

March 2025



dartmouthvisualarts.ca



DVAS Executive Members

President, Sandra Grebeldinger
Treasurer, Beatrice Milner
Secretary, Judy Hammond

DVAS Chairpersons

Membership/Communications, Beatrice Milner
dvastreasurer@gmail.com

Workshop Registrar, Vacant
Workshop Planner, Vacant

Exhibitions, Andrea Landry
exhibits@DartmouthVisualArts.ca

Studio Group, Joel Fraser
studiogroup@DartmouthVisualArts.ca

Scholarships/Donations, Joe Murphy
joemurphy.eosa@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor, Heather MacDonald

Website, Rick Brewin
brewin.richard@gmail.com

- Get involved in 2025 with volunteer opportunities, studio group, workshops, and more!
- Studio Opportunities include membership coordinator, Workshop Planner and Registrar!



Welcome to our March newsletter!



Spring Studio Group

Thursdays from 9:00 to 12:30 in Conrad Hall. April 3 – June 12. Cost is \$33.

To register please contact Joel Fraser.

studiogroup@DartmouthVisualArts.ca

You may pay cash, cheque or e-transfer
dvastreasurer@gmail.com

Annual General Meeting

The 2024 AGM will be held at 1:30pm Thursday, March 27, 2025 in the Conrad Room at Findlay Centre, 26 Elliot St Dartmouth.

Prior to the AGM at 1pm, Ivan Fraser will speak to us about framing our work: tips, tricks and best practices. Light refreshments will be served. The AGM will start promptly at 1:30 and will conclude at 2:30. It will be followed by the regular DVAS executive meeting which you are welcome to attend.

Workshop Schedule

Workshop details are on our website and will be emailed as they become available.

- March 29: Carol Smeraldo, Pastel Workshop
- April 12: Portrait workshop with Joe Murphy
- May 24: Acrylic workshop with Greg Dickie

Dear Fellow Artists,

There are several volunteer opportunities available with DVAS this year, and I hope some of you will consider taking a turn to fill one of these positions. Volunteering is a great way to share some of your talents and skills, and it helps keep the art society going.

We are currently looking for volunteers to take over the following positions in 2025: Workshop planner and Registrar, Membership Coordinator. If you would like to volunteer for one of these positions, please reach out to Sandra Grebeldinger. sandragreb@eastlink.ca

For many of us, Spring is a perfect time to embrace new opportunities, creative challenges, and artistic pursuits. I wish you all a year filled with hope, happiness, and art!

Cheers!
Heather

DVAS Spring Workshops

All workshops are taking place at the Findlay Centre. The cost of each workshop is \$50 for members, \$70 for non-members. Payment may be made by cheque or money order to:

DVAS, 65 Driftwood Cres, Dartmouth, NS, B2V 1S6

Alternatively, you can drop off payments at Studio Group or send an e-transfer to: dvastreasurer@gmail.com

Please make sure your workshop registration is confirmed before payment is sent. For more information, please contact Violet:

workshopregis@dartmouthvisualarts.ca

Renew Your DVAS Membership

The membership year is January 1 to December 31. Membership dues are \$30 (\$40 after February 28, 2025) and may be paid by:

- Cash or cheque: drop off at studio group or mail to Dartmouth Visual Arts, 130 Regal Road, Dartmouth, NS B2W 4H8
- e-Transfer: dvastreasurer@gmail.com

Please include your full mailing address, phone number and email address. Receipts will be issued upon request only. Membership fees must be paid before attending studio groups and workshops. New members must have started their membership at least 30 days prior to an exhibit start date to be able to participate in that exhibit.

2025 Recap: Artist Stories

Artist Success Story: Beatrice Milner

Beatrice grew up in Edmonton and studied Fine Arts at the University of Alberta, focusing on the history of art and photography. Although Beatrice was introduced to painting in the introductory years at the U of A, she did not pursue it until she started taking painting lessons with her two teenage daughters in the 1990s.

After retirement, Beatrice and her husband moved from Alberta to Nova Scotia to be closer to their grandchildren. With more free time and a lovely workspace, she has enjoyed painting more actively in acrylics, oils and watercolours. Beatrice is an avid gardener and takes inspiration from nature.

Beatrice takes commissions!! Beatrice has her artwork on display at the Cole Harbour Library this Month.

Email: milnerfineart@gmail.com

Instagram: @milnerfineart



Studio Group

This past winter was a busy time for DVAS studio groups.

For the first time a winter session was offered on Saturday mornings on a trial basis. Eleven artists participated.

The Thursday morning group was busy with over 30 artists registered.

The Spring session will begin on Thursday, April 3rd and finish on June 12th. Unfortunately the Saturday morning group was cancelled due to lack of participation.

Please watch for an email in mid to late August for information regarding registering for the Fall Studio Group beginning in September.

Happy Spring! Happy Painting!
Joel Fraser
Studio Group Coordinator

Halifax Public Gardens

“Halifax Public Gardens invites artists to paint the Gardens anytime [during July through October]. If you are interested in doing this on your own or with others, please check in at the desk in Horticultural Hall and then enjoy the Gardens as your subject. There are washrooms and a coffee shop on the property. The only requirement is that you not block the pathways and that you clean up afterwards. It’s always a nice experience and I hope some of you are able to enjoy.”

- Suzanne James

<https://www.halifaxpublicgardens.ca/calendar/2024/7/1/paint-the-gardens>

Tom Thomson

I was recently able to spend a rewarding few hours at the delightful Beaverbrook Art Gallery in Fredericton, NB, which hosted a wonder exhibit entitled: Tom Thomson: North Star (closed March 23, 2025). It was a beautifully curated exhibit and very inspiring.

The Permanent Collection of the Beaverbrook Gallery was established in 1959 with the gift of 300 works of art from Lord Beaverbrook. Lord Beaverbrook was William Maxwell Aitken, 1st Baron Beaverbrook (1879 to 1964) who was a financier, politician, author, and publisher. He was born in New Brunswick and worked as a clerk in a Chatham, NB, law office. After various other pursuits, he moved to London, England in 1910 where he won a seat for the Conservatives in the second general election of 1910. In 1917 he was made a peer, taking the title Beaverbrook after a stream near his Canadian home. After the war, Beaverbrook left politics and established a chain of British newspapers.

Lord Beaverbrook's donation to the gallery included British and Canadian painting. Since then, the Permanent Collection has grown to include over 5,000 objects, including several large-scale outdoor sculptures by national and international artists that are installed on the gallery grounds. It is an excellent gallery, cleanly and clearly exhibiting a wide range of pieces.

Tom Thomson: North Star was organized and circulated by the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, and included over a hundred of Thomson's oil sketches, focusing on his remarkable four-year period of productivity from 1914-17.

From the Beaverbrook Gallery exhibit notes:

But one painter did more to cement Canada's wilderness as the default subject of Canadian painting than any other. Tom Thomson, though he never achieved wide public acclaim in his short lifetime, created hundreds of oil sketches on his trips to Georgian Bay and Algonquin Park between 1913 and 1917. Intended by the artist as precursors to larger, more finished, paintings, it is the sketches that have continued to fire the imagination of the public in the ten decades since his untimely death. His oil sketches, in their vitality, originality and freshness, brought something startlingly new to Canadian art. Indeed, Ian DeJardin, co-curator with Sarah Milroy, of the monumental exhibition Tom Thomson: North Star, argues that Thomson's oil sketches are Canada's preeminent contribution to international Modernism. Quite simply, Thomson stands as one of the defining figures of art in the 20th century, not just for Canada, but for the world.

Submission by: Beatrice Milner