

# Synergy

Volume 3; Issue 1; Fall 2010

*Inspiring unity, joy and opportunity through the arts*

*The newsletter of Lake of the Woods Arts Collective*

## Change brings new energy and renewal

*By Kim Kahoot  
LOWAC co-chair*

*"Where the old tracks are lost, new country is revealed in its wonders..." Rabindrath Tagore*

Change. Our lives would stagnate and die were it not for the infusion of energy, ideas and opportunities that change can bring.

I am excited for the new chapter to be written in LOWAC's story. I am filled with curiosity and for all the coming events and projects a new chair will lead after our elections at the coming AGM. I am assured that we are on a path of wonders.

Arts and Culture is flourishing in our city. LOWAC has been avidly, optimistically laying the groundwork for more and more growth. Look around you. See the local young bands cutting CDs, the evenings of music and arts filling up the calendar. See the visual arts all around, in studio tours and in public exhibits. Look at the creation and wonderful collaboration that is happening around us right now. There are many more paths to explore, and many more wonders to unveil.

I feel fortunate to be part of a movement that is transforming our city, filling this already-stunning space with beauty, imagination, and with the light that comes from shared creativity. It is a joy to behold, this working together—this celebration of our gifts and talents. I thank everyone who believed in the idea of all arts working together to change the city's cultural landscape.

With the start up of any organization comes much hard work and learning, lots of hitting our collective heads on walls and lots of changing the attitude of "NO WAY" to "WHY NOT?"

Our first board was not only up to this task,

but rose above the call of duty—pushing the limits of what could be done, all the while having FUN doing it. We laughed a lot, we dreamed Big and we worked hard. I loved every minute of it. Thank you, all. You really are the BEST.



*Photo by Patrick Lessard*

Rory Stouffer, centre, a young, talented individual was presented eight hours of recording time by David and Deborah Caissy of DC Productions and Music Studio. Rory was the fan favourite at the DCPro Artist Search held at Harbourfest.

## Come to our AGM

**Please come to our 2nd Annual General Meeting  
Kenora Recreation Centre — Multipurpose Room  
6:00 - 8:00 pm  
Thursday, October 21**

Nominations for: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Visual Arts chair, Music Chair will close at 6:30 pm, Thursday, October 21, after which elections will take place.

If you wish to nominate someone, or yourself, for one of these positions on the Board of LOWAC, please notify our secretary, Holly Friesen, at [info@lowac.ca](mailto:info@lowac.ca)

Only Lowac members may vote for their choice of board.

\*Please note that memberships are \$25 across the board this year.

Renewals will take place during the AGM, from 6:00- 6:30 pm.

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# Synergy

is the newsletter of the Lake of the Woods Arts Collective (LOWAC).

Please send submissions to Elsie Neufeld by email at [eneufeld@kmts.ca](mailto:eneufeld@kmts.ca). For more information either email, or phone her at 548-8455.

*Synergy* reserves the right to edit articles for length, grammar, etc.

**Synergy: Increased effectiveness, achievement, etc., produced by combined action, co-operation, etc.**

## The LOWAC Executive

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### LOWAC Mailing Address

LOWAC

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Harbour Postal Outlet

Kenora ON P9N 4T1

# LOWAC changes membership fees

We are pleased to announce a change in membership fees this year. Effective October 21, 2010, membership will cost \$25 across the board. Anyone—young, old, artist or non-artist — can join now for JUST \$25!!

Annual deadlines for renewal will be posted. Those wishing to remain on our mailing lists to receive *Synergy*, news of coming events, or deals, and those

wishing to use membership cards for benefits, must send in fees by Oct. 21. Because of your support and participation, the arts keep growing and growing here in Kenora!

Please encourage your family, friends and neighbours to become members.

If you have any questions, please email [info@lowac.ca](mailto:info@lowac.ca).

## LAKE OF THE WOODS ARTS COLLECTIVE (LOWAC) MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

LOWAC would like to see Kenora become an arts city, connecting artists with artists and the community at large with those artists. To do this, we need your support. Whether you are an artist, a patron of the arts, or someone who wants to support this initiative, please consider becoming a member.

### Membership offers:

- Participation in LOWAC events
- Support to help access funding
- Networking opportunities with artists and those involved in the arts community
- Information and notices on events/job opportunities
- Inclusion in the Artist's Directory on the LOWAC website
- Visibility as an artist through LOWAC
- Workshop and educational opportunities
- Discounts on art supplies at several art supply stores

Future benefits, as they become available, will include tangibles such as access to a LOWAC facility, school credits/scholarships and more...

