

100 years Retrospective: The Moose Jaw Art Guild and its Roots

November 9, 2017 - January 7, 2018

Opening: Thursday, November 9 @ 7:30pm

In this significant year of Canada 150 and the Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery's 50th anniversary, the Moose Jaw Art Guild is taking a retrospective glance over its own history and the visual arts history of our city and area. The theme for this year's annual exhibition has art guild members responding to historic guild artworks in the MJM&AG Permanent Collection, culminating in a diverse display of artworks that reflect Moose Jaw's visual culture.

The Moose Jaw Art Guild was formalized in 1949, but its roots go back to 1929 to the Moose Jaw Branch of the Women's Art Association of Saskatchewan, a precursor to the guild. Successful in promoting the artwork of local artists in its annual exhibitions, the Moose Jaw Women's Art Association was also involved in offering local art classes. It was from one of these classes in 1949 that ten Moose Jaw women moved to form a new group, the Moose Jaw Fine Art Guild. Its goals, which are still ideals of the guild today, involve encouraging awareness and appreciation of art, bringing artists together, and working with other groups to increase these opportunities.

The Guild has held annual exhibitions at various locations in the community throughout its history, such as the Y.M.C.A. in 1952, the Public Library in 1958 and the Moose Jaw Art Museum in 1967, when it officially opened its doors. The Moose Jaw Fine Art Guild was a key supporter of the establishment of the Art Museum in Moose Jaw. In 1984, the guild changed its name to the Moose Jaw Art Guild. Today the guild is home for regional artists of all skill levels pursuing individual art paths. This supportive community welcomes professional, novice, emerging and leisure artists. The membership work in a wide variety of mediums including mixed media, photography, watercolour, glass, oil, fiber art, acrylic paint, basketry and clay.

For more information: visit: mjartguild.blogspot.ca or email: mjartguild@hotmail.com