



Creative Minds



March 2026

Welcome!

Oliver Community Arts Council

We now have office hours!!
There will be a board member in the office on Wednesdays from 9am to noon. Drop by to say hi and find out more about what we're doing, or looking to do at the Quails' Nest.

Quails' Nest Studio
PO Box 1711
5840 Airport St. Oliver, BC
V0H 1T4

www.oliverartscouncil.org

facebook.com/oliverartscouncil

email: olivercac@gmail.com

Call: 250-485-0088



Message from the OCAC President:

I would like to start by thanking everyone who came out to our recent AGM. I'm thrilled to say that we have a full board as we move into 2026. We are fortunate to welcome 3 new board members to the family. We wish Frances, Nadia and Tracy the best as they move on to other endeavours.

With the new board members, we welcome new ideas and energy to the team. We look forward to learning more about their interests and where they are going to fit in to the group. One of the new board members, Swati, will be joining the newsletter team to work with Nadia as she eases herself out of this role. We had to laugh at the AGM when Nadia pointed out how much we like to use the word 'creative'! Creative Minds, Creative Discovery, CreateAbility! After some discussion, it was decided to rename the newsletter. Watch for the new name for the April newsletter. One of the other exciting things that came out of the AGM was a number of new faces that came to the meeting, many with a background in pottery. They have already met twice. Watch for exciting new things from them.

We look forward to an exciting season. We hope to have an information table each week at the Music in the Park. We are also excited to be involved with the Sunshine Festival, June 12th - 20th this year. The Station Street Market is also on our radar for this summer. All of these events are going to need a good team of volunteers to make this happen. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you are interested. You will see more information and opportunities in upcoming newsletters and on our new and improved website. Check it out.

So, we're off!! Welcome back to our returning board members and we are so happy to welcome Helena, Natasha and Swati to the group.

Cheers,

Bertie Barends

President

olivercac@gmail.com

Art Learned ~ Art Loved ~ Art Lived

Member Information

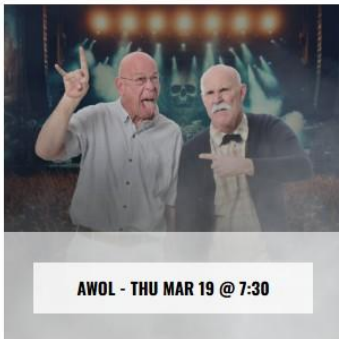
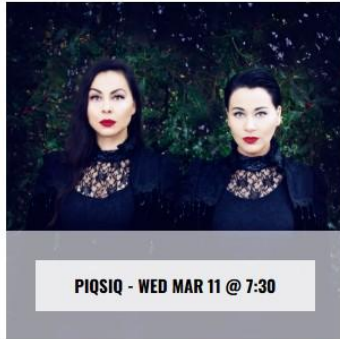
Check this section regularly to see what our Member Groups, Businesses and Individuals are offering...

Sagebrusher Art Club



The Oliver Sagebrusher's Art Club held a very successful workshop for beginners in acrylic painting. Under the tutelage of Marion Trimble, the class painted a simple landscape in two sessions. The students were introduced to brushstrokes, how to mix paint for colour and harmony, perspective and the importance of light and shadow. At the end of the lessons, the 15 artists displayed an impressive variety of canvases. Armed with a familiarity of acrylic paint, 4 of the class members have decided to carry on and join our art club. With the success of the response from beginners in acrylic lessons, many others have expressed wanting classes in watercolour painting. The Sagebrushers are putting this plan into motion and will have such a class up and running in the next few weeks.

Venables Theatre



www.venablestheatre.ca



WORKSHOPS...