### Membership fees:

Member - \$25

To become a member, please send your fee payment to:

LOWAC

P.O. Box 10002

Harbour Postal Outlet

Kenora ON P9N 4T1

### PRINT CLEARLY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Corporation/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Artist/Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_

We are a not-for-profit organization and will issue a receipt for your membership fee. Please include your mailing address so we can send you a membership package.

For further inquiries, contact Patrick Lessard at [fossil@kmts.ca](mailto:fossil@kmts.ca) or website [www.lowac.ca](http://www.lowac.ca)

## Harbourfest

# New attractions have people buzzing

Harbourfest had another successful weekend in 2010. Two new attractions this year were the Community Art Mural and the DCPro Artist Search. Both were a hit that people were buzzing about them well after the weekend came to a close.

The Community Art Mural was spearheaded by Pippi Johnson, Kelley Morrell, Laura Cotton and Joyce Blyth. A project involved anyone who wanted to be involved simply by lifting a paint brush and putting a little touch of themselves on the 24 ft. x 8 ft. mural. Laura and Kelly employed their watchful and artistic natures to touch up the painting. The end result is pictured below.

A thank you to Home Hardware for its kind donation of wood, and a thank you to Art Partners for its generous donation of paint.



Kelley Morrell and Laura Cotton with the Community Art Mural, a new part of Harbourfest this summer.

*Photo by Patrick Lessard*

## Creating for a Cure



For the past three years, I have been creating and selling earrings for to benefit breast cancer research.

I started my creations in honour of my friend Roz who lost her battle to this terrible disease. I donate 100 per cent of the proceeds to a local charity.

This past year the earrings were titled Lisa and named after my friend from Kenora who beat the disease. My muse this year is my dear friend Mary who was told last month she is in remission. The earrings are titled "Hope" in her honour. She is a beautiful and lovely person and I feel these earrings encompass her personality. They are a small glass chocolate brown coin bead with a teal crystal bead on top. They are hung on sterling silver ear wires.

The proceeds from my fundraiser this year will be donated to the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation to help it purchase a new digital mammography machine.

The earrings are for sale at \$15.00 per pair. To purchase, you can contact the Lake of the Woods Hospital Foundation. The event is also posted on Facebook under Breast Cancer Earring Event.

I believe with all my soul that one day we will find a cure for this terrible disease and I also thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping me with my cause.

*Shannon Lucas*

## Coney Island Music Festival

# Love Ya Two Times Baabbbyyy...

Last year's inaugural Coney Island Music Festival was hard to top. But that it was — in so many ways!

First, literally, the stage was topped. Over the spring, the city of Kenora was busy constructing a water/sun proof structure for the entertainers, and had it ready for the Festival. It is a beauty!

Future events will be assured of a cool, dry venue. (And we KNOW there will be future events.) Thanks, Kenora.

The crowd was topped this year, too. It was two times the size, and with that came double the generosity. The Coney performers and organizers beat all expectations this year, with contributions to LOWAC doubling last year's event donations. Yes, that's right. Doubling!

Festival attendees dug deep and donated \$2400 to LOWAC and its education

*Photos & article by Kim Kahoot*



and music-based programmes. Half of last year's funds went toward helping a handful of local young musicians cut their first CDs.

On stage this year was one of the winners of this talent search, Ryan Van Bellegham. His rich voice, stirring lyrics and masterful guitar and harmonica playing demonstrated his potential to the crowd of about 450.

Young Kenora performers, The Freaky Green Beatles, local songstress Brooklynn Doran, and Kenora harpist Laura Scott also made this a day to remember. But that's not all.

What makes this such a special event in so many ways is the collaboration between Kenora and Winnipeg artists.

The audience was treated to a full display of talent and generosity by our neighbours to the west, Glen McCabe from Winnipeg Manitoba (Kenora summer resident), Bill Hamilton from Winnipeg Manitoba "The

Best of the Guess Who" including Bill Wallace and Donnie McDougall from the Guess Who along with Debbie Wallace, Deon Wysocki and Darcy Ura.

Kenora's own Patt Brett did an excellent job of closing the show.

The visual art pieces that surrounded the concert site were about double in number this year. LOWAC's volunteers did a super job of take down and put up, and sales and collections.

