

Notable AX
For KCR, September 26, 2017 edition
Jane Simpson, Executive Director, AX

It's been a busy time of firsts at AX this summer – we opened our building after renovations, launched our first exhibit, hired our first summer students, held our first summer art camps, and now we're heading into our first autumn in the space. The Beaverbrook Art Gallery's "Studio Watch: Emerging Artists" exhibit launched last month and we're hosting it until November 10.

If you're anything like me, when the fall solstice hits, it feels like a time for beginnings and getting organized, and the arts and culture centre is no exception. Two of AX's dedicated volunteers, Cathy Healy and Phyllis Corbett, have contributed to this organizational effort by reaching out to the community, and you've responded with your time and help.

To date, I've trained almost 15 volunteers to help run the front desk at the centre, and more are signing up. "Shifts" are for three hours at a time, and some people are choosing to volunteer for one shift a week, while others are offering one shift a month – every bit helps, and it's a busy spot and a great way to meet people in the community. If you think you'd like to volunteer on our front desk, please call 433-8351 or email info@axartscentre.ca.

What's Coming Up in October – Choice Cuts and Autumn Art Classes

Our "Choice Cuts" open mic literary readings are proving to be a great source of entertainment for writers and the wider community. These readings happen on the first Thursday of every month at 7pm, and each month, we're pleased to welcome new readers to the podium and new listeners in the audience.

Choice Cuts is hosted by a professional author each month – Beth Powning and Gerard Collins hosted the two previous events, and I'll be hosting the next one on October 5 at 7pm – join us at AX and Knocks Café for this fun, free evening. You can read a short excerpt (5 minutes) of your own original writing, or just sit and enjoy the offerings of others. We've heard from writers who've never shared their work before to authors who've published several books, and all genres are welcome. Writers have shared everything from memoir and poetry to children's picture books, a dramatic reading from a play, and excerpts from novels in progress.

Autumn Art Classes at AX, in our newly-renovated workshop room
AX is offering art classes for youth and adults this fall – adult classes start October 4, and youth classes start October 14. Details are at www.axartscentre.ca, and all classes require a minimum number of participants before they can go ahead, so please don't delay registering!

Adult classes by Melanie-Craig Hansford

Melanie is offering two classes this fall: "Learn to Draw," and "Art Journaling for Stress Relief." A graduate of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Melanie holds degrees in Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Art Education, and in 1982, she studied painting in Florence, Italy for a year. She taught high school visual art in Alberta and Ontario, and now lives in Erbs Cove. Classes are only \$80 for eight weeks (plus \$30 materials) and will be offered on Wednesday afternoons.

Youth classes by Jennifer Coburn and Martha Hallyburton

We're pleased to be offering youth art classes this fall by instructors Jennifer Coburn and Martha Hallyburton. Classes are only \$60 for four weeks, materials included, and will be offered for various ages: tots (age 3-5), kids (age 6-12), and teens (age 13-18).

Come in to AX at 12 Maple Avenue for more information and to register for our adult and youth art classes, or contact us at info@axartscentre.ca or 433-8351.