



A vibrant community celebrating and supporting Arts, Culture, and Creativity!

Red Deer Arts Council and Red Deer Public Library are delighted to present

The 39th Annual Awesome Art Show

Student Artists from Glendale, Eastview, Gateway, and G.H. Dawe Middle Schools

running in the Kiwanis Gallery until May 20, 2024.

Sirens From a Distant Sea
Pencil, Markers & Pencil Crayons
Andrea Nalaunan, Grade 7
G.H. Dawe School



From Animals to Anime, to the world around them, Middle School students see the world with unique perspectives. What will catch their attention this year? This annual exhibit delights its audience with a variety of works expressing these young students' talents as they experiment with different subject matter and media.

#FirstFridaysRedDeer Opening Reception May 3 from 5:30–7:30 pm with student artists and school representatives in attendance.

Gallery Hours: Mon to Thurs 9am–8pm, Fri 9am–5pm, Sat & Sun 10am–3pm

The Red Deer Arts Council is pleased to present

Emotions of Fibre: Works by Erin Davis

in the Red Deer Arts Council's Community Gallery until May 27, 2024.

Expectations
Wool, wood, steel wire, copper wire, acrylic yarn
Erin Davis, 2024

#FirstFridaysRedDeer Opening Reception on May 3 from 5pm – 7pm with the artist in attendance.

Erin is inspired by the nature and people around her, both sharing her emotions and inspiring thoughtful introspection drives much of her art. Her unique approach of incorporating local fibres into her pieces showcases the essence and vitality of the fibre community in each piece she creates.

Gallery Hours: Mon to Fri 12pm – 4pm



Creative Happenings in May 2024

Celebrating 50 Years of Arts & Creativity!

In December 1974, the Red Deer & District Allied Arts Council became a Society in Alberta and in 2010, it merged with Cultural Development Association of Red Deer (CultureLink) and Culture Charter Partners to form the Red Deer Arts Council. Our local Community Service Organization has served Visual, Literary, and Performing Artists in Central Alberta for nearly 50 years, so we're going to take a year to celebrate! Subscribe to our Newsletter & follow us on Facebook & Instagram for all the upcoming festivities!



Summer Solstice Plein Air Painting Event! *Paint | Eat | Drum | Connect*

We are excited to host an exciting Visual Arts event on **June 20th** from 9am – 10:30pm at Kerry Wood Nature Centre & Gaetz Lake Sanctuary. This all-day event will feature plein-air painting within the Sanctuary, an Art show and sale and a supper of hotdogs and marshmallows, followed by an evening of drumming by a campfire! All are welcome! Register to paint or volunteer for this event at RedDeerArtsCouncil.ca/50th-anniversary.



SUMMER SOLSTICE PLEIN AIR PAINTING EVENT

Paint Eat Drum Connect

Thursday, June 20, 2024 from 9 am - 10:30 pm

Kerry Wood Nature Centre/Gaetz Lake Sanctuary



FUNDRAISER FOR THE RED DEER ARTS COUNCIL



Community Association Call! – 2024 In the Neighbourhood Concert Series!

Can you believe we're celebrating our 5th edition of our summer outdoor pop-up concert series? At least one cool thing came out of the pandemic! It's time to submit your name for the 2024 edition of the *In the Neighbourhood Concert Series!!!* Submit as a solo, duo for the series, but larger musical groups can submit for sharing with other event

promoters. Deadline to submit for this year is April 10, 2024. Full details can be found at:

form.jotform.com/RDArtsCouncil/2024-concert-series



Tree House Theatre is a Place for Youths to Stretch Their Skills and Connect

Young actors are creating their own scripted stories at Tree House Youth Theatre in Red Deer.

Artistic director Albertus Koett said every play that hits the stage is now collaboratively written by the young members of the company.

This change started in 2021 when the nine- to 17-year-olds were encouraged to submit their own scripts. Koett noticed kids were most enthusiastic when working on original material.

“There’s nothing like that available to youth,” he realized, while there were plenty of opportunities at school and with other troupes to act in already published plays.

Tree House changed its focus so youths are now learning the process of turning story ideas into scripts, which are then workshopped before being presented to an audience.

Not only does this do-it-yourself approach stretch the youths’ skills in a different direction, it prepares anyone who wants to pursue a theatre career. Koett said actors don’t have to wait for someone to cast them in a role. “You can create your own work — create the script and put on your own play.”

The company has partnered with the Alberta Playwrights’ Network to lay groundwork for future mentoring. Tree House Youth Theatre was founded in 1988 by former Red Deer Polytechnic theatre instructor Richard O’Brien as a training ground for young thespians.

Over the years the company with five staff and about 70 young participants had moved from RDP to Red Deer’s Scott Block Theatre. Following a collaboration with Central Alberta Theatre, its home has become the Memorial Centre.

Koett said classes are divided into three groups — ages 9-10, 11-12, and 13-17.

Koett notes many youths prefer the technical side of theatre, learning light and sound design, sets, props, costumes, and stage management.

As the loss of the Red Deer Polytechnic theatre program has resulted in a shortage of local theatre technicians, Koett hopes Tree House training will help fill this gap.

The company is also starting to offer youths a chance to learn film production. This idea sprang from the pandemic when gathering restrictions meant students acted on Zoom and parents watched them onscreen. Koett said the youths are quickly learning that acting for camera is much subtler than performing for a live audience. Scenes are not filmed chronologically, but there’s an immediate “pay-off” — performances can be

seen on re-play.

Trying-out new skills is always encouraged at Tree House, said Koett.

“It’s a safe place for kids to struggle and sometimes fail. They learn from failures and they don’t think that their work is so precious” that it can’t be improved with collaboration and new ideas.

While Tree House has gone through many changes, Koett feels it continues to be a place where youths can connect with each other and their community.

“When kids find their group and can open up... they are happier. You see huge confidence building.”

The Tree House One-Act Play Festival runs June 20-22 at the Red Deer Memorial Centre. For more information, please visit

www.treehouseyouththeatre.ca.



Young performers in the 2022 production of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, adapted by Albertus Koett. (contributed photo)