



ELORA FERGUS ARTS COUNCIL

# COMMUNIQUÉ

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Spring 2021

## A NEW LOOK FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

For the first time in many years the banner of Communique has changed. It reflects our revised, more inclusive name: Elora Fergus Arts Council. It incorporates EFAC's new Logo, designed by Shirley AI, and enthusiastically adopted by unanimous board members. We hope you like it !

A special member's logo has also been designed, for use of members on their web pages.

All this shows that we are moving ahead with our name change. It takes a while to put all the pieces in place. But it reflects our mandate and commitment to work for all artists of Centre Wellington, providing opportunities and support.

Member groups can have space on our EFAC webpage (also designed by Shirley AI), and members are on our communications list.

It is our plan to also launch an online newsletter for more immediate communication with members, even as we continue this printed quarterly newsletter, which is later put in the county archives.

## IN MEMORIAM

### Dorothy Collin, Ceramic Artist

We say farewell to our long time EFAC Board member, Dorothy, who died May 9, 2021.

Dorothy was Profiled for Communique in 2002. In the interview she avowed her burning desire to create. This passion she explored through quilting, knitting, and sewing, but mainly through pottery. The stone buildings of Maplecrest Farm housed the pottery studio where Dorothy spent many hours, and was visited at Christmas by fans at her annual Open House or on the Studio Tour.

Dorothy had a degree in Home Economics from the University of Guelph. Pottery was her chosen creative media. She took many courses over the years at art schools, including Sheridan and Haliburton. A highlight of her life in pottery was a trip to Japan during which she was invited to visit studios of ceramic artists. Their attention to detail and luminous glazes remained a major influence on her work.

Dorothy was a member of Fusion, the Ontario Clay and Glass Association, and a founding member of the Mississauga Potter's Guild. Dorothy never said no to a challenge. We will miss her as a link to Studio Tour and a steady supporter of all the programs and undertakings of EFAC.

## An Artists' Picnic

**EFAC Picnic in the Park – Time to reconnect**  
**Save the date – Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon**  
**in Bissell Park.**

It has been a long period of avoiding groups and social contact. We feel we can now safely host an outdoor gathering in late summer to connect, socialize and share our stories, some fun croquet, music, and catching up with friends in an outdoor setting that lets us manage distancing if needed.

We will have some easels there if anyone wants to display their work. You may wish to plan to do a little plein air painting while we are there. We plan to use the picnic shelter for the display area.

Bring your family, your own picnic fare and your own chairs, but we will supply lemonade, iced tea, and cake. A food truck or two will be on hand as well.

**Stand by for more details – this is a free event.**

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## ARTISTS ROUND TABLE COVID-19 SURVEY

### *A Selection of Responses from Businesses & Not-for-Profit groups*

We have shifted our focus for the next three months - we are closing the gallery and artisan shop for a student support project. We are entirely focused on how we can serve the community needs in a creative way.

The pandemic forced us to learn how to produce events online and this has helped us reach a broad international audience. Moving forward, we know a digital / livestream presence will always be a part of our strategic plan, in addition to live performance.

We are dead in the water until the indoor gathering limits are lifted. That will not happen until there is widespread herd immunity to the virus. That is the only thing that we really need.

We are struggling. Parents do not want to bring their children to dance out of fear even though our covid protocols are safer than schools, retail, etc. We were closed from March 2020 to Sept 2020 with no ability to be in our building though we were still required to pay rent. The rent subsidy offered now is not retroactive. We have lost revenue we have no way to gain back when things return to normal. Arts are so important for the community and in our situation for the children. The lack of understanding of what we do has put us in the very real position of not being able to be a part of the community much longer.

Our role as an advocate and promoter for artists, other arts organizations, art shows and events has been impacted by the shut down of most events.

We continue to engage our membership through online performances.

# PROFILE



## Rosalinde Baumgartner- Visual Artist

Rosalinde Baumgartner is an artist who has long graced the art scene in a broad geographic area from her studio on the farm near Belwood. A versatile visual artist, accomplished in sketching, painting and printmaking, Rosalinde has more recently focused on clay sculptures. The clay of her creations is a touchstone of the earth which holds deep significance for her. It also focuses her work on realism and expression through the human body. An online catalogue of her work is witness to her focus on the human form.

Rosalinde's early life was as a Swiss Austrian citizen, through her parents' two nationalities. During difficult and unsettling years during the war, spent in Switzerland, Rosalinde lived mostly on a farm. After the war the family returned to Austria, but everything was lost.

