

Summer Art Camps At Latcham Gallery

By Cass Reimer

Kids and teens will spend the summer immersed in art-making outdoors and indoors, at Stouffville's art bunker and nearby parks.

The Latcham Gallery's art camp, which regularly sells out, is animated this year by three wonderful art educators: Noelene Byrne, Vanessa Perry and Shelley Painter. All have extensive educational and artistic experience, as well as a fabulous connection with kids. Each instructor offers her own brand of fun, original and diverse art education.

Vanessa Perry is a warm and patient teacher who understands what is important to children and how to engage them with art. This summer, her camp weeks will include projects such as drawing, painting, printmaking, hand-made books, puppets, mask making and clay sculpture. Projects will be inspired both by nature and historic masters of art.

Vanessa has worked in the traditional black and white silver photographic medium for many years, including hand-tinting processes. She has extensive experience teaching art and photography in schools, for galleries, arts organizations, studios and privately from kindergarten to adults. She has also been an art exhibition coordinator, juror and former director-curator for the Latcham Gallery. She holds degrees in visual art and education.

Noelene Byrne brings to her classes a tireless

energy and enthusiasm for working with the young, and a passion for the arts. Kids and teens enjoy her spontaneous, energetic approach as well as the rich depth of experience she offers. Her love of nature, photography and sculpture are reflected in her teaching.

Noelene has been teaching art for the past 18 years. In her own work, she has created sand cast sculptures, twig furniture, image transfer paintings and other mixed media works incorporating natural and found materials, integrating her post-secondary training in art and environmental horticulture.

Shelley Painter is originally from Stouffville, and currently teaches grade two throughout the school year in Moose Factory, northern Ontario. Shelley, who is returning to teach art camp this summer, brings a youthful energy and enthusiasm to camp. Her training includes degrees in arts and education.

Her artwork includes silk screening, painting, drawing and a variety of other visual art media. Shelley is also the illustrator of Freddy Freckles and Friends. She recently returned from a visit to Italy.

Sign up your child for camp today. For more information, call 905-640-8954, or visit the gallery's summer camp page at www.latchamgallery.ca.

Cass Reimer is education program coordinator at the Latcham Gallery



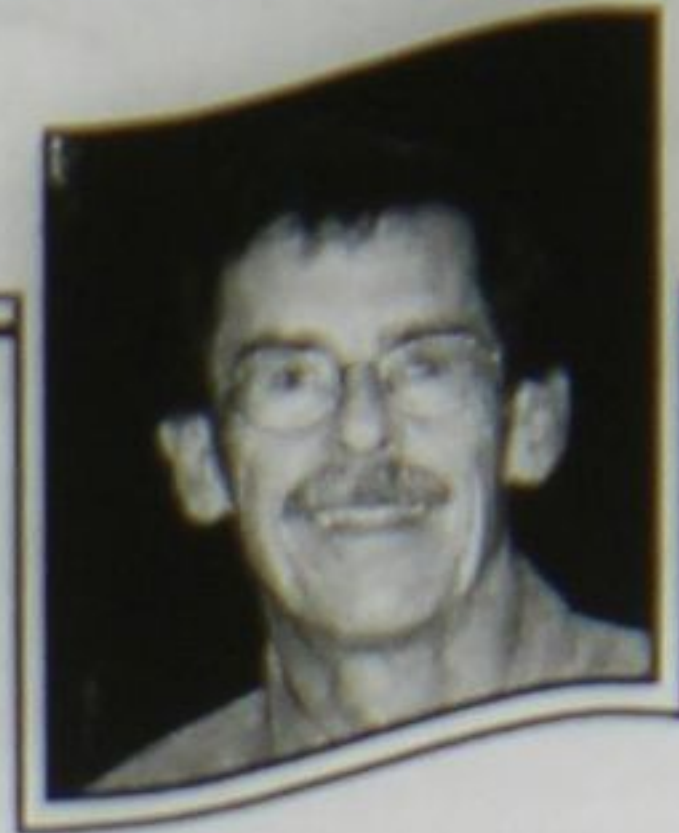
Students at Latcham Gallery's art camp enjoy a hands-on approach to their work.

On The Block

Ken Prentice and fellow auctioneer Keith Pike make preparations for an auction May 10 for the Estate of Howard Burton & Doris Burton of Claremont. Ken's family have been in the auction business locally since 1891.



Out in Write Field



A Wonderful Friend With A Heart Of Gold

By Bruce Stapley

I first met Suzanne Wallis when she was skit director for Music Mania back in the early 1980's. Pert, intelligent and creative, with a bent towards zaniness, she was perfect for the task. I remember how she got such a kick out of my serious, I don't want to be the one to screw it up approach to my rookie year as a Music Mania "actor".

We became friends, hanging around together with our spouses in a gang that included the ying and yang of Stouffville Town Council in those days, Bill Kamps and Jim Sanders, who would vehemently argue local issues in the Wallis kitchen on Saturday nights while the rest of us drank rye and got silly.

Suzanne would drop off books for my young kids from the publisher she was working for. A creative writer herself, she had several of her works published in Canadian magazines like Chatelaine. She enjoyed the political process, helped both Jim and Bill with their campaigning, and would go on to become the speech writer for Ontario Liberal cabinet minister Alvin Curling.

She had a heart of gold. When Margie Griffiths ended up severely disabled and in a coma after a brutal car crash in a snow storm in the early 80's, it was Suzanne who went to work organizing a network of local residents to take turns going to the hospital and, later, Margie's home, in an attempt to stimulate the popular Stouffville teen's brain through a process called patterning. Despite hundreds of hours of dedicated effort by dozens of volunteers, Margie died a few years later. But the town grew closer and Suzanne stood tall for her unending efforts on Margie's behalf.

Always a facilitator, Suzanne went to great lengths to patch up a mini-rift that came between myself

and Bill Kamps when I took what was meant to be a good natured shot at him in a column I wrote. Incensed, his daughter forwarded the piece to her dad, who had moved to British Columbia. Bill wrote a scathing letter to the editor of the paper, evening the score with a few less than gracious barbs.

When Bill visited Stouffville several months later, dear Suzanne arranged for the three of us to have coffee to patch things up. Bill and I ended up guffawing for hours in my kitchen long after Suzanne had left.

Suzanne invited Sue and me for dinner after she moved to Guelph earlier this decade, scurrying around to put together a wonderful meal. It was the last time I saw her. She died this past winter, the victim of demons which had been conspiring against her for some time. We had chatted briefly around Christmas, and I had said I'd call her back. I never got around to it.

After hearing of her death, I went to my files and pulled out the lengthy, kind-hearted critique she had given me concerning an article I had once written as a potential magazine piece. It was filled with compliments, constructive criticism, and encouragement. It's all I have to remember Suzanne by.

She will be sadly missed.

The world welcomed Max McDowell into its midst the evening of April 24. The son of first time mother Heather, and Stouffville optometrist Martin - whose daughter Jocelyn attends university in Montreal - little Max was born weighing seven pounds five ounces.

Congratulations and well done!
"Where did you come from baby dear?"

Out of the everywhere into here."
George MacDonald.

UXBRIDGE AREA

This unique property has it all !
A 5 bedroom home, 3000+ sq. ft. on 115 Acres, 2 out buildings, heated & A/C workshop/studio - 4800 sq. ft + 3500 sq. ft. storage unit. Rolling land with pond.

Viewing by appointment only.

A MUST SEE !

JOHN POLLARD

RE/MAX ALL-STARS REALTY
905-477-0011 • 905-640-3131

View more photos on
www.johnpollard.ca

