



# Creative Minds



April 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  
VOH 1T4

[www.oliverartscouncil.org](http://www.oliverartscouncil.org)

[facebook.com/oliverartscouncil](https://facebook.com/oliverartscouncil)

email: [olivercac@gmail.com](mailto:olivercac@gmail.com)

Call: 250-485-0088



# Message from the OCAC President:

Happy Easter!! How did we get to April already?? We've had some beautiful weather to provide us with hints of spring, and then move back into cold and wet. Those sunny days certainly fills us with hope and a glimmer of what is to come. Other indicators of spring for us are the return of some of our programs. **Music in the Park** returns this summer! Later in the spring, watch for the poster, band lineup. Follow us on Facebook for weekly updates, and watch the Times Chronicle and the OCAC website for an article coming later this spring.

We're inviting OCAC group and business members to join the booths. This is one of those "perks" for these two levels of membership – free publicity! Looking for a way to promote your activities? Sell artsy products? Attract a new audience? Promote a service? Kick-start fall membership? Register for a booth! While the booths remain FREE to member groups and businesses this year, you must complete the booth application form and return it to us at [ocacmitp@gmail.com](mailto:ocacmitp@gmail.com) for approval and to be covered by our liability insurance. (This is the email specific to Music in the Park.)

Another sign of spring is the upcoming **Sunshine Festival**. (Formerly known as the Roots and Fruits Festival) This took place in August last year, but has been moved to June 12th - 21th this year. This is a community event, with things happening all over Oliver to help celebrate our wonderful community. We will be offering things throughout that time frame, both at the studio and in the parks. We hope for a puppet parade through the Station Street Market, with puppet making classes being held the 2 weekends prior to the proposed parade. Let us know if you and your family would be interested in the classes.

**Neighbourhood Small Grants** One of the ways that you can get assistance for a neighborhood event is through the Community Foundation of the South Okanagan Similkameen program <https://www.cfso.net/neighbourhood-small-grants/> (NSG) offer up to \$500 to help residents bring people together and strengthen connection close to home. When you host an NSG project, you join a growing network of neighbours across the South Okanagan Similkameen who are creating welcoming gatherings, sparking new relationships, and building belonging—right where they live. CFSO invests in small, resident-led ideas because connection matters. When neighbours know one another, communities become more resilient, inclusive, and responsive in times of change. Over \$30,000 in funding is available this year to support projects across the region. Applications are open March 6 – April 17, 2026.

**New pottery guild:** As a result of strong interest being shown at our AGM, we will be having a raku pottery event in May. While the class is sold out, that doesn't mean that you can't come and watch us play. Let us know if you would like more information about becoming a part of this group.

**South Okanagan Stitchers (SOS)** - Join us the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, from 10am - 2pm, for the slow stitch drop in group. This growing group is doing some remarkable stitching. Drop in the see what's happening, but I'll warn you now, you just might get carried away with the things they are doing. I know I did!!

**Music Jam Drop In** - This event is off to a resounding successful start. The first Sunday of the month at 6pm at the Quails' Nest Studio, 5840 Airport St., Oliver is where it happens! The second session was even better than the first, with more people sharing their instruments, both physical and vocal. Unfortunately, the April session falls on Easter Sunday and has been cancelled. Watch for a possible added session, or plan to join us in May.

**Oliver Creates Art Show and Sale** - Our next meeting is April 13th at 10am. We will be planning the floor layout and organizing the framework for the market part of the show. We've just received confirmation that we will be able to use the curling rink's tables, so we can start planning. This is my last year organizing this event and we're currently looking for fresh energy and commitment to carry this forward. We will need lots of volunteers for the event itself, but we also need help organizing the event.

Our volunteers are critical to the success of the arts council. This is my last year as president and we need to look into future as well as what we're doing now. Our numerous committees can always use more people, especially our grants/financial committee and our volunteer committee. These cover both our financial and physical needs. We hope you'll consider joining one of our teams.

