

# Stouffville Free Press

Vol. 2, No. 11

Whitchurch-Stouffville's Independent Community Owned Newspaper

October 2007

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## Local Artists Prepare For Studio Tour

By Kate Gilderdale • Stouffville Free Press

Whitchurch-Stouffville's seventh annual Studio Tour and Sale takes place Oct. 13 and 14 and features an eclectic and fascinating selection of work by 34 accomplished local artists and artisans.

The self-guided tour covers 24 locations, of which 17 are within walking distance of downtown Stouffville. From pottery, stained glass and jewellery to wood block prints and paintings in oil, acrylic and watercolour, this fall weekend event is a wonderful opportunity to discover unique local artwork and explore the neighbourhood.

Artistic talent runs in the Bullock family, and mother and daughter Diana and Allison Bullock will both be featured on the tour. "My background includes workshops in watercolours, acrylics and mixed media," said Diana. "The beauty, simplicity and Zen quality of Sumi-e (Japanese brush painting) led me to study the Nagna style at the Japanese Cultural Centre."

She also developed Art for Communication, a program designed to help adults with aphasia, a condition which affects communication following strokes or brain damage. Diana uses the program, which encourages self-expression through drawing and painting, in her work with clients at the York-Durham Aphasia Centre on Ninth Line.

Allison Bullock grew up in Stouffville and is now a high school teacher in York Region. During her post-secondary education she worked at the Latham Gallery, and she has completed a number of studio courses in drawing, painting and sculpture.

When she was four years old, her mother enrolled her in ballet classes in Stouffville. "The lessons that I learned with Michele Green at The DanceCentre pervade many aspects of my life, including my artwork," said Allison, who continues to study ballet in Markham and whose work reflects her passion for dance.

"Art is something that I have always done. When I was younger, my dad would bring home stacks of scrap paper from work and I would draw horses in lieu of watching television," she noted. "My art is more diverse today, but I believe all of my practice drawing horses did pay off."

Visitors are invited to enter a free draw for a certificate worth \$200 towards the purchase of one of the participating artists' work. You can fill out one ballot at each location, so the more studios you visit, the better your chances of winning.

Brochures and maps are available now at the Stouffville GO station and For the Love of Jo Coffee House, which features the work of a different local artist every month throughout the year. For more information on the tour and participating artists visit [stouffvillestudiotour.com](http://stouffvillestudiotour.com) or call 905-642-1721.



Diana Bullock is a versatile artist who works in a variety of styles and media, as these two works, Arctic Night and Grapes, illustrate.



Sandra Cole-Burke works on her wood block printing in a recent demonstration in the Latham Gallery building on Main Street. Sandra's work will be on display in the Stouffville Studio Tour and Sale, which takes place Oct. 13 and 14.

Art and ballet have inspired Allison Bullock since early childhood and she combines her passion for both in this beautiful painting.



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