We thank our buskers, our face painters, and all the folks who worked together to create a memorable, fun day.

Stay tuned to see what great educational events we can create with this money.

We love you, Coney Island Music Festival!!



# LOWAC pitches in for Word Fest Fall 2010

By Elsie Neufeld  
Newsletter editor

When an informal group of local writers approached LOWAC about supporting Word Fest Fall 2010, LOWAC executive was eager to help out with the promotional and organizational bills.

"We're really glad someone is doing this," said LOWAC co-chair, Kim Kahoot, who is also a former journalist and author. Last week she announced LOWAC would support Word Fest with a grant of \$800. "It's time to celebrate our local authors. Like all the other artistic disciplines in the city, literary arts' time has come."

Word Fest happens on the weekend of Oct. 22 & 23 at Super 8's Minis Hall. It starts on Friday, Oct. 22, at 7:30 p.m. with Don Marks, Winnipeg author of *They*

*Call Me Chief: Warriors on Ice* – The Story of Indians in the NHL. The night starts with a showing of the documentary based on his book. Marks will follow the documentary with a talk and Q & A session.

Saturday is a full day, 14 hours of author-led presentations, panels, and readings. More than 14 authors, half of them local, will display and sell their books in the Book Market. They will also share their knowledge of the art and business of writing and publishing.

Word Fest organizers designed the event for both writers and readers. Those attending Word Fest will get a chance to meet writers and connect with the person behind the written word. The event invites novice or closet writers as well as established or experienced one,

and will be presenting the writings of emerging and seasoned artists. Publishing companies will also be represented.

Jake MacDonald, a long time seasonal resident and award-winning author of *Houseboat Chronicles* and the recently released *Grizzlyville: Adventures in Bear Country*, will wrap up the festival Saturday night.

Word Fest Fall 2010 grew out of a gathering of writers in June, where several in attendance expressed an interest in a festival for local authors. A rather modest idea took on a thriving life of its own.

"The original idea was to have just a one day event then it became a day and a night, then it became a night, a day and another night," said Rick Brignall, the local author who kick-started the idea.

Now there are 14 hours of programming set for the day.

News of the upcoming literary event was greeted with unfettered enthusiasm from writers in Kenora and beyond, as well as publishers. Several publishers will also attend to promote their authors from the region.

Word Fest is seen as an opportunity to promote the authors who have worked hard at their craft and are trying to break into the very difficult field of mass publishing deals.

"The authors at Word Fest represent the many other authors—the ones who make up the other 90 per cent of books in bookstores," said Rick Brignall.

These authors seldom have an opportunity to promote themselves and meet the public.

The Word Fest committee now sees that this idea has a lot of room to grow and could be another flourishing arts event in Kenora.

For program details visit Word Fest on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/WordFest/153711018002556>.

If there's a book  
you really want to  
read, but it hasn't  
been written yet,  
then you must write  
it.

Toni Morrison

**Word Fest** Fall 2010  
...a gathering of writers & readers

**Minis Hall, Super 8, Kenora - October 22 & 23**

**Featured Authors:**

Friday Night 7:30 pm  
**Don Marks**  
"They Call Me Chief:  
Warriors on Ice -  
The Story of Indians  
in the NHL"

Saturday Night 7:30 pm  
**Jake MacDonald**  
"Grizzlyville: Adventures  
in Bear Country"

**Tickets available at:**  
Johnson's Pharmacy  
Kenora Public Library  
Keewatin Public Library

**Evening events - \$10**  
**Saturday events - Free Admission**

**Saturday Activities:**  
9:30am to 5 pm

Free Admission  
Readings Author Presentations  
Book Market Youth Activities

**Authors:**  
Karin Adams (Fiction)  
Gloria Alcock (Memoir)  
Lil Anderson (Wildlife)  
Rick Brignall (Sports)  
Clayton Bye (Non-fiction)  
Elizabeth Campbell (Memoir)  
John Danakas (Sports)  
Kathy Gilbertson (Children's)  
Calvin Harasemchuck (Poetry)  
Hook'n Bullet (Outdoors)  
Chris Madison (Common Ground)  
Doreen Pendgracs (Travel)  
Chris Rutkowski (UFOs)  
Georgina Williams (Memoir)

**KMTS**  
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**Lake of the Woods Centre for the Arts**  
Charitable Corporation

**lowac**



## 2X2 for U “Wild” 2010 weathers wind

*By Laurie Dufresne,  
2X2 for U Chair 2010*

Was this the windiest summer on record, or was I just more sensitive to its “blusteriness” (new word!) knowing we had 52 “wind catching” pieces of lumber suspended from rather “delicate” frames for 5 weeks?

