of the Advocate. Just in time for Alberta Culture Days, arguably one of the most important weekends for discovering and celebrating the arts and culture scene in Red Deer.

We are the Red Deer Arts Council, an umbrella arts organization that seeks to advocate, promote and celebrate arts and culture in our city. We are musicians, performers and visual artists. We are authors and citizens who volunteer to make a difference in our community. Since we were neither interviewed nor mentioned in your article, citizens were left with the impression that there is no co-ordinated effort by any organization within the city of Red Deer.

This simply isn't true. The Red Deer Arts Council is a twelve member working Board overseeing five standing committees that act on various issues affecting the performing, visual, literary arts and cultural communities.

We have been an active board since the 1960's, under our original name The Red Deer and District Allied Arts Council, and were instrumental in helping to create many long-standing and successful arts organizations.

Today, we continue to proudly partner with other organizations, such as Red Deer College, the City of Red Deer through Culture Services and the Red Deer Public Library. We are responsible for curating the art shows at the Kiwanis Gallery, which is located in the lower level of the downtown public library.

We spread the word by sharing our member newsletter in the pages of the *Red Deer Scene*, which circulates 1100 copies to various locations throughout the city. We represent 109 arts organizations and individuals who on behalf of the Red Deer Arts Council volunteered over 1200 hours this past year.

We are the forum that was identified as needed in the city of Red Deer. We do exist, and we invite all arts organizations to join the Red Deer Arts Council in starting a meaningful and sustainable conversation.

Send us a leader from your group or cooperative and let us know what you're doing, what your challenges are and what your future aspirations look like. Let us unite in a common goal and passion and together we can help build a vibrant arts and culture community.

Scott Barnabé, Chair and the Board of the Red Deer Arts Council

RDAC Members: Come and join other members for a fun, fast-paced evening of "artscentric" conversation with our "Where's My Tribe?" Wine and Cheese Speed Networking Party on November 15, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; 4618 – 50 Avenue,

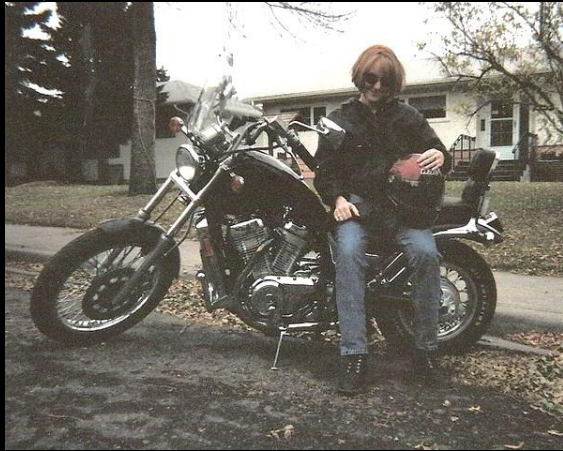
in the alley behind the Scott Block at Centennial Stage; Host Bar

Get to know each other and build connections in this lively speed-dating format.

Please R.S.V.P. by November 13 to Diana Anderson at
(403) 348-2787, so we may account for the refreshments.



I am the Arts



Melody McKnight, Executive Director of the Symphony, on her motorcycle, 2012.

I am a mother of two perfect boys.

I am a musician who loves to travel, read, and swim.

I am proud to be a part of the Red Deer community through my involvement with the Red Deer Symphony, Rotary Club of Red Deer, and The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Arts Awards.

I am proud to call Red Deer home.

Join me in discovering & enjoying the best our city has to offer.

Upcoming Kiwanis Gallery Exhibit Members Only Show and Sale: A Juried Exhibition

November 27, 2012 to January 1, 2013

Come and find that perfect, unique, one-of-a-kind art piece for your Christmas gift for that special person.

First Friday Red Deer: Opening December 7 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm



The View from the Chair by our member, Carol Nault

Red Deer Arts Council

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Thanks to the City of Red Deer for all their support through Culture Services!