Rosalinde came to Canada in 1961, and, in 1963 came to Guelph with her husband Norbert who had worked on a dairy farm and registered to get a diploma in agriculture at the University of Guelph. Eventually Norbert taught at the Agricultural College and the couple, with their three sons, moved to the farm near Belwood, where they live today.

At first Rosalinde took evening high school courses to improve her English. Through her mother, who was a teacher and was always painting, she was drawn to the visual arts and began taking various art courses. Soon she embraced the opportunity to take a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at the University of Guelph, which gave her an introduction to a broad variety of media, studying under Walter Bachinski, who had a long and distinguished career as a printmaker, sculptor and painter and who retired from the University in 1993.

Rosalinde's early involvement with Elora came through her engagement with Corbett Gray's studio on Mill Street East around 1975. She had first met Corbett in Guelph at the studio of P.D. Wolfond, Corbett's Studio on Mill Street held weekly sessions with a live model, under the guidance of Gray, an accomplished artist and teacher. This

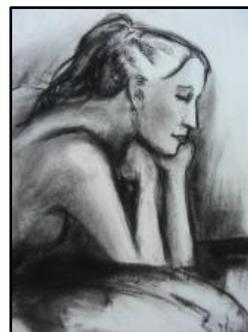
was a legendary and fondly remembered time for art in Elora, with among other attendee, Jim Reed, Karen Bach, Gerry Bosch, Ken Hewitt, George Todd. Meeting twice weekly, they sketched and painted local models, talking of new influences and developments when the work was done.

Many awards, exhibitions and solo shows followed a degree in Fine Arts for Rosalinde in the succeeding years. At the farm, she created a personal studio space in an outbuilding, painting in oil and adapting some paintings to prints. Printmaking held a strong interest for this artist and the addition of a Praga printing press to her studio provided flexible media to fulfil her creative vision. She studied lithography with Otis Tamasauskas, and at Open Studio, Toronto, as well as St. Michael's Printshop, Newfoundland, eventually teaching print making at the Springbank Art Centre, Mississauga.

In the 90s Rosalinde took a studio space at William's Mill, a popular centre near Georgetown, where 32 artists gathered and worked. By 1998 Rosalinde was in touch with the medium of clay sculpture, exhibiting her drawings in conjunction with the sculptures of Hanna Boos in the show 'Gentle Reflections', at the Williams Mill Gallery, in 2000.



In recent years Rosalinde has come to find the three dimensions of sculpture most satisfies her desire to portray the beauty and emotions of the human form. Sketching classes with Nancy Farrell led her to the Guelph Sculpture group where Nancy, a professional ceramic artist, sometimes taught. Her favourite clay is black, and she draws inspiration from the poses and portraiture of the live model at the weekly sessions.



Rosalinde started the Hills of Erin annual studio tour and has participated at the Alton Mill, the Paul Morin Gallery, the Barber gallery and the Headwaters Art festival, to name a few.

In recent years Rosalinde has taken part in the Elora Sculpture Project, the yearly juried exhibition on the streets of Elora and Fergus from May to November. Her studio houses a kiln, and she frequently sculpts with Marlene Kawalez and at the Guelph group on Wednesdays.

She exhibited internationally in 1992 in the *show Swiss Art, 12 Artists From Canada 1992, Basel Switzerland*, In 2007 she was awarded the first prize for sculpture at the Mississauga Annual Juried Show.

Of her work, Rosalinda writes: "Sculpture is a fairly recent development for me. Painting, sketching and printmaking are my first love, it is hard to say what is more to my liking. These disciplines complement one another.

My work concerns itself with the human form. I use clay to sculpt, a kiln to fire and finish. Most of the pieces are the result of study sessions with a live model. First comes the challenge to find the right pose. What should it say? Then to decide how large should it be, what clay to use, should it be coil built or hollowed out? So each one becomes a unique expression of all those deliberations. There is joy in the construction."

<http://www.artevoke.com>

**Interview: Beverley Cairns**

## THE PATHS THAT CONNECT US

The Elora Centre for the Arts (ECFTA) is planning to transform their 2-acre greenspace into a vibrant gathering space that encourages community connection and creativity, celebrating the paths that connect us – to each other, to nature, and to our neighbourhoods. The project will include an outdoor art gallery pathway, showcasing sculptures, murals, and rotating outdoor art. The project includes the permanent installation of 2 outdoor sculptures – we are looking for submissions!



Members will receive renewal notices for the annual date on which they join.