**Bertie Barens, President**

**Art Learned ~ Art Loved ~ Art Lived**

# Member Information

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

## Venables Theatre



# YAMABIKO TAIKO

PART OF THE VENABLES ALIVE!  
LOCAL ARTIST SERIES

**THU APR 16**  
**@ 6:30**

AT VENABLES THEATRE IN OLIVER

TICKETS: [WWW.VENABLESTHEATRE.CA](http://WWW.VENABLESTHEATRE.CA)



VENABLES  
*Alive!*



Venables Theatre  
gratefully acknowledges  
our sponsors:



Supported by the Province of British Columbia



# Venables Theatre



Sign up for the e-newsletter at this link:

<https://www.venablestheatre.ca/e-m>



[www.venablestheatre.ca](http://www.venablestheatre.ca)



**Arts and Culture Updates in your inbox!**

Sign up for the ePalette and receive weekly newsletters packed with information on gallery shows, plays, concerts and everything arts-related in the South Okanagan!

To subscribe email:

[artspalette@summerlandarts.com](mailto:artspalette@summerlandarts.com)

**Visit us on:**

Facebook: SummerlandArts

Instagram: @summerland\_arts\_centre

Twitter: @summerlandarts

# Desert Sage Fibre Arts Guild



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

For more info:

Visit us at [desertsageguild.ca](http://desertsageguild.ca)

Follow us on Facebook

Email us at

[desertsagefibrearts@gmail.com](mailto:desertsagefibrearts@gmail.com)





## The **Double O Quilters Guild**

meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:doubleoquilters@gmail.com)



The OCAC gratefully acknowledges our newest sponsor:



**OSOYOOS  
HOME HARDWARE**

8501 Main Street, Osoyoos, BC

PHONE. 1 250 495 6534

WEB. [osoyooshomehardware.ca](http://osoyooshomehardware.ca)

Facebook icon Osoyoos Home Hardware

Instagram icon [osoyooshomehardware](https://www.instagram.com/osoyooshomehardware)

**Canada's Warmest Welcome**

# ART & MUSIC

## FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK

Best Cellars Bistro & Books  
The Art Gallery Osoyoos  
Artists on Main  
The Osoyoos District Museum  
Century 21 Pop-Up Art  
Wayside Select Books & Art  
The Okanagan Art Gallery  
Backroads Brewing

6

MAR

3

APR

1

MAY

### FREE EVENTS

DOWNTOWN OSOYOOS 4PM TO 7PM

Sponsored by The Osoyoos & District Arts Council



### 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](mailto: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](mailto:OliverCAC@gmail.com)



P.O. BOX 1711 OLIVER, BC V0H 1T0  
[OliverCAC@gmail.com](mailto:OliverCAC@gmail.com)  
[OliverArtsCouncil.org](http://OliverArtsCouncil.org)  
[www.facebook.com/oliverartscouncil](http://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](mailto:OliverCAC@gmail.com)



## OMG! Okanagan Musicians Group

### Jam Night at Quails' Nest



**Sunday, May 3** 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.

There is an email group to which you can subscribe.

To be added to the group, send an email to [omg@legacyinterview.ca](mailto:omg@legacyinterview.ca) be sure to include your name and type of instrument in your message.



#### 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](mailto: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](mailto:olivercac@gmail.com) OR Call: 250-485-0088



# ArtAdventure Program:

Registration for Art Adventures camps are now open!

Online registration: <https://bit.ly/4bxRmT2>

Over the phone 250-498-4985  
In Person – 6359 Park Drive Oliver



The summer childrens art classes are open for registration  
New this year, register through Oliver Parks and Recreation.

Week of July 20th	Week of Aug 10th
5 to 8yrs	9am - 11am
9 to 12yrs	1pm - 3pm

We are now planning our art classes.  
This includes a call out for instructors. If you are interested  
in teaching a class, we would love to hear from you.  
(All instructors must complete a criminal record check.)