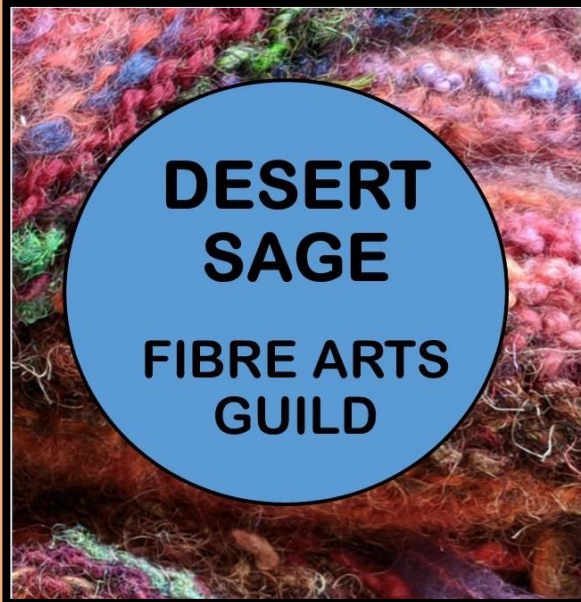
- TERRY MOORE - Weekly Wednesday Drawing Workshops, 1pm - 3pm
- "LIFE DRAWING WORKSHOP" - Draw from Life with Confidence. March 31st, April 14th, April 28th & May 5th
- "LEANING INTO ABSTRACTION" - Painting Expressively Workshop with Kathy Hale. April 13th & 14th

Visit: peachlandarts.ca

For more information



Desert Sage Fibre Arts Guild



**Join us Thursdays
September to June
Oliver Community Centre**

For more info:
Visit us at desertsageguild.ca
Follow us on Facebook
Email us at
desertsagefibrearts@gmail.com



The **Double O Quilters Guild**

meets the 2nd Monday of the month at the community hall in Oliver. Visitors are welcomed. Every Wednesday is drop-in (8:30 am-2:30 pm) where members come to visit and to work on group and individual projects. For more information, check out our website at:

<https://www.doubleoquilters.org>

or email us at doubleoquilters@gmail.com

Legacy Interview's Studio Opening Soon in Oliver

The OCAC's board member Martin Anthony (Director of Smoke & Mirrors) has worked in media for decades, both in production and as on and off camera talent. From voice overs (numbering in the thousands) to hosting a TV talk show (79 episodes successfully produced and broadcast) in Europe, he is now settled in the south Okanagan and is putting the finishing touches on his new project called LegacyInterview.ca

Legacy Interview is a place where people can get a professionally produced interview to share with family and friends. The interview can be at the studio, in your home, or even 'on location' with Martin and his unique style of questions to get the best story out of the guest or guests. He has interviewed international stars like Michael Constantine (The father in My Big Fat Greek Wedding) and Stewart Copeland (Drummer for The Police) and international figures like the CEO of Greenpeace, and foreign leaders & diplomats.

Now it is your turn to sponsor your own legacy video. **Contact Martin at 604 354 7881 or visit LegacyInterview.ca** for more information and pricing.

It's your story! LegacyInterview.ca

Find us on Facebook @LegacyInterview.ca



Oliver Kiwanis Market Public Sales

Saturdays only from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm.

Donations accepted Wed, Fri, Sat 8:30 am-noon.

Call 250-485-0242 for pickups, leave a message

oliverkiwanis@gmail.com

**CREATEABILITY ART PROGRAM
For Adults with Disabilities**

CALL FOR INSTRUCTORS 2026

- Instructors are invited to join the CreateAbility art therapy team
- You can make a difference in the lives of adults with disabilities**
- making art uses a different part of your brain
- art therapy programs are offered once/month
- no special experience is required
- be willing to learn and have a sense of humour
- work 3 hours per month with a partner
- choose which month you work
- get paid an honorarium for 3 hours of work/session
- receive guidance and mentorship
- A free criminal record check is required

If this sounds right for you please contact: OliverCAC@gmail.com



P.O. BOX 1711 OLIVER, BC V0H 1T0
OliverCAC@gmail.com
OliverArtsCouncil.org
www.facebook.com/oliverartscouncil



CreateAbility

Art Cards and 2026 Calendars

Art cards are \$5.00 each or 5 cards for \$20.00.