## Annual Membership

Application/Renewal

Please print. Make cheques payable to:  
The Elora Arts Council,  
P.O. Box 3092  
Elora, ON., N0B 1S0

Or become a Member with payment through our website

[www.eloraartscouncil.ca](http://www.eloraartscouncil.ca)

- Artist (\$20)  Individual (\$20)  
 Family (\$30)  Groups (\$30)  Youth (\$10)

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

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

Tel. No: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- I am interested in working as a volunteer at EAC events, or being part of a committee.

These are my particular interests:

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### ELORA FERGUS ARTS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE 2020- 2021

Chair: Barbara Lee

Vice Chair: Mary Anne Dalkowski

Secretary: Susan Thorning

Assistant Secretary: Louise Dench Beney

Treasurer: Linda Lane

Membership: Linda Lane

Projects: Natalie McDonald, Melanie Morel  
Claudia Lambert, Beverley Cairns

Meetings of the Board generally take place the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. Members are encouraged to attend meetings.

For location or Zoom meetings, please phone 519 846-0556.

## Bring us your project proposals

BE ASSURED YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

## MUSIC AT THE COUNTY MUSEUM

What better way to enjoy summer weather than by listening to music while eating some good food. The Wellington County Museum is celebrating the summer through our annual Concert Series, but this year will look a little different! Each Thursday night through July and August from 7:00pm - 8:00pm we welcome you to the paddock beside the Historic Barn. Bring your own lawn chair or picnic blanket to enjoy the music. If you would like a bite to eat, during registration you can purchase a pre-packaged meal made by a local restaurant that you can pick up when you arrive at the concert. Register early to avoid disappointment!

**Registration is required. Regular ticket price \$10.00, additional cost with pre-packaged meal. <https://www.wellington.ca/en/discover/mus-summer-concert-series.aspx>**

## ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

Most of our exhibition venues are presently closed.

**GREG OAKES' LAW OFFICE WINDOW-opposite Elora Library. AS EVER, OUR THANKS TO GREG OAKES FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.**

<b>Mid May-June:</b> <b>Carolyn Sharp:</b> Abstract canvases of the play of colours.	July 1 to August 1 <b>2020:</b> The new art of <b>Grayce Perry</b>
June 1 to July 1 The fanciful Bird houses of <b>Graeme Chalmers</b>	Aug 1 to Sept 1: The photography of <b>Andrew Knight.</b>

## Remember ! "LOCAL ART FOR LOCAL WALLS"

The Elora Fergus Arts Council has joined the regional on-line site for the sale of visual arts. EFAC members may exhibit their work for sale online. Information and applications are available through our EFAC website. A few of our artists are now listed there, but many more should take advantage of this online opportunity.

Categories for the visual arts are:

Ceramics/Glass Functional Art Painting Abstract Painting places	Drawing Mixed media Painting people/things Photography	Fibre Art New media/Digital Art Print making Sculpture
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Up to 20 images may be exhibited by an artist for the cost of \$60. A five person jury curates submissions.

***Elora Fergus Arts Council is seeking a volunteer who will provide dedicated mentoring and monitoring to the LAF programme for our members.***

## FAREWELL, DEAR TROUBADOUR

Dave Wilcox, who brought his lyrical talents to the streets of Elora, leaves a large gap in our music world with his passing. He sang his huge repertoire of folk songs in our meeting places and streets, played the guitar, and built instruments. With the coming of digital photography, Dave became a subtle interpreter of the landscape around him; his photos appeared several times on posters for the Elora Festival and prints of his landscapes record Dave's photographic excellence in the Wellington County Archives.

### INSIGHTS

Natalie McDonald, Chair.

Every year a dedicated group of volunteers brings together the Insights Juried Exhibition of Fine Art. Currently, we are seeking new committee members to join our team. If you are interested in learning more about the exhibition and how you can be involved, contact [insights@gmail.com](mailto:insights@gmail.com) for more information.

### THE MURAL by SANTE'S, Elora

In the summer of 1987 Eileen Pedersen & Judy Brillinger were talking outside Judy's paint store and Eileen said she wanted to paint a mural on the side of Little Katie's, a variety store where Sante's is today. Eileen had seen murals in various towns she had visited and wanted to do something to promote Elora, making the whole wall 'bright, loose and fun' and have the history flow with the river.

However, Eileen had to leave for a couple weeks and when she returned, Judy had painted the border and started the medallions of events & features.

Gerry Bosch helped, painting the upper images from a scaffold, Eileen painted most of the lower wall area.

Judy provided paint and Gerry & Eileen brought brushes and other supplies. Eileen told Ken Taylor, owner of Little Katie's, that she was going to paint the mural. Taylor didn't even look up from his news paper and said OK!

