



A thriving, vibrant community that celebrates and nurtures the Arts

Red Deer Arts Council and the Kiwanis Gallery, in partnership with City of Red Deer Culture Services, are pleased to present

SCALE:

WORKS BY MEMBERS OF THE RED DEER ART CLUB

running until December 18, 2020 in the **Viewpoint Gallery** at the City of Red Deer's Culture Services building, 5205 48 Avenue

First Friday Red Deer is not possible at this time.

Please see our Facebook, Instagram & Twitter pages for a virtual gallery tour.



Gallery Viewing Hours:

Monday to Friday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Full Moon
Watercolour/Ink, 2020
Margaret Downing



Canyon Light
Oil, 2020
Joan Clement



Business/Arts

In Memory of Diane Hermary
Diane left her failing physical form on November 26, 2020 but she is with us as the stardust that surrounds. ❤️

Two Fundraisers on Now!

We have a Guitarz for Kidz raffle at \$2/ticket with a prize of a handcrafted mahogany & cedar tenor ukulele from Gilmore Guitars and our Gas & Grocery Raffle! Both are giving away prizes before Christmas!



<https://www.reddeerartscouncil.ca/news/fundraising>



Artist's Laft: Norwegian Laft Hus is the hideaway home of Norwegian arts and crafts



The sod-roofed log building that houses the Norwegian Laft Hus Museum is hidden away in Heritage Square, at 4402 47th Ave.

After decades on the executive of the Norwegian Laft Hus Museum Society, Julie Macrae is still surprised at what a well-kept secret the little log building is.

"We keep trying to change that," says the husmor (house mother) with a laugh.

Located in Heritage Square, next to the Red Deer Museum and Art Gallery and the Recreation Centre, the unique sod-roofed building is the centre for Norwegian culture in Red Deer.

Macrae knows of no similar centre in Western Canada.

In any normal year, the Laft Hus (Norwegian for "log building") is a busy hub for classes in Norwegian art and cooking. They draw people from across the West to learn to make rosemaling or Hardanger (art), or lefse or krumkake (food).

"That's what we're all about: to share Norwegian culture with the public."

Even though the classes have been cancelled this year, the museum is still keeping its Wednesday winter hours. With a COVID capacity of eight people, there is usually a small gathering of ladies doing rosemaling or Hardanger each week. Rosemaling is the traditional decorative painting style of Norway. Macrae says she's still teaching a few beginners. "It's floral, and the painting strokes you do are always a C-stroke and an S-stroke, generally," she explains. "Each county or area in Norway has a different style." Most of the members work in Rogaland or Telemark style. Norwegians would rosemal just about anything in the house – including the house itself.

"In the old days they'd rosemal the ceilings, the walls, cupboards," Macrae says, noting that she has been painting some of the steps to the upstairs loft, destined for future children's programs. "Each year I paint another step. I'm trying to get other ladies to paint the ones in between, but so far I haven't had any takers," she laughs.

Hardanger, the traditional lattice-style embroidery, is also easy to learn at the Laft Hus, along with chip carving, bark carving and other art forms. "I always say if you can count to five you can do Hardanger embroidery," she laughs, explaining that there are five stitches in the basic kloster blocks. But it grows from there. "There's lots to learn."

The cooking classes would normally be quite busy as well, she says. Last year, she taught a class in making a variety of Christmas cookies.

"I had way too many people registered," she recalls. "It was all non-members, all people I didn't know."

Lefse, the traditional flatbread, is easy to make. The Laft Hus sells lefse as a fundraiser every year, but this year had to sell it online. Eight volunteers worked half a dozen grills right in the museum to meet the demand – although there is still quite a bit still left for sale. Anyone interested in buying lefse – or any other Norwegian items in the butik (gift shop) – can contact the museum or drop-in Wednesdays, 9am – 3pm until Christmas.

For more information, call 403-347-2055, email norwegianlafthus@gmail.com, or visit norwegianlafthussociety.ca.



Julie Macrae, husmor of the Norwegian Laft Hus Museum, has been rosemaling (a traditional painting style) the steps up to the loft over the past several years.



Rosemaling (flower painting) and other traditional Norwegian artwork and products are available in the museum butik (boutique, or gift shop).