



Northern Arts News

A Publication of the Region 2 Arts Council

May/June 2009
Vol. 11 No. 5

Guest Commentary: The New Haiku

By Marsh Muirhead

Haiku, as practiced in English speaking countries today, are no longer the rigid three-line 5-7-5 or 5-5-7—syllable poem our teachers taught us. Still, some poets insist on the old rule. Here's a haiku in traditional style by Billy Collins:

A cloud glides over
the face of the moon—
sound of the belled cat, hunting.

Another old requirement of a haiku is that it contains a season-word, a specific reference to the time of year, the kigo, which poets used to indicate, for example, spring: silkworms, east wind, snails, azaleas. The poem also had to be grounded in an image of the natural world, and this image was then compared to another image to create an "Ah ha!" moment in response to an unexpected twist or revelation in the poem.

Here's a haiku by the early Japanese master Basho:

old pond
a frog leaps in
water's sound

Hmmm. Here the syllable count is only 2-4-3. What's with that? Well, in Japanese the syllable count is correct, but translated into English, the poem has fewer syllables. Japanese syllables are shorter than ours.

At any rate, the task of haiku—in any language—is that the

juxtaposition of images create an emotional response revealing a fresh insight, a new truth. The practice of writing and discussing haiku now allows poems which are freer and more oriented to human experience. Here's one of my own:

autumn rain
taps the fallen leaves
property taxes due

English language haiku now contains 10-17 syllables, and humor, social commentary, and personal insights are also acceptable as long as the poem focuses on image, not idea. The poem should be like a photograph, a picture made by words, but without commentary or evaluation. Similes and metaphors are out of place—the image is the thing. Here's another of mine:

between fence rails
a little boy explains cows
to the cows

If the new haiku appeals to you, you'd like to learn more or would like to write them yourself, you can check the Websites for The Haiku Society of America at www.hsa-haiku.org, or for Modern Haiku at www.modernhaiku.org. Or you can attend my workshop (details in this issue of Northern Arts News) on May 16th.

Marsh Muirhead is a Bemidji area dentist, flight instructor, photographer and writer. He can be reached by e-mail at generalisimo07@yahoo.com.

Region 2 Arts Council Seeking Board Members: Hubbard County

R2AC is currently seeking a board member from Hubbard county to fill a two-year term vacancy beginning July 1, 2009.

Those who feel that the visual, performing and literary arts are an important contribution to the quality of life in north central Minnesota are encouraged to consider serving on the board of Region 2 Arts Council.

The board is responsible for planning, setting policy, and reviewing, and awarding grants. It meets seven times per year in Bemidji on the third Monday of the month. Members are reimbursed for travel.

Region 2 Arts Council is one of eleven arts councils in the state of Minnesota and awards over \$69,000 annually for arts activities in the five counties of Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahnommen. The council operates with funds from the Minnesota State Legislature and a generous grant from the McKnight Foundation.

To receive an application, please write to: Nominating Committee, Region 2 Arts Council, 426 Bemidji Ave, Bemidji, MN 56601; or call Executive Director Terri Widman at 218-751-5447 or 800-275-5447.

Completed applications must be received by **June 1, 2009**.

R2AC Awards Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grants

Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) awarded \$5,065 through the Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Program which is funded through an appropriation from the McKnight Foundation.

Duane Goodwin received \$800 to maintain a photo journal and photograph his sculpture for his new website.

Bemidji State University Indian Studies Program was awarded \$1,938 for the Annual Spring Art Expo co-sponsored by Leech Lake Tribal College.

Dave VanWert Studio received \$727 to purchase quality tools to progress in his stone sculpting career.

Wesley May was awarded \$800 to create a cohesive body of work to exhibit at national art shows to strengthen marketing opportunities.

Margaret J. LaRoque received \$800 to purchase a laptop computer with printer to help her with creating and selling her art (jewelry).

Painting is so poetic, while sculpture is more logical and scientific and makes you worry about gravity.

Damien Hirst

Showcase Artist

Alice Blessing

"Ivan"
12" x 18"
Acrylic on Canvas

~ See Page 4 for more from Alice ~



NORTHERN ARTS NEWS is a free publication of the Region 2 Arts Council, published 6 times per year, with a distribution of over 1,300.