### ELORA COMMUNITY THEATRE

#### Kudos for a great summer programme, ECT!

There are currently 120 subscribers to ECT's Virtual Playhouse

##### Summer Theatre:

**Red Plaid Shirt** at Elora Centre for the Arts outdoor tent: July 29-Aug1.

**A Midsummer Nights Dream** in Bissel Park,

August 20th – 8:00pm, August 21st – 3:00pm & 8:00pm, August 22nd – 3:00pm & 8:00pm, August 27th – 8:00pm, August 28th – 3:00pm & 8:00pm, August 29th – 3:00pm & 8:00pm. With a huge cast. What an ambitious program!

Go to the ECT website to find a link to performances.

<https://www.eloracommunitytheatre.com>

#### E ORA: a new literary magazine from the heart of Elora.

Deadline for Submissions: August 31 2021.

I am excited to write to you about E ora. My name is Racheal Walser, I was one of small group of writers and artists that came together in 2014 to present at Elora Spoken Word, a monthly gathering at the Creperie, where we could bring to life the less visual side of the Elora arts scene.

Piece by piece, it slipped back into the shadows of the predominately visual arts community of Elora.

Peter Skoggard introduced me to the Italian phrase, "e ora" meaning, "and now" which is the perfect term to describe life in Elora - nothing comes in place of something else, but in addition. An attitude that has carried Elora through time and time again.

In this "almost post-pandemic" landscape, the voices of people living in and around Elora not only offer a special lens to the identity of the pandemic in a small community, but also to the monument of change. The tourist driven shops are coming up with creative ways to not only stay open but to stay connected.

The residents have faced significant financial disruptions and still share that value of community that makes life in Elora so special.

In a 2021 edition, E ora wants to honour that. We look to release a collection of 17-22 voices, those of people living in, around, and passing through this small community, acknowledging not only the impact of this change, but the voices of resilience that have carried Elora through.

Submissions and inquiries can be sent to [eoralitmag@gmail.com](mailto:eoralitmag@gmail.com)

**NB: EFAC continues to seek ways to reinstate our Writers' Festival, which formerly took place in June at the Wellington County Museum. We miss this tribute to the written word, when we could meet with authors and hear their stories. But we need an organizing committee to make this project go forward. Please contact us at EFAC if you are interested.**

### AGM 2021 of Elora Fergus Arts Council

This event took place online due to Covid -19 restrictions.

We welcomed two new members to the Board of EFAC: Claudia Lambert of Colibri Pottery, and Natalie McDonald, Chair of Insights Juried Exhibit.

Special guests Ian Rankine and Michael Hale presented historic images from their research on Thomas and John Connon, innovative photographers and historical writer. This presentation was a step in the preparation of a book to be published reflecting the lives of the Connon's of Elora in the late 1800s.

Our new Logo was introduced, and a report given on the arts survey conducted by EFAC of the impact of the Covid pandemic on artists and arts organizations.

### The Elora Fergus Studio Tour 2021

Sept. 25/26 and Oct. 2/3 2021

The tour will take place this Autumn in as 'usual' a form as possible depending on necessary Covid precautions.

The Elora Centre for The Arts will be hosting a Gallery Show including a representative piece from each member, opening September 16<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 9pm.

Many representative pieces can be viewed on display at the Fergus Library.

The brochures are currently being printed and the EFST website has been updated to include information on all participating artists and the location of their studios. Our marketing and social media campaigns launched in June. Save the dates for the opening and the tour weekends.

#### PARTICIPATING ARTISTS 2021

**Shirley AI, Rachel Albano, David Bell, Gail Brown, Julie Denny, Carla Drimmie, James Embrey, Terry Golletz, Joseph Gohl, Callie Gray, Stephen Haigh, Neil Hanscomb & Gisela Ruehe, Amelia Kraemer, Barry McCarthy, Tim & Katherine McManus, Grayce Perry, Melanie Schaffer, Carolyn Sharp, Rick Worthington, Patrice Baker, Dianne Kennedy Cruttenden, Tony Deluca, Stephen Kitras, Claudia Lambert, Jean Loney, Lorraine McDonald, Dennis Novosad, Kat Morrison & Glen Lee**

To view artists' work:

<https://elorafergusstudiotour.com/>

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EAC email: [eloraartscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:eloraartscouncil@gmail.com)

**EAC website:**

[www.elorafergusartscouncil.ca](http://www.elorafergusartscouncil.ca)