



## NEWSLETTER March 2023 J. Warnes

Dartmouth Visual Arts Society

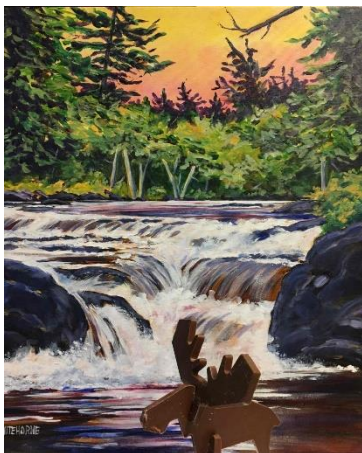
*"Art is all around us, within us and without us"*

It's really a question of defining what art actually is. By broadening our horizons and opening our minds, art can lead us into new, refreshing and uncharted territory.



Brave creativity can transcend accustomed boundaries and lift our spirits!

Many thanks to [Colin Muise](#) for his unique human icon replicas of **'The Citadel'** and **'Tufts Cove'**.



And here is our very own [Mary Lou Whitehorne](#) with her rendition of **'Mersey Tea with Chocolate Moose'** at Mills Falls, Keji.

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Congratulations to **Judith Orr** on the success of her current 'One Woman Show' at the **Cole Harbour Library** in Dartmouth.

Here's a photo of Judith posing with just a few of the many beautiful watercolour paintings on display. This popular show will run until the end of March, so hurry in before they all disappear!



The Cole Harbour Library is allocated on the main floor of Cole Harbour Place on the Forest Hills Parkway in Dartmouth.

Judith's artistic versatility knows no bounds; her colleagues watched with amazement at Studio Group in December as she hand-painted dozens of original miniatures as Christmas gifts for her friends and family!

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## DVAS Membership

Our sincere thanks to **Janice Webber** for taking care of the Membership portfolio over the last several years. She has recently handed over this responsibility to **Wanda Montgomery**, and is currently assisting her with the transition process. At this time, we have 69 members for 2023.

Also, we are delighted to welcome **Natalie Mike** who has kindly taken over the vital role of DVAS Communications.

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## Workshop Program

At last, DVAS was able to host two well-attended workshop sessions during the fall and winter season. The first was "**Fur and Feathers**" presented by **Twila Robar-DeCoste** and the second one was "**Soft Pastel Workshop**" presented by **Ashley Ritter**.

Here are some sweet bunny images from the *Soft Pastel Workshop*.



As you can see, all the participants did very well, especially since it was the first time with this medium.

Our Workshop Coordinator, **Violet O'Connell** is hoping to have Ashley back again to present another workshop at a later date, so watch out for that!



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## **Craig Gallery Shows**

Winter will soon be just a chilly memory and we can start looking forward to preparing for our upcoming **Spring Show** at the **Craig Gallery** in June. **Kathy Snell**, who is the Chair of Exhibitions, has advised that, once again, there will be no theme to constrain your creativity, so get busy now so you'll be ready! She will be sending out requests for our artwork in a few months, along with an update on the plans for a Fall Show at the Craig later in the year.

If this will be your first time exhibiting at the Craig Gallery, please take the time to review the policies and procedures which are posted on the DVAS Website:

<https://dartmouthvisualarts.ca> and click on '[For Members](#)'

Thank you to **Andrea Landry** for this unique '*acrylic painting of acrylic paintings*' inspired by watching the visitors viewing our paintings at the Craig Gallery Show last fall.



It is always rewarding for artists to see people taking time to really appreciate their work, and provide feedback, especially when they decide to make a purchase!

## Studio Group

The DVAS Studio Group is an enthusiastic group of painters who meet on Thursday mornings and paint together at the Findlay Community Center on Elliot Street in Dartmouth. This venue provides a unique opportunity for collaboration with fellow artists.



Our Winter Session has been in full swing since early January and we are delighted to be welcoming so many new participants!

We currently have full enrollment (31) for the winter session which runs until

March 30th. Our Studio Group coordinator, **Joel Fraser**, will soon be sending out details for the Spring Session which will start on April 6<sup>th</sup> and run until June 15<sup>th</sup>. That's 11 sessions and the cost will be \$33.

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**Once our indoor programs are over, we don't have to stop painting!**

Far from it; I will soon start developing ideas for group outings for **Plein Air Painting** during the summer months. Plein Air painting has gained rapid popularity in the last few years, and is often referred to as the 'new golf'!



Those of you who are familiar with this rewarding and satisfying activity will no doubt agree that it affords a great opportunity for staying creative and enjoying the 'Great Outdoors' with fellow painters and friends.

Please let me know **by email** if you would like to be included in Plein Air activities in and around HRM over the summer months.

If you are new to this practice, don't despair; I have helped to launch many 'first-timers' into the world of outdoor painting and can offer support to prepare you for success.

Just let me know if you are interested in hearing about the Plein Air painting process and acquiring basic materials and techniques to get you started.

Janet Warnes

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