

Vintage Whine

Access Denied



By Kate Gilderdale
Stouffville Free Press

Although I am a confessed Apple junkie who stood by my brand even after the hard drive crashed last year – taking with it a vast collection of photos and other stuff I've had to learn to live without – my loyalty to the Mighty Mac is being sorely tested by current password requirements.

Back in the day I had two all-purpose passwords I used for everything, even though sternly cautioned not to by faceless cyber geeks. Then I got an iPod Touch which was magically linked to my iTunes account and that's when the password storage folder in my brain started to seriously unravel.

Whenever I tried to download an app, I kept getting messages saying my user name or password was incorrect. After several futile tries I caved in to the suggestion that I should reset my password. My first few attempts were given short shrift by the Apple police because they were judged to be weak and pathetic, an inevitable result of choosing something I would be able to remember for more than 30 seconds.

If you think your boss is a control freak, try configuring a new password on a Mac. An automated response, reminiscent in tone of a boot camp commander, makes it clear that it regards you as a hopeless Luddite.

"Passwords must be at least eight characters, including a number, an uppercase letter and a lowercase letter," it snaps. "Don't use spaces, the same character three times in a row,

your Apple ID, or a password you've used in the last year."

I have become so paranoid that I worry about writing my passwords down, in the event that someone breaks into Chateau Gilderdale, figures out my dishevelled filing 'system', copies down the illegible scrawl of a thousand discarded passwords, and tries to log into my account and steal my identity. Frankly, with the way technology is going, they're welcome to it.

I'm so old I can remember when they simply sent you a polite email reminding you of your current password. Now, even after you've gone through the 'we don't believe you are who you say you are until you prove it' questionnaire, you are no longer given leave to keep the old one. Instead you must come up with something even an elephant would forget before they'll let you interact meaningfully with your own, massively expensive, personal device, which will be obsolete by next Wednesday in any case.

So I write my plethora of passwords down in a notebook, which I carefully put in a safe place and promptly forget where the safe place is. It's a genetic thing, passed down to me by my mother. Once upon a time she put her favourite jewellery away in a safe place and didn't find it until about 20 years later, rolled up in cloth cap which had belonged to one of my brothers during his 'what about the workers?' phase.

One thing is certain, I may no longer be able to use my iPod Touch for downloading apps, but I can rest easy in the knowledge that my information is secure from anyone wanting access to my account. Including me.

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Impressive Turnout For Juried Exhibition

By Chai Duncan

On April 14, The Latcham Gallery opened its Annual Juried Exhibition to a near record turnout.

Our jurors, James Campbell, Marlene Hilton Moore and Greg Murphy spoke eloquently about the works they had chosen for the show. We had 117 artists submit over 200 works of art, with 31 works by 27 artists being selected. Cash awards for artistic excellence were given out to Celleste Keller, Michael Zarowski, Charles Choi and Daniel Colby. We will also present \$100 at the end of the exhibition for the People's Choice Award winner, so visit the gallery before May 26 to place your vote.

The overall range of technical, conceptual and esthetic concerns addressed by this year's artists reflect the diversity in our community and show an inspiring breadth of talent. We had submissions from as far away as Barrie to the north, Port Hope to the east and London to the west. Five artists are from Stouffville: Malgorzata Pienkowski, Vicky Talwar, Patricia Pidoux, Sara Moffatt and Adubi Akinola.

Our Juried Exhibition could not have happened without our fantastic army of volunteers. A big thank you to all and to Stouffville IDA for their generous sponsorship. The Latcham Gallery Annual Juried Art Exhibition runs until May 26.

Chai Duncan is curator at The Latcham Gallery

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