

ST. THOMAS-ELGIN
PUBLIC
ART
CENTRE

Summer 2024

Nick Johnson
cornfield cosmography
June 22 to August 10, 2024



"Almost all of my drawings since the 1980's, not counting the stones, have been done in cornfields, or rather, on the edges of cornfields. That is to say, up until 2007, the perspective represented in the drawings was usually that of someone looking at the cornfield from outside. But beginning in that year I moved fully into the cornfield, looking for openings where I could be surrounded, where there was nothing but the ground I sat on, and the sun, and the corn, in motion from any breeze, growing into the sky on all sides. From that time forward, the prevailing perspective of my drawings, as in these Cornfield Cosmography drawings, became that of someone looking from the center outward to the horizon in all directions. In the drawings, the cornfield becomes the whole world as it takes on the sun and the sun moves around it. This leaves the cornfield in many of the drawings looking like a bristling planet or island in the sky. Implicitly, at the center of this configuration, there is an outward-gazing person, and a few of the drawings focus on that figure".

Legacy of Faith: A Bicentennial
Celebration of Old St. Thomas Church

August 17 to September 14, 2024

Step back in time and immerse yourself in the rich history and beauty of the Old St. Thomas Church, as we celebrate its 200th anniversary through a stunning exhibition of historic artwork that captures the essence and spirit of this beloved landmark. Artworks in the exhibition have been graciously loaned to the St. Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre from members of our community, the Elgin County Museum, and from the Public Art Centre's permanent collection. A special thank you to Rev. Nick Wells for his collaboration on this project.



Join us Saturday, August 17th, 1:00-3:00 pm for the opening reception.

ST. THOMAS-ELGIN PUBLIC ART CENTRE
MEMBERSHIP 2024

Thank you to the following individuals, businesses, and organizations for the continued support your membership demonstrates for the St. Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre.

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Jane Armstrong	Marcia Pensa	Linda Maskell Pereira	Stephen Wookey
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Brad Boug	Jan Row	Denise Sutherland	Joanne Ferguson
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Martha McKillop Khan	Brian & Kathy Lyle	Jeff & Susanna Suchak	Development Board
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The above list is a current membership list. If you have not yet renewed for 2024, we hope that you will do so. For more information call 519-631-4040 or visit www.stepac.ca.

IN GALLERY 3

Raegan Little
Made in Canada

June 22 to August 10, 2024

Raegan Little is a multidisciplinary artist based in Waterloo, Ontario, currently focusing primarily on ceramic sculpture. After years of practicing law and raising three children, she took a leap of faith, returning to school to pursue her honours fine arts degree from the University of Waterloo (2022). She continually experiments with different media, and her love of reading, words, junk food (and occasional cocktail) often spills into her artwork. Raegan's goal is to spread happiness, light and humour into every piece she creates.



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CLASSES, WORKSHOPS, AND COMMUNITY EVENTS AT THE ART CENTRE

Kids' Summer
ART CLASSES

July 8-12, 2024
9 am to 3:30 pm
Ages 4-9 years Cost: \$200

July 15-19, 2024
9 am to 3:30 pm
Ages 4-9 years Cost: \$200

August 12-16, 2024
9 am to 3:30 pm
Ages 4-9 years Cost: \$200

All materials included. Advance payment & registration are required.

Kids' Summer
ART WORKSHOPS

July 22-26, 2024
9 am to 3:30 pm
Ages 4-9 years
Cost: \$200/wk or \$50/day

August 19-23, 2024
9 am to 3:30 pm
Ages 4-9 years
Cost: \$200/wk or \$50/day

All materials included. Advance payment & registration are required.