Questions email: [artadventureoliver@gmail.com](mailto:artadventureoliver@gmail.com)

Registration Link <http://bit.ly/4bxRmT2>

Phone 250-498-4985 (Parks and Recreation)

In person: 6359 Park Dr., Oliver

## Art Adventure Oliver

### Explore the World of Colorful Art & Crafts Ages 5-13

Fun Activities  
for Young  
Creatives

Join us for 2 weeks of  
artistic adventures and  
hands-on creations!



# WE CREATE 2026

FIND TIMES AND REGISTRATION AT  
PENTICTONARTSCOUNCIL.COM

PENTICTON  
& DISTRICT  
COMMUNITY | **ARTS**  
COUNCIL

## MAR 20

FRIDAY

ACTING WORKSHOP  
MAKE A NATURE-  
INSPIRED VISION  
BOARD  
ROCK PAINTING  
QUEIR HOUSE: STILL LIFE  
SONGCATCHING

## MAR 21 ●

SATURDAY

### SPRING ART WALK

Discover over 25  
different galleries and  
businesses throughout  
Penticton! Participate  
in our scavenger hunt  
for the chance to win  
prizes.



## MAR 22

SUNDAY

INK & PIGMENT  
MAKING  
COLLAGE BLACKOUT  
POETRY  
GATHERING SPOONS:  
PRACTICE IN SELF-  
REFLECTION  
INTERWOVEN: SPEED  
CHARACTER WRITING  
DRAG KINGS,  
QUEENS, & THINGS

## MAR 23

MONDAY

WEEDY BEE BOOK-  
MAKING  
MAIL ART  
MAKE YOUR OWN TIARA  
BRING YOUR SETTING  
TO LIFE: WRITING  
WORKSHOP

## MAR 24

TUESDAY

WATER WORDS  
POETRY WORKSHOP  
PEN & INK: LEARN TO  
DRAW  
PARADE PUPPET-  
MAKING  
BUILD YOUR OWN  
ARCHIVE



SCAN ME WITH PHONE CAMERA

## MAR 25

WEDNESDAY

PAPER-MAKING  
BASKETWEAVING

## MAR 26

THURSDAY

ARTSY AGING: PAINTING  
PAINT A POT, PLANT A TREE  
PARADE PUPPET-MAKING  
KOKEDAMA MOSS BALL  
L'AME FRANCOPHONE



**The Fabricators**, a group of fabric artists based in the South Okanagan, are exhibiting their rendition of 'Stitching the Blues' at the Summerland Art Gallery from May 14 – June 5. Everyone is invited to the show opening, May 14 (Thurs) from 1-3pm to meet some of the 11 artists, including Oliver members: Darlene Chapman, Linda Lebert and Marianne Parsons.

Artwork inspired by Marianne's hand painted fabric is the focal point of the show, along with other pieces featuring that awesome color blue in all of its iterations.

The gallery is located at 9525 Wharton St., Summerland, BC.



The Summerland Arts Council  
presents

***'Stitching the Blues'***

by **The Fabricators**  
May 14 – June 5

**Summerland Art Gallery**

9525 Wharton St.  
250-494-4494

**Wed. – Fri. 10 – 4pm**

Open Reception:  
May 14 – 1-3 pm

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF 46<sup>th</sup> ODHS**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - May 6,**  
**2026 - 7PM**

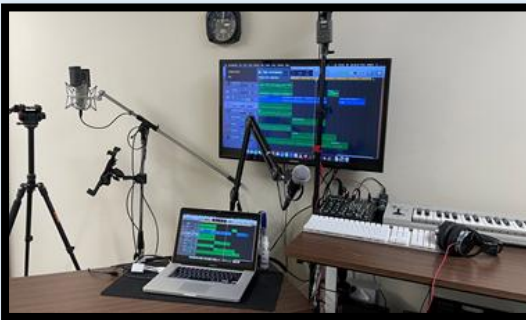


Oliver and District Heritage Society will hold its 46<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on Wednesday May 6th, 2026 at Quails Nest Arts Centre, 5840 Airport Road, Oliver, V0H1T0, from 7pm.

