

Varley Volunteer Newsletter

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The Varley Volunteer Newsletter Has a Brand-new Look!

Summer 2009 is just around the corner, what better time to update our look? Our new modern-chic look reflects the character traits of our volunteers with a fun, creative, vibrant energy.

You will also see that we are making an effort to **Go Green** by sending out the Varley Volunteer Newsletter electronically. We hope you will help us in our efforts to reduce paper consumption by saving the newsletters on your computers and only printing out them out if absolutely necessary.

Hopefully you are starting to see that your Varley Art Gallery is better represented on the Internet through elements such as *YouTube*, *Facebook* and *Blogger*, and of course, our website!

We hope you enjoy our new format! As always, we enjoy hearing your feedback, so feel free to pass on your comments to me.

Have a wonderful summer,
Francesca Amato-Gauci
Development Officer
Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham
www.varleygallery.ca



Varley Fine Art Auction

On Thursday, May 14, 2009 the Varley Art Gallery hosted the 11th annual Varley Art Auction. This year's event was a tremendous success! A sold-out crowd of 350 guests were entertained by the Cuban duo *Picolino in Habana*, great food was served by local restaurants and caterers, Willow Springs served wine from their Stouffville winery, and Mariani's Custom Clothiers sponsored this year's martini bar.



*Ritchie's Auctioneer Stephen Ranger and
Varley Volunteer Elizabeth Beesley*

2009's Committee was comprised of Patrick Carr (Chair), Elizabeth Plashkes (Varley-McKay Art Foundation Vice-Chair), Francesca Amato-Gauci, Christina Assmann Laura Bennett, Doriana Cabeceiras, Julie Christian, Dolores Croth, George Huff, Paul Keeling, Patty Loveland-Gutzke (Board Member, Varley-McKay Art Foundation), Johanna Meharg, Maryam Mokhtari, Joanne Olson, and Peter Wales. We are especially grateful to the 60 volunteers who rolled-up their sleeves to help out in every capacity on the night of May 14th! A special thank-you goes out to Carolyn Symonds, Gail Arena and Paul Keeling's wonderful assistants for their wonderful help in the days leading up to the event. Without our team of volunteers we would not be able to boast that we raised **\$81,000** for the Varley-McKay Art Foundation! Thank-you!

Carnival of the Arts – Unionville Festival



The Masked Parade

In keeping in with the nature our current exhibition, *Carnival: The Spirit and the Soul*, the Varley Gallery worked in collaboration with the Bluebridge Festival team to present the first *Carnival of the Arts*, held on Sunday, June 7th. The Gallery was buzzing with activity, starting with masking-making workshops for children and adults. Artist Teodoro Dragonieri lead the adult workshop, which was well-attended by many of the Varley's own volunteers! Activities in and around the gallery focused on a celebration of all the arts – visual, musical and theatrical – with highlights including the masked parade down Main Street, the Canoe Opera and Ballet on Toogood Pond, musical plays for the younger crowd, children's story-telling, and a matinee concert in the gallery surrounded by the *Carnival* exhibition.

A Warm Welcome to the Varley Gallery's new Volunteers!

Felicity Bain, Elizabeth Beesley, Karen Carlson, Alka Chopra, Jo-ann Conrod, Kimberly Correia, Jasmine Desai, Rebecca Hardman, Wayne Johnson, Vicky Lam, Libby Lee, Bonnie Lo, Shabnam Rahimi-Golkhandan, Sheila Scott, Marv Sniderman, Jean Stewart, Anne Turner, Liza Wallman, and Sayed Zaidi.

Volunteer Special Interest Groups

If you would like to coordinate a special interest group, such as a Film Club, Poetry Club, or an Art Historical Group, kindly contact Francesca Amato-Gauci by emailing your name and suggestions to:

famato-gauci@markham.ca or contact by telephone (905)946-0955.

Cheers to you, Varley Volunteers!



Let's celebrate the success of this year's art auction by joining us for an outdoors cocktail party on Tuesday, June 23rd at the McKay Art Centre from 5:00 pm. Adult volunteers, if you have not already done so, please RSVP to Francesca by noon of Tuesday, June 23rd. We look forward to seeing everyone again.

2009 Volunteer Schedule

Gallery Meeter & Greeter

Gallery Docent

If you are able to help out on a once-weekly basis, please submit your preferences to Francesca Amato-Gauci for the following dates and times:

Monday – Saturday 11:00 – 1:00

Monday – Saturday 1:00 – 3:00

Monday – Saturday 3:00 – 5:00

Sunday 12:00 – 2:30

Sunday 2:30 – 5:00



Carnival: The Spirit and The Soul

May 21 – October 11

Canada Day Celebrations

July 1

Simcoe Day Celebrations

August 3

Markham Jazz Festival

August 15 and 16

Doors Open Markham

August 22 and 23

Labour Day Celebrations

September 7

Les Automatiste Revolution

October 21, 2009 – February 28, 2010

The Varley Gallery Presents:

Homes for the Holidays 2009

November 20 and 21, 2009

Town of Markham Civic Centre

Old Tyme Christmas

December 4