Calendars are \$20.00 each, featuring the art work of 12 artists.

This art is for sale every Wednesday morning at the Quails' Nest studio on Airport St., Oliver, from 9:00 am until noon.

This program for Adults with Disabilities is sponsored by the OCAC. It promotes creativity through art making to foster joy and self-worth. You may have seen some of this art work at the Oliver Creates Art Show and Sale in September 2025. This group of talented artists kindly gave us permission to reproduce their art so that we can help fund this program, which started in 2017. For further inquiries or information contact:

OliverCAC@gmail.com



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL

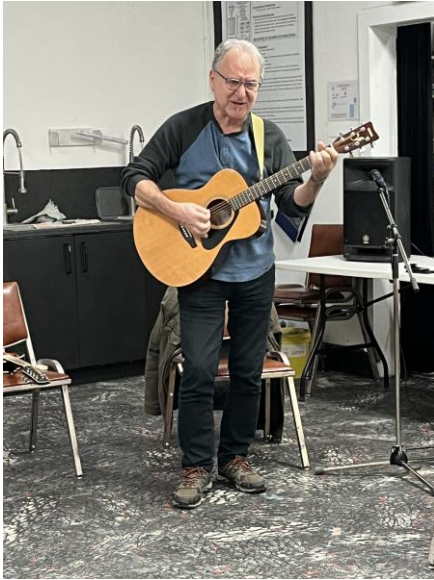


BRITISH COLUMBIA

Supported by the Province of British Columbia



Jam Night at Quails' Nest



March 1st jam nite at 6:00 pm bring an instrument.

The first jam was by donation; however we will have to ask for a *recommended donation of \$5.00-\$10.00* per person attending to cover the cost of the space and for the coffee and tea that are there for the networking break.



Trivia:

Q: Do you know why the jam is on the first Sunday?

A: There are jams on the second and third Sunday afternoons (2PM) at the Elks Hall in Osoyoos.

Quails' Nest Studio 2026 New Rental Rates

Single use: \$40

8am - 1pm, 1pm - 6pm, **OR** 6pm - 11pm

Full Day: \$70, \$50 for each consecutive day

July and August: \$100 per week

This is effective immediately. Please contact olivercac@gmail.com with any questions.



We would like to invite you *to Renew your Membership to the Arts Council for the 2026 year.*

Membership entitles you to a platform for promoting and advocating for the arts in the wider community, invitations to special events, studio rental for private or public events and participation at the annual AGM.

For business and group members, there are advertising and promotional opportunities. Please review the levels of membership located on our website.

Thank you for your support!

Your valued membership helps the Oliver Community Arts Council achieve its goals of increasing the public's appreciation of the arts through a wide range of artistic activities, performances, and educational opportunities.

<https://oliverartscouncil.org/membership>

South Okanagan Slow Stitch Network

What is Slow Stitch??? Slow stitch encourages sewers to forget about perfection and not worry about the finished piece. Instead, it nurtures the idea of enjoying the process of stitching for stitching's sake. Slow stitch includes, embroidery, crochet, knitting, and..... anything that includes a needle, fiber, thread, and.....It's about enjoying the process rather than worrying about the product.

Slow Stitch Drop In is up and running!! We meet at the Quails' Nest Art Center on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month starting in January and running until the end of June, we take a break over the summer and then start up again in October and continue through the fall. January dates we meet on the 21st and for February we meet on the 4th and 18th.

Drop in costs are \$5.00 and we meet from 10:00-2:00.

This is a Drop In session so bring your projects to work on and share your progress, ask for input and inspire someone else!! This is a dynamic, creative group!!

If you're new to Slow Stitch, just come and check us out. We have a starter kit packaged for you if you want to give it a try and see what this community of creatives is all about!!



OCAC NEEDS YOU – yes, YOU!!

