



30th Annual Juried Show and Sale

Lecture Hall, Base31, Picton

June 23 to July 2, 2023 • artinthecounty.com

Contact:

Janna Smith, PR Coordinator
janna@countyarts.ca

For Immediate Release

ART IN THE COUNTRY CELEBRATES 30th ANNIVERSARY!

Picton, April 20, 2023 – The Prince Edward County Arts Council (County Arts) and the Art in the County (AITC) Organizing Committee are excited to mark the 30th anniversary of Art in the County with the launch of a new logo, new location, and new awards!

With over 100 artworks showcased in a wide range of media, including watercolour, acrylic, oil and encaustic paintings, sculpture, fibre, wood, photography, ceramics, glass and more, Art in the County is our region's largest juried group exhibition featuring work by local artists.

"What better way to celebrate this milestone anniversary than with the launch of a contemporary new logo," says Christophe Doussot, Art in the County Co-chair. "The design elegantly groups, what we imagine to be, two dimensional artworks to convey our agricultural landscape. It is deeply rooted in place." Logo design by Natalie Piper of Inkfly Graphics, Picton.

ANNIVERSARY SPONSOR

Art in the County will take place in the Lecture Hall at Base31, 343 County Road 22, Picton. Moving the show to a larger, brighter, and more accessible location would not be possible without the generous support of Base31. "To be in the heart of this dynamic setting that lives and breathes art will be an incredible experience for artists and audiences alike," says Amy Shubert, Art in the County Co-chair.

PRESENTING SPONSOR

Elizabeth Crombie Real Estate Team, Royal LePage ProAlliance Realty Brokerage returns as Presenting Sponsor for the second consecutive year. "Libby's support of our arts community is unparalleled," says Janna Smith, County Arts Executive Director. "We are so grateful for her leadership and continued support." New this year- admission is free.

EXHIBITION OPENS IN-PERSON AND ONLINE JUNE 23

The 30th edition of Art in the County will be simultaneously presented in-person and online from **June 23 to July 2**. In-person visitors can view the exhibition at Base31. Free onsite parking and accessible entry is available. The exhibition will be curated by Vincent Depoivre and Christophe Doussot of Maison Depoivre Gallery.

As in previous years, visitors will also be able to view digital images of this year's selected artworks at www.artinthecounty.com. Online shows have the potential to reach a wider audience. Over the last three years, AITC sold artwork to buyers living outside our region, including in Toronto, Hamilton, Owen Sound, Guelph, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, and Whistler.

JURORS

Jurors are solely responsible for the show's content, as well as selecting the five ***Jurors' Choice Awards*** and five ***Honorable Mention Awards***. Show organizers are thrilled to announce the three award-winning artists who will serve as jurors:

Lisa Creskey, Ceramic Artist & Painter (Chelsea, Quebec), **Chung-Im Kim**, Textile Artist (Cookstown), and **Rick Rivet**, Painter (Belleville)

We wish to thank our Hospitality Sponsors, Inn at Huff Estates and The Royal Hotel for hosting the jurors.

CALL FOR ENTRY OPEN NOW!

Artist entry deadline for submitting registration form, image(s) and payment is **June 9 at 12PM**. Visit www.artinthecounty.com to read eligibility requirements and conditions, including tips on how to photograph artwork. Artists will be required to drop-off artwork at the Lecture Hall on June 18.

COMMUNITY ARTS BUILDER AWARD

Sponsored by **Laurie Gruer, Monica Klingenberg & Alysa Hawkins of Chestnut Park Real Estate Limited Brokerage**, the Community Arts Builder Award returns in 2023. With nominees chosen by County residents, the Community Arts Builder Award recognizes an individual who has enriched community life through the arts. Past recipients include Sarah Moran, Arts Champion (2022); Kato Wake, Visual Artist & Instructor (2021); Hri Neil, Carbon Art & Design (2020); Krista Dalby, Department of Illumination (2019); and Alice & Peter Mennacher, Blizzmax Gallery (2018). All 2023 nominations must be received by June 9. The Award, which includes a \$250 monetary gift, will be announced on June 22. To learn more, visit www.artinthecounty.com.

AWARDS

Five **Jurors' Choice Awards** (\$250 each) and five **Honourable Mentions** (\$100 each) are supported by local businesses, including 2gallery, Arts on Main Gallery, Books & Company, Family Dentistry@Picton, Magpie Clothing Essentials, Picton Home Hardware, Printcraft, The Eddie Hotel, and The Local Store. Winners to be announced on June 22.

Sponsored by Sage Design & Construction and Welch LLP, the People's Choice Award and the Children's Choice Award will be determined by visitor ballots and presented at the close of the exhibition. Winners receive a \$250 monetary gift.

The **Maison Depoivre Award** will be presented to an artist whose work demonstrates risk-taking and originality, technical skill, and is thought provoking. Special attention will be given to the use of colour in a daring, innovative way. The jurors will determine the award recipient from Maison Depoivre's selection of three finalists. The winner will be invited to display their work at Maison Depoivre Gallery for the rest of the 2023 season, once AITC closes its doors on July 2.

The **Carson Arthur Award** will be presented to an artist whose work represents, or evokes Nature in an innovative and original way. The jurors will determine the award recipient from Carson Arthur's selection of three finalists. This award includes a \$500 monetary gift for the winning artist and a \$500 donation to a local, non-profit organization advocating for the protection of the environment (organization selected by the winning artist).

TWO NEW AWARDS IN 2023

Akasha Art Projects Award will be presented to an artist whose work represents a fresh and original approach to their artistic expression. Considerations for this award are extended to artists who explore the boundaries of their chosen media through innovative perspectives that evoke and challenge the viewer. Founders of Akasha Art Projects, Kelly Kyle & Sonja Scharf, will choose three finalists and will defer to the jurors of AITC to select the final recipient. The recipient of the award will receive a gift certificate in the amount of \$500, redeemable at Akasha Art Projects.

Oeno Gallery Award of Excellence will be given to the creator of one exceptional work, demonstrating creativity and originality, executed with technical fluency and skill, and presented professionally. The winner will be selected by Carlyn Moulton, Owner & Curator, Oeno Gallery. This award has a monetary value of \$500.

Art in the County is grateful for the continued support of McDougall Insurance & Finance and Prince Edward Community Partners, and welcomes The Cape as new Supporting Sponsors. With the support of our wonderful sponsors, the organizing committee is looking forward to showcasing and celebrating the extraordinary talent of local artists in this 30th edition of the show.

For more information about Art in the County, visit: www.artinthecounty.com, call the Prince Edward County Arts Council at (613) 476-8767 or e-mail: artinthecounty@countyarts.ca.

Art in the County is recognized as the premier art exhibition in Eastern Ontario. Since its inception in 1993, the show has hosted over 85,000 visitors, showcased more than 2,500 works of art by Prince Edward County artists, and has sold over \$380,000 worth of art to collectors, buyers and art lovers alike.