



**Creating a vibrant community
that celebrates the Arts**

*Common Threads: In-Definite Arts Society
in the Kiwanis Gallery*

Red Deer Arts Council and Red Deer Public Library are pleased to present *Common Threads: Fibre by In-Definite Arts Society*, which runs in the Kiwanis Gallery from August 26 to October 19, 2014. Our First Friday Red Deer is September 5 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Refreshments served.

In-Definite Arts is a visual arts studio where artists with developmental disabilities create, exhibit and sell their incredible artwork. They promote opportunities for artists to express themselves and to grow and develop through their involvement in art. In-Definite Arts values respect, creativity, self-determination and community inclusion.

More than 150 adults with disabilities participate at In-Definite Arts. For these artists, visual arts present opportunities for self expression, communication and independence. For over 35 years, In-Definite Arts has inspired artists with disabilities to find their voice and share their talents.

Fibre art at In-Definite Arts includes any artwork where fibre or textile is the principle element. They define "fibre art" to include beadwork, crochet, knitting, dyeing, embroidery, felting, hooking, needlework, sewing, quilting, textile design, weaving and mixed media. For more information on In-Definite Arts Society, please call Roxanne Taylor, Instructor/Exhibition Coordinator at 403-253-3174.



Owl,
Mixed Media, 2008,
Amanda V.

Crazy Horse,
Hooked Rug, 2007,
Roma Schafer



First Friday Red Deer is sponsored by the Red Deer Downtown Business Association for Red Deer Arts Council.



Announcing our First Winner of the Emerging Artist Award, Alysse Bowd!

In June 2013, The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Distinguished Arts Awards and Gala was brought to Red Deer. As a result of this gala, a legacy fund was given to the Red Deer Arts Council to be used as seed money to continue building the legacy. The Arts Council subsequently developed An Emerging Artist Award awarded yearly. We are so thrilled to be gifting Alysse Bowd with the first ever award. As part of the award, Aly (as she is known) will also be asked to present a Pecha Kucha at a fundraiser to continue building the legacy. As she will be doing a Masters Degree in Fine Art at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design starting this September, our fundraiser will be announced at a later date.

Aly has provided us with a bit more information about her and her work:

"the more I laugh. . . the more I fill with glee. . . the more the glee. . . the more I'm a merrier me"

~ Mary Poppins

I believe that my work, whether being built or used, should make me the merriest me imaginable, and so I seek out the laugh in each of my pieces. I make light-hearted pieces that can be filled with the memories of their use. My practice combines delicate ceramics, installation and social performance with drawing and written narrative, in what I am beginning to understand as an attempt to fully realize an escapist world. A world in which I am the heroine.

I believe that bells have to be rung, lemonade has to be shared and that there is nothing like the surprise of seeing the contents of a covered sweet dish. I form sentimental attachments to everything, I romanticize the world around me and I am in love with clay, because it allows me to turn daydreams into reality. I am a graduate from the Visual Arts program at Red Deer College and the Ceramic Department at the Alberta College of Art and Design and I think the prairies are an awfully lovely place to grow up.

This fall I will become a first year Graduate student in the MFA program at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in Halifax, Nova Scotia. As an MFA candidate I will spend two years being constantly challenged and remolded, I will experiment, I will take risks, I will fail and in the end I will have evolved as an artist. I look forward to the challenges of the up-coming school year.

Although I will be studying across the country, I will be returning home to participate in the current exhibition at the Red Deer Museum and Art Gallery Once + Future: Canadian Contemporary Ceramics where I will be doing a performance piece, The Wishing Girl, incorporated into the reception on October 3rd, 2014. This same weekend, I will be installing an exhibition Between You and Me in the Untitled Art Society's +15 space in Calgary. Between You and Me will host two performances during this opening weekend and will be included in the Mountain Standard Time performance festival. In January 2015, I begin the year with an exhibition Dear Little Friends at the Kiwanis Gallery operated by the Red Deer Arts Council.

I look forward to the next year, the challenges, the discoveries and the world that seems full of potential!



*Loves-me-love-me-not,
Performance & Installation, 2014,
Keszckemet, Hungary*

*Where Daydreams Are Held,
Ceramic*

Both by Alysse Bowd



Carl Stretton: Interview by Annette Gray

Carl Stretton's handshake was real; the smile was real and the warm blue eyes sparkled with sincerity. We met at Red Deer's Velvet Olive, one of his favourite haunts.