Please consider VOLUNTEERING for one of our committees at OCAC..... and be a part of the excitement!

email: olivercac@gmail.com OR Call: 250-485-0088





WOW
Women of Oliver for Oliver
Box 353
Oliver BC V0H 1T0
oliverwowsociety@gmail.com
www.wowoliver.org

WOW Trade Show: Saturday, March 28, 10:00 – 3:00

Vendors will be gathering at the Oliver Parks and Recreation Centre on March 28 for the 33rd Annual WOW Trade Show.

Women of Oliver for Women Society (WOW) is a group of like-minded women, meeting once a month with a pledge “to enrich the lives of women and children in our Community and beyond.” The monies from the fundraisers go to Desert Sun Counselling, SOS Medical Foundation, Oliver Food Bank, Sun Fun Program, Share the spirit of Christmas, Ambassadors of Oliver, Education Award through OK College, Starfish Backpack Program and many others.

The WOW Trade Show offers a great opportunity for vendors and customers to connect and share information. As an exhibitor, the show is the best opportunity to meet, answer questions and reach a broader audience. As a customer, a few hours at the Trade Show offers a social atmosphere with a wide variety of local products and services to choose from in one venue – a win/win for everyone. Enjoy a coffee and/or lunch hosted by Oliver Eats.

Trade Show Highlights:

Vendors: A wide variety including many new vendors

Entry by Donation: Monies to go to Desert Sun Counselling and SOS Medical foundation for the Oliver hospital fundraiser.

WOW Information Table: Are you interesting in becoming part of a wonderful group of women who work to improve our community?

Door prizes: Lots available including but not limited to fishing tackle, garden ornaments, golf balls,

Flowers: Potted mums will be available

www.wowoliver.org



25TH

ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Sage Valley Voices

COMMUNITY CHOIR

*"Thank You for the
Music and Memories"*

April 25th, 7pm
April 26th, 2:30pm

Park Drive Church
6570 Park Drive, Oliver

Admission \$15
12 and under free



Sage Valley Voices

Sage Valley Voices: A Choral Legacy (submitted article)

Sage Valley Voices is an amateur community choir in Oliver, BC. Founded in 2002 by Alice Deroche after the folding of the local choir, Yuletide Singers. Alice made the decision to introduce this choir to the region as a teaching and show choir. The choir welcomed all singers regardless of their ability to read music. This is still the mandate of the choir under the current direction of Lori Martine. Singers are mainly from Oliver, but includes folks from Penticton, Okanagan Falls, Osoyoos and even Oroville.

Alice led this lively group in two seasonal concerts: a winter/Christmas themed performance wearing Dickensian costumes and a spring varied theme performance. Her music choices for spring were diverse: from Western theme to Broadway and a focus on various decades of music. She led the choir from 2002-2013. Lori took over the conductor position in the fall of 2013 and continued these fun themes with the Beatles, ABBA and Glee to name a few.

Lori and Alice have brought their choral instructional skills from their elementary and middle school teaching experience and have created a fun learning environment for all. They have organized for the group to participate in choral workshops in the valley, massed choir events and performances at community events, and retirement facilities.

The group has decided to celebrate 25 years of choral singing throughout 2026, starting with a historical review which includes singalongs and cameo performances by former members. Efforts were made to contact all former members to participate in this celebration, either by singing with the choir this spring season, or by attending the concerts in April.

Please join us to say “Thank You for the Music, and the Memories”, April 25, 7pm, and April 26, 2:30 pm.





Oliver Community Arts Council

facebook

“LIKE” and “SHARE” our Posts

If you would like to nominate someone for our VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT (coming soon)

You just need to send an email to olivercac@gmail.com

And tell us why your chosen person should be spotlighted!



DID YOU KNOW??

We NEED YOU!

Join one of the committees at OCAC..... and be a part of the excitement!

email: olivercac@gmail.com

Call: 250-485-0088

DID YOU KNOW.....?

