

Notable AX
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Jane Simpson, Executive Director, AX

AX Youth Programs off to a great start – now taking daily registrations!

It's Friday and I'm writing this article in my new office, listening to the excited babble of kids in the workshop room – they're getting ready to show their parents what they've been working on in AX's youth program. The room is chock full of all kinds of arts and crafts that the participants have made throughout the week, guided by two of our summer students, Casey and Julianna, and our Arts Experts.

We started the week with Kelly Cooper, a writer, artist and teacher from Belleisle Creek – Kelly's project taught the kids how to create their very own Super Hero and to work together to build a Super Hero City, complete with roads and buildings. Tuesday's expert was artist and educator Shaun Chown, who helped the kids bring sticks and stones to a whole new Zen level with a fabric art creation, and then they got to work off some energy by taking a walk and enjoying a picnic lunch.

On Wednesday, musician, singer, director and educator Tammy Morris got the day rolling with a bang – a Readers' Theatre project that involved drums, maracas, singing and dancing. On Thursday, expert Bonny Hill, artist, educator, and performer (and an AX Board Member) led the kids in an illustrated book project, and she helped create a short film for today's final Art Exhibit.

We have a similar line-up of experts and activities for the next three weeks, and lots of spots left, so spread the word! We're also taking daily registrations for the weeks of August 7 and 14 – you can register for a full week for \$125, or by the day for \$30/day.

If you'd like to register your child (ages 7-11) for our youth camps, come into the AX centre, 12 Maple Avenue, during regular hours, Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Visit our website, axartscentre.ca for more information or call the centre at 433-8351.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 3, "Choice Cuts" – Open Mic Readings at AX, 7:00 p.m.

A reminder that our first Open Mic reading is taking place this week – whether you're a writer who wants to share your work or you'd rather just sit back and listen, all are welcome to attend. We're opening the gallery this Thursday, 7pm, and author Gerard Collins will be our host and help guide the evening. Readings will be under 5 minutes, and writers of all levels are encouraged to bring a selection from their original fiction, poetry, or non-fiction.

Our next Open Mic will be September 7, 7:00 p.m., with Beth Powning as host. Visit axartscentre.ca for more information.

August 6, 7:30 pm, Mark and Beverly Davis – Classical Guitar and Mandolin

At the time I'm writing this article, we only have four tickets left for this concert, so if you haven't purchased yours yet, be sure to head right over to AX or call us at 433-8351. Tickets are \$25.

Mark and Beverly have performed together since 2001, and have toured all over the world, including the *Festival Mandolines de Lunel* (France), *Eurofestival Zupfmusik* (Germany), *Festival Ciudad de Cristal* (Spain), the Sydney and Perth *FAME Festivals* (Australia) and the *Festival Internacional de Plectro La Rioja* (Spain).