Funded by a grant from the McKnight Foundation, *Northern Arts News* provides news and information to artists in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnomen counties of north central Minnesota.

We welcome:

- story topic ideas;
- guest commentary topic ideas;
- names to add to our mailing list;
- collaboration and registration notifications.

To submit information and/or to be added to our mailing list, contact the R2AC office:

Call: 218-751-5447 or 1-800-275-5447

FAX: 218-751-2777

E-mail: r2arts@paulbunyan.net

Website: www.r2arts.org

Northern Arts News
Region 2 Arts Council
426 Bemidji Avenue
Bemidji, MN 56601

Fiscal Year 2009 Board of Directors

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GUEST COMMENTARY inquiries are invited. Submit your topic idea to Terri Widman by telephone, FAX, or e-mail. Selected works must be previously unpublished and fit within the space allotment.

Due to the advanced print deadlines of this publication, we suggest that you call to confirm dates, times, and other pertinent information about events and opportunities listed here.

R2AC Awards Individual Artist Grant Awards

Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) recently awarded \$5,700 through the Individual Artist Grants Program which is funded through an appropriation from the McKnight Foundation.

Alice Linda received \$1,000 to purchase supplies to complete paintings for an exhibit at the Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse.

Katherine Vang Haws was awarded \$1,000 to master the art of antler basketry. The funds will assist in purchasing supplies.

Celia Littlecreek received \$1,000 to attend a workshop presented by five world renowned artists in the ceramic field specializing in low-fire techniques.

Abraham A. Hunter was awarded \$1,000 to attend the La Musica Lirica International Music Festival in Italy.

Courtney Reutzel received \$685 to purchase a digital camera for a photography exhibition of her work.

LouAnn Shepard Muhm was awarded \$435 to purchase a refurbished laptop computer to maintain her website, conduct business and write.

Kari Sershon received \$580 to create a series of monoprints for an exhibit.

Region 2 Arts Council/McKnight Grant Awards to Arts Organization

Region 2 Arts Council (R2AC) recently awarded \$10,000 through the McKnight Grants to Arts Organizations program, funded through an appropriation from the McKnight Foundation.

North Country Museum of Arts was awarded \$500 to construct four portable double sided display wall units with storage to increase the exhibition display space for art exhibitions.

Pequana Playhouse was awarded \$1,500 to assist in producing and presenting *The Sound of Music*.

Headwaters School of Music and the Arts was awarded \$3,000 to continue programming services to the Clearwater County area.

Loonfeather received \$2,000 to assist with publication, sale and promotion of *On Days Like This*, a poetry collection by local author Patricia Conner.

Bemidji Symphony Orchestra was awarded \$3,000 for the annual Summer Pops Concert joined by the internationally renowned Triple Play, an eclectic jazz trio.

Long Lake Theater
presents:

A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline

June 3 - 27, 2009

Follow her climb to stardom from her hometown in Virginia to The Grand Ole Opry, Las Vegas and Carnegie Hall!

Performances:

Wednesdays 3 p.m.

Thursday - Saturdays 7:30 p.m.

Tickets:

Adults: \$18

Children (ages 4-12): \$9

Lap children: Free

Group rates available.

For reservations, call 218-732-0099 or visit www.longlaketheater.net. Tickets available at Sister Wolf Books (Dorset) and Beagle Books (Park Rapids).

Located in Hubbard (about 8 miles south of Park Rapids).

Northern Arts News

Submission deadline

June 7

for the

July/August issue

Please send to:

amy.zimmermann@hotmail.com

r2arts@paulbunyan.net

OPPORTUNITIES

Call for Entries

MacRostie Art Center 17th Annual Juried Exhibition

Deadline: June 1, 2009
Exhibit dates: August 3 - 28, 2009

Participants may submit up to two entries per artist per category. Submitted work must have been completed in 2008 or 2009 and not shown previously in other Macrostie Juried Exhibitions.

For more information or to request an entry form, call MAC at 218.326.2697 or e-mail info@macrostieartcenter.org

This is made possible in part by a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council through an appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature and is sponsored in part by Grand Rapids State Bank.

Split Rock Arts Program

The University of Minnesota's series of summer workshops in creative writing, visual art and design.

These are weeklong workshops in the Twin Cities, weeklong retreats at the University's Cloquet Forestry Center and a series of three-day workshops.

