Art Gallery to hold first youth exhibition Todd McEwen

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NORTHUMBERLAND -- The Colborne Art Gallery is calling for young artists in Northumberland County.

The gallery is looking for entries for its first youth art exhibition. Some of the community's most creative ideas come from the minds and hands of young people, but the opportunities for them to present their art are few and far between.

So, Zoe Bergeron, 11, was motivated to see a different kind of exhibition for artists her age. The usual exhibitions held for youth typically follow an art lesson that feature pieces the artists produced during the lesson itself, she said.

"I wanted to do an art show where everything's different," she said. "And you don't have to follow certain rules like after an art class."

So, she made a proposal to the Colborne Art Gallery.

"I didn't even know she did it," her father, Rod, an artist and regular contributor to the Colborne Art Gallery said.

Zoe believes that children in her age



**Todd McEwen / Northumberland News** 

NORTHUMBERLAND - Zoe Bergeron, 11, is a young artist who is organizing the Northumberland Youth Art Exhibition at the Colborne Art Gallery.

group need an outlet to showcase their art. At her age, young artists are both developing and blossoming, so introducing them to the art landscape outside of a classroom is important for their future and the community as a whole.

The call for submissions is open to young people in Northumberland from grades 6 to 8 (ages 11-14). Any visual art media will be accepted within an 18-by-18-inch size for two-dimensional art. Any three-dimensional art should stay within 12-by-12-inch range. Digital art will also be accepted, because as Zoe's father said, the exhibition is meant to be as inclusive as possible.

"If we get, two, 10, 20 or 100, we're going to hang them all. I don't care if we have to hang them floor to ceiling," he said. "If kids want to show a sculpture, we'll show a sculpture. If kids want to show a painting, then we'll show a painting."

The exhibition will be held from May 28 to July 3. Parents, teachers and schools are encouraged to help their children and students submit artwork for the exhibition.

"We need to reach out to the young as it is they who in the future will be running the Colborne Art Gallery," curator Jillian Roos-Markowitz said.

For more information, contact Mr. Bergeron at 905-372-1167 or rod@studio3360.com.

## Shelter Valley's Community Concert series kicks off with Jonathan Byrd

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GRAFTON -- Jonathan Byrd and the Pick Up Cowboys launch the Shelter Valley Folk Festival's community concert series for 2016.

seventh-generation Carolinian, singer-songwriter Jonathan Byrd performs in Grafton on March 25.

Skinny as a rail, with a scraggly goatee, ochre jeans, a denim shirt and a straw cowboy hat bent just-so, Mr. Byrd is hypnotic in performance, according to a press release from the Shelter Valley Folk Festival. He is said to have a haunting voice, and perfectly crafted songs. Thoughtful, laconic and insightful -- he's knee-slapping funny too.

Yet he is serious enough about his work to know where he stands. He'll tell you that while he is very much a Carolinian guitar picker, as a songwriter he's more of a Texan. His albums, often recorded live off the floor with some of Canada's finest folk and bluegrass players, are as carefully fashioned and as emotionally rich as his songs.

Singing songs that run the gamut from truck-driving anthems, to laments for the agonies of slavery, Mr. Byrd is a journeyman just a hair's breadth from mastery. He's at a sweet spot in his career. He knows his audience, his instrument, his craft. The energy of youth mingles with the wisdom of experience.

Jonathan Byrd performs March 25 at the Grafton Town Hall.

Tickets: \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door

Purchased online: www.sheltervalley. com, or at ZAPS at King and McGill Streets, Cobourg.

Time: Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7 p.m.



Photo by Rodney Bursiel

GRAFTON - Jonathan Byrd and the Pick Up Cowboys play the Grafton Town Hall on March 25.