Stretton is a musician who not only plays several instruments, but he's a mentor to other musicians. Through his reSound Promotions company, he develops and promotes musical talent and publishes the Red Deer Scene Arts and Entertainment Magazine.

Born in New York City to musical parents, Stretton was very young when he and his mother came to live in Edmonton. After his mother's second marriage, the family moved back to the States, where his stepfather was a physics instructor at Kenyon College, Ohio.

Stretton vividly recalls the Vietnam protests, the Watergate crisis and students being shot at Kent University. These events were so traumatic, the young lad was relieved to return to Alberta with his mother and two brothers following the death of his stepfather.

"Music has always played a huge part of my life," said Stretton. "I first learned to play the piano, then tried out on the violin and viola. But it wasn't until I discovered the stand-up bass that I really got into the swing of things." The youngster was small for his age, so the bass virtually towered above him. Stretton remembers standing on a step stool to reach the strings, but he loved the sound and the bass's role in musical entertainment.

After completing high school in Edmonton, the budding musician took music at Grant MacEwen College where he learned jazz. This further fueled his inherent musical ability, and he began playing in country-rock, western-swing and disco bands.

Despite his love of music, Stretton soon realized he needed other employment in order to feed his young family, so he enrolled in NAIT and trained to become an electronics service technician. This prompted his move to Red Deer where he worked in the Brick's Electronic Service Department for seventeen years.

"I worked at the shop by day," the former technician stated, "and in the evenings I performed at musical events, mostly playing bass. I accompanied solo artists and bands such as Phil 'n the Blanks and Shunda with the well-known musician, Guido D'Amico. I also played in many other bands along the way."

Currently, Stretton is playing with the Jesse Roads Band and hosts the Open Stage at the Velvet Olive on Tuesdays at 8:30 pm. In addition he provides sound at Fratters, fills in where needed at various venues around town and can be reached at www.reddeerscene.com

While we stood discussing his varied career, one of Stretton's fans raced up to shake his hand. Another loyal supporter gave him a hug and thanked him for bringing music to Red Deer. It is easy to see Carl Stretton has both talent and charisma, a combination guaranteed to bring him success in the world of music.

I am the Arts



Carl Stretton, left, on stage with the C-Note Trio, a jazz band that is one of his many projects, 2014



Carl Stretton, as most of us know him, smiling and friendly, and a member of the Arts Council Board, 2014

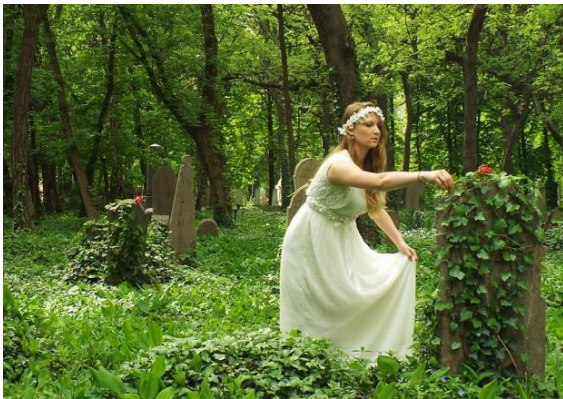
I'm a son, a brother, a father, a student, a friend and a neighbour.

I love trail riding on my mountain bike, being outdoors, gardening, enjoying time with my loved ones and the people in my community.

I am Carl Stretton.

I am proud to call Red Deer home.

Join me in discovering the best our City has to offer.



Our Award Winner, Alyse Bowd presenting *A Tulip, A Forgotten Grave and the Sound of a Whisper*, Porcelain/Performance/Installation, 2014, Kesckemet, Hungary

Check our website for all things pertaining to 2014 Alberta Culture Days!

Meet some of our Red Deer Arts Council members at the Red Deer Public Market throughout the season at booth number 81. They will enjoy sharing their passion for arts and culture with you.

Red Deer Arts Council
www.reddeerartscouncil.ca
403-348-2787
info@reddeerartscouncil.ca
Suite 110, 4818-50th Street
Red Deer, Alberta
T4N 4A3

Friend us on Face book:
<http://facebook.com/reddeerartscouncil>
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Thanks to the City of Red Deer for all their support through Culture Services!