Thank goodness for cordless drills and 12” spikes! For those interested, when your hubby says “you won’t need those 12” spikes to hold those frames down, they’re good and sturdy”. Just smile and nod your head and do it anyway. It will prevent unnecessary grass stains on knees, aching backs, mosquito bites and splinters. Also, for those interested, spikes will hold the bases down in a down burst, but the vertical portion of the stand . . . not so much!

All kidding aside, I dare say that the exhibit was a huge success with many positive comments from the public, tourist bureau and city councilors (not just the ones who were related to me either!)

I am very excited to think about the future possibilities for the exhibit as it grows and develops over the years. I strongly encourage anyone who wants to help or share ideas for further expansion and development to get involved - even if you feel it is only on a small scale. I feel strongly that this is an important cultural contribution to our community that should be celebrated by everyone.

Good news regarding sales! Just to let everyone know the results of the exhibit. Nine of the 43 paintings available sold. That’s 20% of the available pieces.! As a result, our gross sales were just over \$1,600 – that is more than \$1,100 raised for LOWAC! Way to go group!

Many thanks again to all the participants and the many hours sacrificed by volunteers in order to make this exhibit such a success!

# A breathtaking Tuscan painting holiday

*Photo & article by Irene McQuaig  
Visual Arts Co-chair*

I’m back (sigh!) from an absolutely breathtaking painting holiday in Tuscany, Italy.

Authentic Adventures, the holiday organizers, were right on the bit: baggage tags arrived well in advance of the holiday, we were met promptly at the airport in Rome, we had beautiful accommodations in a wellness centre at San Quirico d’Orcia (some spa treatments included in our package), an excellent and very knowledgeable tutor [www.roger-jones.co.uk](http://www.roger-jones.co.uk), spectacular scenes and villages to paint, fantastic food, fun painting companions and way more wine than anybody really needs to consume!

Authentic Adventures, in addition to having an excellent instructor, also hire a local guide and Stefano, who is a bit of a gourmand.

He took great pleasure in introducing

us to the best cuisine the area has to offer. Every day he would set up a picnic lunch for us and we would sit in the warm Tuscan sun, overlooking breathtaking Tuscan vistas, eat amazing Tuscan meats, cheeses and pastas, and, of course, sip on Tuscan wine.

The painting portion of the day (yes, we spent a lot of time painting) was divided between group instructional demos, individual conversations and demos from Roger as we worked on site, and lots of time in mediaeval villages and countryside locales actually painting.

We ended most days with a review of our work and had a exhibit on the last evening, complete with champagne. Fantastic!

I highly recommend Authentic Adventures for anyone interested in combining holidays with painting. They also do photography and hiking holidays. [www.authenticadventures.co.uk](http://www.authenticadventures.co.uk)



Artists on an afternoon in Tuscany

## Festival of Trees theme set; participants sought

*By Jeanine DeGagne  
Treasurer*

The time is fast approaching to start production on the 2010 Lake of the Woods Charitable Foundation Christmas Tree.

This year’s theme is “Sounds of the Season”. As artists we are observers of our environment, our senses are heightened. When you close your eyes, what sounds stir your soul?

Do our musicians want to make a rock ‘n roll tree and maybe punk it out?

Do our visual artists want to create a natural tree with a focus on local flora and fauna?

Is there a wish to celebrate laughter, good cheer, loving kindness?

This tree is our tree. As a collective we have many talents, we have much to share. Let’s make this a wonderful tree.

Please reply to [e4jsimone@gmail.com](mailto:e4jsimone@gmail.com) or phone 465-4459 by October 22 with your intention to contribute. The 2010 LOWAC tree team will then decide on the direction and action to take for this year’s tree.

# KDFA syllabus available online

2011 Kenora District Festival of the Arts (KDFA) syllabus will be available this fall online at [www.kdfa.ca](http://www.kdfa.ca) - in addition to schools and libraries.

Events at the Festival include an exhibit of visual art, as well as performances in the classes of vocal, piano and other instruments, choral music and dramatic arts. The entry deadline for all categories is February 1st, 2011.