Split Rock's online and print catalogs offer complete program, scholarship, accommodation and registration information. To request a catalog call 612-625-8100 or e-mail splitrockarts@umn.edu.

Register by calling 612-625-8122 or online at www.cce.umn.edu/splitrockarts.

Interlochen College of Creative Arts

A collection of adult education and professional development programs for professionals, amateurs and educators.

Classes are based on the campus of Interlochen Center for the Arts in the woods of Northern Michigan.

Class categories:

- Creative Writing
- Music
- Visual Arts
- Theatre
- Motion Picture
- Professional Development

For more information or to see class offerings, visit www.interlochen.org.

About the Showcase Artist Alice Blessing

Artist's Statement:

I paint portraits in acrylic with my fingers, sometimes on commission from people who want paintings of their loved ones. I've noticed that contours and dimples on a face form integral parts of character; why do I feel like I know somebody better after I've painted them?



"Yoruba"
30" x 30"
Acrylic on Canvas

Artists of Minnesota Juried Spring Show

Dream, Create, Inspire!

May 15, 16, 17
At the Hampton Inn, Bemidji

Includes Demo Artists:

Jane Freeman

Bemidji watercolor artist
Demo on values

Maureen O'Brien

Bemidji acrylic artist
Demo in acrylics

Show Judge:

Natalia Himmirska

BSU Professor of Fine Arts

Exhibit open to the public:

1 - 5 p.m. May 16
9 - 2:30 p.m. May 17

The show is sponsored by Northern Minnesota Artist Association and Gallery North with a grant from the Region 2 Arts Council through funding from the Minnesota State Legislature.

For more information on the Spring Show, contact Pat Shough at 218-760-2308 or visit www.artistsof-minnesota.org. Pick up registration forms and information at Gallery North.

Website Gallery

If you are not already on Artists of Minnesota website gallery, don't miss this opportunity. Visit www.artistsofminnesota.org for more information.

Region 2 Arts Council Sponsors Workshops

*Let's Do Haiku:
Images of Nature - Reflection of Ourselves*

Saturday, May 16th 9 - 3 p.m.
The Hampton Inn Boardroom, Bemidji
Cost: \$40, Registration Deadline is May 11, 2009
Presenter, Marsh Muirhead

Explore the history and tradition of the form from its Japanese origins to the current English language practice with these jewel-like, sometimes explosive haiku.

Watercolor: Throwing Paint for Foliage and Flowers

May 26 -28 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Mantrap Valley Conservation Clubhouse, Park Rapids
Cost: \$100, Registration deadline is May 1, 2009
Presenter, Kathy Kovala

Kovala will challenge artists to improve their confidence and skill in watercolor painting. She will stimulate creativity and enthusiasm for producing more and better paintings.

TO REGISTER, for either workshop, send check payable to Region 2 Arts Council, 426 Bemidji Avenue, Bemidji, MN 56601.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

The Centennial Celebration of the Arts is looking for community members to participate in a hands-on residency with the "In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre" (HOBT).

The culmination of this residency will be a two day Pageant Presentation at the 42nd Annual Art in the Park festival July 18th -19, 2009.

HOBT is looking for:

- Children and adults with theatrical interest
- Musicians of all ages
- Volunteer crew members

For more information or to volunteer contact Janet Brademan at the Headwaters School of Music and the Arts at 218-444-5606 or headwatersschool@yahoo.com.

This activity is sponsored by the Bemidji Community Art Center, Headwaters School of Music and the Arts and Bemidji Community Education. It is also made possible in part by a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK

May 1
June 5

Downtown Bemidji

More information in our
"Calendar of Events" under each
participating business or gallery.

MAY

Through May

Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse will present "First" by Don Houseman which will feature his original pen and ink illustrations from his first children's book "How Harvey and His Friends Saved the Barn." **First Friday** opening reception 3-6 p.m. Mar. 1st. First Friday Wine Bar from 5-9 p.m. featuring a dazzling new menu every month with wine and beer list to match. 523 Minnesota Ave. downtown Bemidji. 218-444-5282.

Through May

Bemidji Community Art Center will present the Annual 5th Grade Invitational which features work by ISD 31 5th graders and special guest schools Red Lake Elementary and Schoolcraft Learning Community. **First Friday** Art Walk and Opening reception on May 1st from 4-7 p.m. 426 Bemidji Ave N (Carnegie Library). www.bcac.wordpress.com. (218) 444-7570.

