

## NEWS RELEASE 2017

### Collingwood Hosts Canada's Largest Children's Art Exhibition

Are you a young artist, or do you know one?

Canada's largest children's art exhibition is getting ready to accept submissions for a celebration that showcases artwork by more than 1000 children from Collingwood and Clearview each year. Celebrating its 23rd anniversary in 2017, **Magic of Children in the Arts** is held for two months in March and April at the Collingwood Public Library.

#### \*New for 2017- The Press Gallery Show

The grades 7 and 8 art exhibition is moving to the Press Gallery, across the street from the library to the Simcoe Theatre at 65 Simcoe St, Collingwood, ON

This opportunity will give your age group a more mature experience in a professional gallery setting.

We encourage all grade 7 and 8 students to submit artwork to ensure a robust exhibition at the Press Gallery.

A separate art opening is planned April 22 during the Earth Day celebration with entertainment and hors d'oeuvres.

The registered charitable organization's mission is to inspire and encourage children to create and celebrate art, not just by entering works in the exhibition, but also through online art activities on its website:

<http://magicofchildren.ca>

The online Fun Activities section offers a computerized sketch pad, an app to create amazing sandscapes and a site that lets you use your webcam to paint with your whole body. There are also many other art activities, art lessons and games. There is also a popular classroom project idea centre for teachers.

"There is something delightful about children's artwork - full of the joy, innocence, stories and interpretations of their world," says local artist Lory MacDonald, who founded Magic of Children in the Arts in 1994.

"The exhibit transforms the library into a magical art scene. Everyone marvels and loves this show. By acknowledging the children's creativity in the library gallery, we plant the seed for a lifetime of arts appreciation and participation. It is truly a wonderful event and we have tremendous support from the community."

For the exhibition, each piece of artwork is reviewed by professional artists and a prize of art materials is awarded to celebrate the unique talents of every child who participates. There are also free art workshops held at the Collingwood Public Library Jan 21, 28, Feb 4 and 11, 2017.

Drop off dates for artwork are Saturday, Feb. 18 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 19, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. All events are at the Collingwood Public Library. The professionally hung artworks are on exhibit during regular library hours from March 4 through April 28.

The Awards Day reception for Jr. Kindergarten – Grade 6 is April 8, 1pm-4pm at the Collingwood Public Library. Pick up your prize and celebrate! Music, snacks and activities. Open to anyone to attend.

The Awards Day reception for Grade 7 & 8 is April 22, 1pm-4pm at the Press Gallery, Simcoe St Theatre, 65 Simcoe St., Collingwood, ON (across from the library). Pick up your prize and celebrate! Music, snacks and activities. Open to anyone to attend.

Young artists who live in Collingwood or Clearview Township can enter the show on their own or through school. Jr. Kindergarten to Grade 8 students, home-schooled children and members of any clubs are eligible. Artwork can be mounted on paper, bristol board or matted, but not framed. Canvas is also accepted. Maximum size is 16x20 inches. Maximum size for sculptures is width 8 x length 8 x height 10 inches. Any media can be used: paint, crayon, pastel, collage, mixed media, coloured pencil etc.

Download an entry form and get more information at <http://magicofchildren.ca>

**For Additional Information or interviews:**

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**Photo and Web Editors:** Artwork images are available in the Media section online