Between
the Boards



FIELD STUDY TO FINE ART

Many artists return to locations continually to try to capture the subtle changes in the landscape. In doing so, they document these settings and nuances and record the ever-changing and sometimes disappearing surroundings.
Clark McDougall was one such artist, and the interior barn paintings he created are, in part, the inspiration for this project. The other catalyst is an old barn located on Fingal Line and the countless memories it inspires in the owner of the property.
This turn of the last century barn is witness to a lifetime of memories filled with hay-wagon rides, cattle, horses, and tractors. However, the prevailing reminiscence by the barn's owner is always the captivating way the light looks spilling through the barn boards.
Join us on location to create field studies, sketches, notes (for future studio works) or en plein air work of the barn interior, exterior or surrounding landscape and wetlands. Enjoy the direct interaction with the subject and discern the subtleties experienced this way.

Between the Boards will take place **Saturday, August 10, 2024**
between 9:00 am & sunset (9:00 pm)

***Registration for this event is required**, spots are limited, and it is not open to the general public. Adults \$25/artist Students \$10/artist

The exact address of the barn will be given to participating artists at the time of registration.

Works created will be part of the *Between the Boards* exhibition at the St. Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre from April 12 - June 7, 2025.

The exhibition will be a juried exhibition and awards will be given to artists in each category.

For more information, or to register call 519-631-4040
or visit our website at www.stepac.ca

OLD ST. THOMAS CHURCH
ART WORKSHOPS

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Old St. Thomas Church, the Art Centre will be offering painting and drawing workshops that focus on this lovely, historic building. Participating students will have art created during these workshops included in an exhibition being held at the St. Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre from August 17 to September 14, 2024.

JULY 30, AUGUST 6 & 7, 2024
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

AGES 9-14 YEARS
\$30/DAY OR \$80/3 DAYS

Students can sign up for all three days or select the one that works best for them.



DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
AND DRAWING

Jump into a fantastical world of scenery and characters brought to life through drawing and watercolour. Each day, new imagined locations and characters will be explored and developed. Artists will also have the chance to create a deck of character cards to keep or trade with one another.



August 13-16, 2024
from 1:00 to 3:00 pm daily
Instructor: Julianne Bryans
ages 9-14 years
cost: \$75

Advance payment and registration are required for all classes & workshops.

“ 20 Reasons Art Matters ”

1. Art gives us a visual representation of the past.

2. Art provides social commentary on the present.

3. Art communicates in ways words can't.

4. Art informs, inspires, and persuades others to make the world a better place.

5. Art communicates our innermost thoughts.

6. Art brings people together.

7. Art tells stories, both real and imagined.

8. Art makes people feel good.

9. Art expresses dreams.

10. Art helps us understand ourselves.

11. Art provides a creative outlet.

12. Art embellishes the world around us.

13. Art memorializes people, places, and events.

14. Art helps us empathize with one another.

15. Art helps us design the world we live in.

16. Art makes us laugh.

17. Art makes us cry.

18. Art helps us show our appreciation for others.

19. Art is therapeutic.

20. Art is part of our everyday lives in more ways than we can imagine.

—Art of Education University

For these, and a hundred other reasons, we hope you enjoy art with us this summer!

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Summertime at STEPAC

Summer is a time for travel and getaways and also a time to welcome visitors. The St. Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre offers many reasons to stop by with friends and family. There is an excellent exhibition line-up that presents a uniquely local perspective and a wide range of artists, media, approaches and subject matter. Details and dates of the exhibitions are throughout the newsletter. Our childrens' workshops (July 22-26 and August 19-23) for ages 4-9 years old are one-day workshops providing a fun opportunity for someone visiting to get creative and try something new.

And then there's the Gift Shop!

A delightful spot to pick up one-of-a-kind gifts and keepsakes available at every price point. This summer there is a great selection of smaller items that are sure to appeal kids and the young at heart. As you begin to plan your days this summer, add the Art Centre to your list of places to explore.

Admission is free.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE ART CENTRE







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Thank you to the City of St. Thomas, the County of Elgin, St. Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre members, donors, grantors, and sponsors for their continued generous support.



ST. THOMAS-ELGIN PUBLIC ART CENTRE
301 Talbot Street St. Thomas N5P 1B5
519-631-4040 www.stepac.ca
Tuesday-Thursday 10 am - 4 pm
Friday 10 am - 8 pm Saturday 12-4 pm