Individual, household, group and business Members of the Oliver Community Arts Council (OCAC) can advertise for

➡ **FREE** ⬅

in our monthly newsletter!

Not a member yet? Click on this link and sign up!

www.oliverartscouncil.org/membership

JOIN TODAY! 

DID YOU KNOW.....?

Member Submissions deadline for the newsletter will be the.....

last MONDAY of the month. Make sure to send your “Copy Ready” ad so it can be included in our exciting Newsletter published by the *first week of the following month.*

Send info by **March 30, 2026** to olivercacnews@gmail.com



Discover the creative side of BC

Download the Arts BC app and start exploring!

<https://artsbc.org/>

2026 Member Groups/Businesses

- Backyard Microgreens
- Black Rabbit Fabric
- Cattails Farm Fibre
- Coachmasters
- Desert Sage Fibre Arts Guild
- Double O Quilters
- Exhale Art Gallery
- South Okanagan Stitchers
- Firehall Brewery
- Friends of the Oliver Library
- GN'R Alpaca Boutique
- Infinity Acres Flowers
- Kewlchick Stylz
- Kreutopia Arts
- Mountain Mama Artisan Market
- Okanagan Moon Apothecary
- Oliver & District Heritage Society
- Oliver Arts & Crafts
- Oliver Community Garden Society
- Oliver Community Theatre Society (Venables Theatre)
- Oliver Handbell Ringers Society
- Oliver Sagebrushers
- Oliver Senior Centre Society
- Oliver Tourism Association
- OOOPS Paper Crafters Guild
- RipOff Artists
- Riverside Garden Centre
- Sage Valley Voices Community Choir
- SOAP Theatre
- South Okanagan Community Inclusion Society (SOICS)
- South Okanagan Blue Organics (SOBO)
- South Okanagan Rockhounds
- Surfaces - Textiles
- Town of Oliver(Oliver & District Recreation)
- Wine Country Racing Association
- Women of Oliver for Women

Memberships:

Join the creativity in Oliver, BC!

We'd love to have you!

Benefits Include:

- Reduced fees for the Oliver Creates Art Show & Sale
- Invitations to special events
- A forum for arts promotion and networking
- Advertising and promotional opportunities
- Ability to rent the studio
- And a vote at the AGM!

Fees: Click here for current pricing:

www.oliverartscouncil.org/membership

Watch for new workshops and other programming throughout the year.

www.OliverArtsCouncil.org

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You just need to send an email to olivercac@gmail.com

And tell us why your chosen person should be spotlighted!



Newsletter Disclaimer:

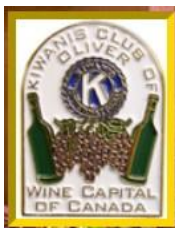
All info, views and opinions supplied by member groups, businesses and individuals are that of the group/business/individual and not of OCAC.

Advertising info supplied by member groups, business or individuals: content may be edited to fit newsletter and for grammatical or editorial reasons. Locations mentioned should include addresses.

We acknowledge that we are situated on the unceded, ancestral homeland of the Osoyoos Indian Band within the Okanagan (Syilx) Nation.

We give honour and pay respect to the Osoyoos Indian Band and its people.

The OCAC gratefully acknowledges our sponsors:



Mission Statement

Oliver Community Arts Council is the advocate for promoting Arts in the community.

Vision Statement

The Oliver Community Arts Council promotes artistic development, fosters community engagement in the arts, and increases access to cultural experiences for all.

2026 Arts Council

NEW Board:

President: Roberta Barens

Vice-President: Vacant

Treasurer: Jan Kreut

Secretary: Cheryl Andrews

Directors: Colleen McCombe, Doris Kuehn, Bernice Myllyniemi, Robert Rougeau, Martin Anthony, New Director Helena, New Director Swati, New Director Natasha.

The OCAC board meets month at the Quails' Nest Studio. We welcome input from our members.

Email OliverCAC@gmail.com with any questions.



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Supported by the Province of British Columbia

