

NEWS RELEASE 2018

The Magic of Children in the Arts in Collingwood Hosts Canada's Largest Children's Art Exhibition: March 6-April 28, 2018

Calling all artists aged 4-14 in the Collingwood and Clearview area.

Canada's largest children's art exhibition will be accepting submissions beginning in February. Magic of Children in the Arts showcases artwork created by more than 1,200 children from Collingwood and Clearview each year. In 2018 we will celebrate our 24th anniversary. The exhibition is held for two months in March and April at the Collingwood Public Library.

***New for 2018- Grades 7&8 to exhibit at the BMFA Art Centre**

The grade 7 and 8 art exhibition is moving to the BMFA Art Centre, 163 Hurontario Street, Collingwood, ON. This is an opportunity for this age group to experience presenting their work in a professional gallery setting. We encourage all grade 7 and 8 students to submit artwork so that they can take part in this opportunity.

The Magic of Children in the Arts 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 our website: <http://magicofchildren.ca>

The online Fun Activities section of the website includes 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; and a popular classroom project idea centre for teachers.

"There is something delightful about children's artwork. It is so 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. 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."

At the exhibition each piece of artwork is reviewed by professional artists and every child is awarded a prize of art materials in recognition of their unique talents. There are also free art workshops held at the Collingwood Public Library Jan 13, 20, 27 & Feb 3 and 10, 2018.

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 also 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.

Drop off dates for artwork will be Saturday, Feb. 24 from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday, Feb. 25, 1 pm to 4 pm., 2018 at the Collingwood Public Library. The artworks will be professionally hung and exhibited during regular library hours from March 6 through April 28.

The Awards Day reception for Jr. Kindergarten – Grade 6 will be April 7, 12pm- 4pm, 2018 at the Collingwood Public Library.

The Awards Day reception for Grade 7 & 8 will be April 7, 12pm - 4pm, 2018
at the BMFA Art Centre, 63 Hurontario Street, Collingwood, ON.

Both awards days are open to anyone, so families and the general public are encouraged to attend.
Participants can pick up your prizes and celebrate with music, snacks and activities!

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

For additional information or for interviews contact: Lory MacDonald 705-293-2787 / cell: 705-812-2914 /
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Photo and Web Editors: Artwork images are available in the Media section online.