Details will be announced later this fall and will be available in the Syllabus. For more information on the visual arts portion contact Visual Arts Coordinator Holly Ann Friesen at [hollyannfriesen@mac.com](mailto:hollyannfriesen@mac.com) or 548-2098.

## Find us on the Web

Lake of the Woods Arts Collective events are posted on Facebook.

Check out all the discussions, events and upcoming meeting dates on our page!

How to do this:

1. Sign into Facebook (you must have your own account)
2. Go to their search engine.
3. Type in "Lake of the Woods Arts Collective".
4. Go to the Discussion Board, and if you wish, let us know what you think, what you are doing, send us your pictures and your event poster JPGs....

**See our website**  
**[www.lowac.ca](http://www.lowac.ca)**

Check out our members' pages, browse their art, and see our past events. Our meetings and workshops are listed there too, on the calendar.

## Jam Success

The Summer Jam at Anicinabe Park was a great success. The weekly jam was hosted by TA music students Jerry Ossachuk, Cam Scott, Peter Karle, Erich Warmbier and Cole Zabloski. Special thanks to Nancy and Larry Cruikshank for providing a venue for the students!



## Arts Events

### October 14 *Cantabile – The London Quartet*

Cantabile – The London Quartet, from London England, are noted for their performances of both the Classic and Comedy songs are very entertaining, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at Knox United Church. Tickets \$30 Students \$10. Tickets available at Johnson's, HoJoe Coffee & Books, The Blue Heron and Sunset Gallery. For more information and the complete season schedule visit our website [www.lowc.ca](http://www.lowc.ca)

### October 17 *Aché Brasil – Sunday Smiles Series*

Sunday Smiles Family Entertainment Series line-up:

Oct 17, 2010 – Ache' Brasil – "Brazilian Capoeira!, Music and Dance"

Nov 21, 2010-Mystic Drumz – "Marshmallow Island"

Feb 13, 2011-Splash'n Boots – "Wiggle, Jump and Music Jam!"

April 24, 2011-Axis Theatre – "King Arthur"

All performances are held at 2 p.m. at Lakewood School, located at 240 Lakeview Drive. Venue is wheel chair accessible. All children must be accompanied by an adult. All performances can be enjoyed by the whole family. Children 3 and under are FREE! Passports \$20 each (\$5 per show). Door Tickets: Adults \$10 Children \$7. Doors open at 1:30. Find us on Facebook! Or for more information contact: Suzanne Langlois 468-8570, Debbie Lockhart 548-2772, Molly Stouffer 468-5871.

### November 14 *Sierra Noble*

Sierra Noble, one of Canada's outstanding fiddle players will bring her talented group to Knox United Church at 7:30 p.m. Tickets available at Johnson's, HoJoe Coffee & Books, The Blue Heron and Sunset Gallery. For more information and the complete season schedule visit our web site [www.lowc.ca](http://www.lowc.ca)

### November 21 - 27 *It's a Wonderful Life*

Trylight Theatre presents this classic Christmas story. Tickets will go on sale in November. For more information call the TryLight office at 468-8224.

### February 9 *Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra*

Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra will return for another concert this year. This is the 50th anniversary season for the Juno nominated orchestra. It is always a big hit in Kenora. Concert starts at 7:30 p.m. at Knox United Church. Tickets \$20. Tickets available at Johnson's, HoJoe Coffee & Books, The Blue Heron and Sunset Gallery. For more information and the complete season schedule visit our web site [www.lowc.ca](http://www.lowc.ca)

### Every Wednesday night *Jam at the Cornerstone*

There's a Jam at the Cornerstone hosted by the House Band, The Cabo Cowboys, David Caissy, Sky Onosson & Darcy Ura. 9 p.m. - midnight. Adults only.

### Every Thursday night *Thursday Night @ The Hub*

Local talent and hot drinks Thursday nights in October. Come out and join the crowd or step up and take the spotlight. A sharing of stories, songs and poems. All abilities are welcome! The Community Arts Hub, 528 3rd Ave. S. For more information call 467-5262.

### Fall Art Partner Sessions

Everyone is welcome to join in, no matter what your previous experience has been. This is a great opportunity to try something new in an environment where judgement does not occur. At the Community Arts Hub, 528 3rd Ave. S. Contact Erin Zroback or Laura Cotton to sign-up at 467-5262.

Tuesday afternoons – 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. Oct. 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9.

Wednesday evenings – 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. Oct 20, 27, Nov. 3, 10.

Thursday afternoons – 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. Oct. 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11.