

ARTS CONNECTION

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2023

2024 MEMBERSHIPS

ODAC Board of Directors are diligently working hard towards **updating** and **creating** more offerings with the 2024 ODAC Memberships.

[Join Here](#)

Membership fees are prorated according to Membership Form completion date.

January 1 - December 31	-----	\$40.00
April 1 - June 30	-----	\$30.00
July 1 - September 30	-----	\$20.00
October 1 - December 31	-----	\$10.00

For more information about the benefits of becoming an ODAC member, check out the ODAC [website](#)

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HISTORY OF ODAC

The Orillia District Art Council (ODAC), is a not-for-profit organization that many artists and citizens have probably heard of but not many actually know what they do and how it impacts artists. This small organization serves the arts and local community's by bringing people and resources together to enrich the cultural, economic, and intellectual life of our community.

1999

ODAC's roots were started by a small group of artists to work with local artists to find ways of helping each other as well as local groups.

2000

They officially became a recognized group.

2005

By 2005 ODAC the organization was incorporated

2006

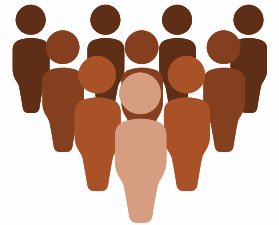
Were granted charitable status!

Work then started on developing a strategic plan and other key documents required to meet the standards of a Charitable Organization. These strategic documents are the cornerstones of ODAC's vision, mission and values followed today.



Even ODAC's logo has a deep rooted meaning reflecting its vision of a strong united creative community working together to enhance the culture in our area. It was designed by local artist Rodney Frost in 2007 and represents the many disciplines of art.

Skipping forward to today, ODAC has developed in leaps and bounds. The Board of Directors currently comprised of six, a growing membership of diversified artists and non-artists consisting of over 60 artists.



Funding of programs offered to artists and community groups are derived from public donations and grant applications. All Board Members volunteer their time to find and apply for donations and granting opportunities.

2024

ODAC operates behind the scenes to enhance arts and culture in the Orillia area. A few programs funded in whole or in part by ODAC are Streets Alive, Community Arts Achievement Awards, Expressive Art for Mental Health, Kids art and more.

-Mike Bailey, Director Communications

UNITED WAY SIMCOE MUSKOKA COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE 2024-2027 FUNDING

ODAC has partnered with Creative Nomads, Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital and The Meeting Place to bring a mental health program in combination with the arts to the community.

We want to recognize the funding contribution from United Way Simcoe Muskoka to support the Arts Immersion for Mental Health.

More details will be released in 2024.



OPERA HOUSE EXHIBIT

WANT TO SHOWCASE A PIECE OF YOUR WORK AT THE OPERA HOUSE?

Keep your eyes open for an email "**Call to Artists**" that will go out before each show with all the information you require. This venue can accommodate large pieces.

Installation for the Opera House will be Wednesday morning's at 11:00AM.

2024 DATES:


January 10

March 6

May 1

September 4

November 6



Please note: May 1, 2024 will be a **themed** show. We are looking for suggestions from our ODAC members. Please send your thoughts in by **March 30th** for consideration in order to let artists create a piece for the show.

MJ Pollak, ODAC's Visual Art Director - maryjo.pollak@sympatico.ca

HOLIDAY SONG RECORDING



At Lion's Oval Public School, Mr. Marson's grade 7/8 class of 25 students recorded Silver Bells for the Holiday CD.

Students previously had the opportunity to spend a morning with Errol Lee learning and practicing the song. They really enjoyed their time working with Errol. At first they were intimidated to sing and work on the song, but Errol's friendly nature and openness helped them relax and enjoy the experience and bring out their singing voices.

Students from the Groovy Tuesday after school program at Orillia Secondary school prepped for their songs on Tuesdays before Culture Days.



Basin Street Blues
Fly Me to the Moon
Frosty The Snowman

Instruments included:

- Vocals Gr. 12
- Alto sax Gr. 10
- Clarinet - Gr. 11
- Guitar Gr. 10
- Drums Gr. 11
- Bass teacher



Thank you to Jennifer Joseph at Lion's Oval P.S and Laura Lee Matthie at Orillia Secondary School.



STRATEGIC PLAN WORKSHOPS



As part of ODAC's Community Service Recovery Funding to formulate a new strategic plan, a Vision Day workshop was held for current and past ODAC members.

Arts Orillia will be facilitating a session end of January to the board to help draw the plan to work together to gain support for all of the arts organizations in Orillia and surrounding communities.

The outputs of this session will culminate into a report and tool to advocate for support at the business, government and funding agency levels.

HOLIDAY POTLUCK

On November 29, 2023 ODAC members joined for a festive Holiday Potluck at Creative Nomad Studios.

Special thanks to Raune-lea Marshall and Deby Melillo, and the rest of the organizing committee, for their hard work in making it a success!



PEER TO PEER - GEL PRINTING

Each month the **Peer to Peer** gatherings run out of Creative Nomad Studios, offering the community a chance to experiment with new art modalities, learn new skills and to network with others. ODAC members are free and non ODAC members may attend for a \$5.00 fee.



In November there was a demonstration of Gel Printing presented by Linda Gidora.

The **Peer to Peer** is entirely dependant on ODAC volunteers to coordinate these sessions.

We are planning something different for Peer-to-Peer sessions in 2024 - watch for the announcement



MJ Pollak, ODAC's Visual Art Director
maryjo.pollak@sympatico.ca

ORAH EVENT

AND THE WINNER IS...

Education in the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Award - Marcel Rousseau
Emerging Artist Award - Mariangela Sherwood
Event in Arts, Culture and Heritage - Paul Shilling, Seven Grandfather Teachings
Heritage: Restoration, Renovation and Publication Award - Anitta Hamming
Qennefer Browne Achievement Award - Jean Sarjeant
Qennefer Browne Achievement Award - Leslie Fournier, Streets Alive Productions



Photography: Alina Hromko

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



WENDY COOPER PARKINSON

Orillia based artist Wendy Cooper-Parkinson has maintained a studio art practice for 30 years and exhibited and sold work across the globe.

She works in a variety of media that include drawing, painting, printmaking, collage and enamel on copper. Words and original poetry are often used to construct images. Sometimes they are visible, other times they are not.

A spinal cord injury in 2021 rendered Wendy a quadriplegic. It has altered her daily living and the way she makes art. Adaptive tools and a willingness to explore alternative ways to do what she loves, have added a new dimension to Wendy's art practice, and ongoing desire for expression.

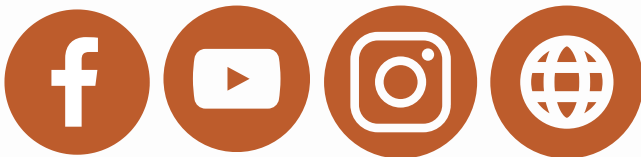
Newsletter Cover Page By Wendy Cooper Parkinson.

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MEET THE MEMBERS OF ODAC