Through May

Gallery North will feature Marie Hamre, traditional needlecrafter, and Ted Peterson, oil painter. **First Friday** Open House 2-5 p.m. May 1st. The Gallery Showcase will feature watercolor artist Jane Freeman. 502

3rd St. NW. 218-444-9813.

Through May 17

North Country Museum of Arts presents Juried High School Fine Art Exhibition. Closing reception 2-4 p.m. May 17. Awards ceremony at 3 p.m. Museum hours: Tues. - Fri. Noon - 5 p.m. 301 Court Ave., Park Rapids. 218-237-5900.

Through May and June

North Country Museum of Arts presents Old Master Paintings from the Permanent Collection in the Great Gallery. Includes Metz Nigerian Collection Sculpture, sacred objects, textiles and functional options. Museum hours: Tues. - Fri. Noon - 5 p.m. 301 Court Ave., Park Rapids. 218-237-5900.

May 1 and 2 KG Entertainment presents Harold Pinter's *The Birthday Party*. 7:30 p.m. at Jammers Bluenote Ballroom - 6 miles north of Bemidji.

Tickets available at The Wild Hare Bistro and Harmony Natural Food Co-op. Cost: \$10; seniors and students \$8.

May 1 and 2 Classic Chorale concerts at 7:30 p.m. May 1 and 3 p.m. May 2 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Park.

May 3 Park Rapids Area Community Band at 3 p.m. at the Park Rapids Area High School Auditorium.

May 6 Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning will host "Art Projects During the WPA" by Thomas O'Sullivan. 9:30 a.m. at Landstad Church in Shevlin.

May 9 Gallery North presents a watercolor class On Northwood's Landscape at 1 p.m. Students will paint a Northwood's Birch tree with a variety of watercolor

Bemidji Chorale Spring Concert

Mother's Day, May 10th at 7 p.m.
Beaux Arts Ballroom, Bemidji State University

Concert will feature:

"How Lovely is thy Dwelling Place"
by Johannes Brahms

In memory of Lyle Jewell, Bemidji Chorale's first director

"Alleluia"

by Randall Thompson

In memory of Geoffrey Woodley, longtime member.

The concert is free and open to the public. A good will offering is appreciated. Following the concert will be an old fashioned Ice Cream Social.

For more information, visit www.bemidjichorale.org.

Bemidji Chorale is celebrating its 30th season!

background techniques. Sign up and register is at Gallery North, 502 3rd St. NW. 218-751-7741.

May 13 Beltrami Historical Society will host an informal discussion with archeologist Leslie D. Peterson on featured stone projectile points, darts and ceremonial blades from Morrison collection. Individuals are encouraged to bring artifacts for identification. 12-1 p.m. at the History Center, 130 Minnesota Ave. SW. 218-444-3376.

May 16 Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning will host "The Sneaky History of Growing Up Scandinavian" by Art Lee. 9:30 a.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Clearbrook.

May 13 Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning will host Syttende Mai Celebration. The Scandinavian Dinner will be served from 5 - 7 p.m. and the concert will start at 7:17 p.m. with musical guests Skalmusik.

May 19 Heartland Concert Association presents "Romanza" at 7:30 p.m. at the Park Rapids Area High School Auditorium. Admission by season ticket only. Season tickets can be purchased at Park Snyder Pharmacy, Beagle Books and Walker Art Gallery.

May 29 - 30 Brainerd Spring Show, Westgate Mall. Hours: Fri. 10-9 p.m.; Sun. 10-6 p.m. Cost: free. www.briggsmotley.com. 320-967-4691.

May 30 - 31 Street Faire at the Lakes in Detroit Lakes. A juried show of fine artists and crafters live music. Hours: Sat. 10-6 p.m.; Sun. 10-5 p.m. Cost: Free. www.dlstreetfaire.com or 800-542-3992 or 218-847-9202.

May 31 - June 1 Northland School of Dance recital at 2 p.m. May 31 and 6 p.m. June 1 at the Park Rapids Area High School Auditorium.