All persons interested are warmly invited to attend, and all members in attendance may vote. Memberships will be available on the night. Anyone wishing to stand for election to our Board may do so, and may contact us in advance for details.

Hard copies of the Agenda, previous AGM Minutes, Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2025 will be available at the AGM, or can be obtained free of charge by calling at the ODHS Archives Building, 430 Fairview Road, Oliver, V0H1T0, writing to us, calling us on 250-212-3435 or emailing us at [info@oliverheritage.ca](mailto:info@oliverheritage.ca).

We are excited to announce that attendees at the AGM will hear a fascinating address from our guest speaker Jenna Bower of the Osoyoos Indian Band, and the inspirational Executive Director of the fabulous Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre, in Osoyoos.



**It's your story!**

**[LegacyInterview.ca](http://LegacyInterview.ca)**

**Find us on Facebook**  
**@LegacyInterview.ca**



25<sup>TH</sup>

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





**EXHIBITS & EVENTS...**

**CURRENT XHIBIT "Captured Images" Runs Feb. 28th - Apr. 5th**

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FASHION SHOW - Was a Great Success**

**ART WORKSHOPS SURVEY**

**NEW 2026 PCAC BOARD MEMBERS**

**WORKSHOPS...**

**"LIFE DRAWING WORKSHOP" - Draw from Life with Confidence With Jim Elwood**

**"LEANING INTO ABSTRACTION" - Painting Expressively Workshop With Kathy Hale**

**"ACRYLIC PAINTING" With Wally**

**"THE LAYERED SELF" - Bridging Inner Expression and Outer Realism With Sandra Van Den Ham**

**"PALETTE KNIFE LANDSCAPING" With Linda Lovisa**

**"Weekly Wednesday Drawing Workshops" With TERRY MOORE - 1pm - 3pm**

**Visit [Peachlandarts.ca](https://peachlandarts.ca) to learn more**



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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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 April 27, 2026 to [olivercacnews@gmail.com](mailto:olivercacnews@gmail.com)



Discover the creative side of BC

Download the Arts BC app and start exploring!

<https://artsbc.org/>

## 2026 Member Groups/Businesses

- Black Rabbit Fabric
- Coachmasters
- Desert Sage Fibre Arts Guild
- South Okanagan Stitchers
- Firehall Brewery
- Friends of the Oliver Library
- GN'R Alpaca Boutique
- Infinity Acres Flowers
- Kreutopia Arts
- Okanagan Moon Apothecary
- Oliver & District Heritage Society
- Oliver Community Garden Society
- Oliver Community Theatre Society (Venables Theatre)
- Oliver Handbell Ringers Society
- Oliver Sagebrushers
- Oliver Senior Centre Society
- Oliver Tourism Association
- RipOff Artists
- Riverside Garden Centre
- Sage Valley Voices Community Choir
- South Okanagan Community Inclusion Society (SOICS)
- South Okanagan Rockhounds
- 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](http://www.oliverartscouncil.org/membership)

Watch for new workshops and other programming throughout the year.

[www.OliverArtsCouncil.org](http://www.OliverArtsCouncil.org)

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

You just need to send an email to [olivercac@gmail.com](mailto:olivercac@gmail.com)

And tell us why your chosen person should be spotlighted!



**Newsletter Disclaimer:**

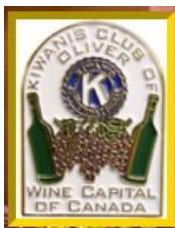
All info, views and opinions supplied by member groups, businesses and individuals are that of the group/business/individual and not of OCAC.

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 monthly at the Quails' Nest Studio. We welcome input from our members.

Email [OliverCAC@gmail.com](mailto:OliverCAC@gmail.com) with any questions.



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ARTS COUNCIL



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

Supported by the Province of British Columbia