JUNE

Through June Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse will present "The Wild 'I'" photography by Irv Srom. Irv is a nature photographer with an emphasis on birds. **First Friday** opening reception 3-5 p.m. June 5th. First Friday Wine Bar from 5-9 p.m. featuring a dazzling new menu every month with wine and beer list to match. 523 Minnesota Ave. downtown Bemidji. 218-444-5282.

Through June Gallery North will feature Mary Knox Johnson, weaver, oragami and writer, and Marion Caroline Reil, watercolor, acrylics and oils. **First Friday** Open House 2-5 p.m. June 5th. The Gallery Showcase will feature photographer Pam Johnson. 502 3rd St. NW. 218-444-9813.

Through June North Country Museum of Arts present "Recent Works" by White

Birch Artists. **Second Friday** Reception 3-7 p.m. June 12. Museum hours: Tues. - Fri. Noon - 5 p.m. 301 Court Ave., Park Rapids. 218-237-5900.

June 12 - 14 Summer Arts and Craft Show at the Paul Bunyan Mall, Bemidji. Fri. 10-9 p.m.; Sat. 10-7 p.m.; Sun. 12-6 p.m. Cost: free. 218-751-3195.

June 26 - 27 Lake n' Pine Craft Fair at Shell Prairie Fairgrounds, Park Rapids. Fri. 10-7 p.m. and Sat. 9-5 p.m. Cost: free. 218-564-5336.

June 27 Gallery North presents "Thrown Floral" a watercolor class at 1 p.m. It will teach "wet on wet" watercolor painting with a floral theme. Sign up and register at Gallery North, 502 3rd St. NW. 218-751-7741.

June 27 Turtle Town Art Fair, Longville. Food, music, and demonstrations. 9-4 p.m. Cost: Free. turtletownartfair@arvig.net. 218-363-2238.

Make a Difference - Become a Partner with R2AC

It's been a while since we've heard from you. Your renewed financial support of Region 2 Arts Council is extremely important. Please renew your support today. Your partnership with Region 2 Arts Council strengthens the presence of the arts by supporting opportunities for arts creation, promotion, education, and funding for the people of Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahanomen Counties. People like you help to sustain our programs and services.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Circle Level of Partnership

\$50 Individual

\$100 Family

\$250 Sponsor

\$500 & Up Corporate



Region 2 Arts Council
426 Bemidji Ave.
Bemidji, MN 56601-3139

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Noteworthy

"Obedience," a sculpture by **Jay B. Jones**, Clearbrook, was accepted into the 2009-2010 Bemidji Sculpture Walk.

Bemidji pianist **Abe Hunter** will participate in La Musica Lirica in Italy. He will study at this famous festival to polish his craft of Collaborative Piano and will learn to speak Italian to further his career.

Linda Johnston, Cass Lake, has an essay, "You Are Together," published in the anthology "The Inner Journey: Views from Native Traditions." The anthology was published by Morning Light Press.

William Borden, formerly of Bemidji, has a new novel, "Dancing with Bears," out from Livingston Press. [www.livingstonpress.uwa.edu/htm%20\(web%20pages\)/Dancing%20with%20Bears.htm](http://www.livingstonpress.uwa.edu/htm%20(web%20pages)/Dancing%20with%20Bears.htm)

Jacob Gunvalson, a student at Clearbrook-Gonvick High School, was a finalist for the Northland Regional Poetry Out Loud Competition. He competed in the state competition March 9th.

Rachel Thelen, senior at Park Rapids High School, is the state champion for the 2009 Junior Duck Stamp Contest for her painting of a Cinnamon Teal. Her painting will be in the national competition on April 22, Earth Day.

LouAnn Shepard Muhm's book, *Breaking the Glass*, is a finalist for the Midwest Book Awards in two categories: Poetry and 2-Color Cover Design.

Shop 426

Fine Arts and Craft Gallery Shop

Located in the Bemidji Community Art Center, Shop 426 offers a wide range of original and hand made fine arts and crafts for the home and gift giving.

Stop by and see what's new. All proceeds from Shop 426 benefit BCAC programming and support the arts.

Hours:

Tuesday - Friday 12 - 5 p.m.
 Saturday 12 - 4 p.m.

This pilot project is made possible by funding through the Bemidji Rotary and a grant provided by the Bemidji Area Arts Endowment, a component fund of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation.