

<http://www.artddo.ca/>

association des artistes de Dollard
artists' association of Dollard



Our meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7pm unless otherwise specified.



Until further notice, the meetings will be held at
CHALET SUNNYBROOK, 7 RUE CADMAN, DDO



Calendar of Events

30 Sept 2025 Special General Meeting	28 Oct 2025 Guest : Jono Doiron jonodoiron.com	25 Nov 2025 Workshop: Angelo Russo AI Tool for artists
Thu, 18 Dec 2025 Potluck	27 Jan 2026 Guest : Mark Liam Smith Markliamsmith.com	24 Feb 2026 Guest : Peter W. Hart Peterwhart.com
31 Mar 2026 Workshop: Angelo & Donna	28 Apr 2026 Guest: Ishita Banerjee	26 May 2026 Potluck

REMINDER :

Please bring your name tags to the meeting so that we can match names with faces.

IMPORTANT :

Exceptionally, the May meeting will start earlier. Doors will be open as of 6:00 pm for member registration renewal and for food set-up. The AGM will take place before eating. Please remember to always sign the attendance sheet as it is important for us to know what programming attracts you and is used to determine eligibility to participate in shows.

RECAP

After the show

After many years away, our Spring Show returned to the Banquet Hall on the ground floor in the Community Centre. For those who haven't been there before, it was quite an eye-opener as the room is at least four times larger than Park View Hall. There was plenty of room for the 23 artists who were exhibiting work, so much so that we were able to have more than a dozen easels holding larger work inside and even outside the room. Chawki had three six-foot tables to display his finished work and a fourth for his demo. Renee had a dedicated six-foot table for her demo. Bobby worked on a drawing at yet another easel. There was a Welcome table, card table, table for portfolios, table for the vernissage, and still there was space for more artists if we had had more panels. So all in all, a great space. Attendance was slow both mornings but picked up both afternoons. To give you an idea, if we had been in Park View Hall, the room would have been packed tight for the vernissage. As it was a large room, there was plenty of space to move around. The good news is there was a lot of interest in the work itself but the sad news is that there was little cash outlay. Manjit sold some of his ever-popular work and several inquiries were made for an artist who wasn't there. We picked up three or four new members as a result of the show and you may meet some of them at our potluck.



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Thanks go out to the Exhibition team (Marie, Adele, Dominique, Frankie) who were the principal organizers before and during the event. Thanks also to the many helpers on site who put together and took apart panels: Derek (Hjordis), Bernard (Donna), Guy (Karen), Bernard F., Bobby, Chawki and everyone else who helped. Thanks also to Ani who stepped in to help with Social Media and Terry who worked under challenging circumstances. Thank you, Joan, for the television spots. Linda, Raina and her "assistant-in-law" put on a lovely table for the vernissage. It was quite popular as by the time I got to it, there was only a lonely chocolate left 😊

We definitely had more traffic than the 2025 spring show and I expect much of that was due to some increased publicity thanks to Bobby and Chawki's videos, and Megan Bradley (DCA) mailout to over 2000 DCA clients plus her Fine Art and Craft Fair vendors. Personally, I sent out about 350 invitations to the show and handed out poster-cards to anyone who would take them. Can we do more? Absolutely.

We have enough volunteers to get a classic brainstorming session going on the best way to develop future shows. This will be a structured meeting where the group will work to generate, organize, and prioritize ideas around the specific challenge of creating a financially successful show. This will be a session designed to encourage innovation and will have two phases.

- The Divergent Phase: The team will rapidly generate a high volume of ideas while suspending judgment and criticism. This is intended to push the group to look beyond conventional ideas.
- The Convergent Phase: Ideas generated are evaluated, grouped, and refined against the objective. The goal is to produce actionable next steps.

The mission will be not to think outside the box but to think like there is no box!



AGM

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place before we sit down to enjoy our potluck dinner. With the changes to our Governance Procedures approved by the membership last September, members are elected to their positions for a period of two years unless they are unable to complete their mandated term.

Financial Statements: Treasurer, Jerrold Fischer, will give us a brief update on our financial status (which is currently under review with the DCA).

Strategic Direction will be undertaken by the Executive following consultation with members on future shows, future programming, future workshops.

Elections:

Secretary: Duties are to record minutes of Executive meetings held four or five times per year and to record minutes of AGM. Recording minutes is not a matter of recording the discussion but of recording the decisions made and noting particulars of funds spent. See Mariska for more information.

Media: Traditional publicity (such as, newspapers, radio, television) and digitized (social media). We mostly look for free sources of advertising although paid sources may be considered

Traditional: We have a portfolio with guidelines, suggested areas to focus on and contact lists.

Social Media: Person (or persons) will ideally have some familiarity with popular social media platforms such as: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok, Snapchat, etc. We currently post to Facebook and Instagram but are open to any other popular platform. The duties are to occasionally post to the chosen platform upcoming special events such as shows, posters, perhaps, some interesting activities. See Ani for more information.

See Best Social Media Platforms By Numbers In 2026
<https://tagembed.com/blog/social-media-platform-users/>



Kirkland artists are having an indoor/outdoor show at Maison Lantier, 11 Lantier, Kirkland, H9J 2Y5 on May 23 and 24.

They will be painting on site at the same time.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal is due now. Please renew at the May meeting before sitting down to dinner. Jacinta will be on hand to pick up cheques or take cash. If you prefer to renew using a credit card, please call the DCA office at [\(514\) 684-7414](tel:5146847414) and tell them you wish to renew by phone. Be sure to update any personal information: new email address, phone number, etc.

Membership is climbing. Don't risk losing your spot because you didn't renew.

New membership, includes a personalized name tag

\$55 DDO Resident

\$60 Non-DDO Resident

Renewal of Membership

\$40 DDO Resident

\$45 Non-DDO Resident



NEW! We would like to create an ad hoc team—created for one specific task—to brainstorm new ways to get our art in front of the general public. This could mean suggesting new venues, finding approximate pricing, creating a target list of shoppers with deep pockets (companies who need art on their walls), fundraising with a group who has a publicity arm, etc.

As you know, the AAD is run by volunteers. Your participation is the way to be in the loop and help direct and create decisions beneficial for all. Participation from enthusiastic members with a let's-get-this-done mentality is who we are looking for. What can you contribute?

Status of Repairs to the Civic Centre and Community Centre



All contaminated material has been removed from the basements which flooded more than once. Most of the gyprock was removed and basically, the basements are down to the metal studs. Insurance claims were filed. No rebuilding will be done on the basements until the ground underneath the buildings is capable of handling runoffs such as extreme rainfall in a short period. The hope is that we will be back in the Civic Centre as of January 2027 but it remains to be seen to be believed.

(With apologies to Edvard Munch ;)

MY ART TRAVEL KIT – creating anywhere, anytime –Deepali Bhargava

Carrying my art with me wherever I go has become an important part of my creative process. I keep my art kit simple, lightweight, and easy to carry, while still making sure it has everything I need.

As summer approaches, many of us begin to plan trips—whether to our favorite destinations or to places waiting to be explored. It's the perfect season to step outside, observe, and capture moments. With a simple travel art kit in hand, you can turn these journeys into creative experiences, documenting not just what you see, but how you feel in those fleeting moments.

At the heart of my kit is a transparent medicine box, repurposed as a palette. Its multiple compartments allow me to organize colors neatly—whether I choose to carry a full 24-color selection or simplify to a limited palette (comes in small size). The transparency of the box makes it easy to see all the colors briefly. For painting, I rely on water-fill brushes. These are incredibly convenient, eliminating the need for carrying separate water jars. To stay flexible, I also include a small foldable glass, which can be used for additional water or for mixing colors when needed.

My surfaces are simple—either a small sketchbook or loose sheets of paper cut to size or even a handmade concertina sketchbook. This keeps things portable. Alongside, I carry a few essentials: pens for fine detailing, a pencil for quick sketches, and an eraser for corrections.

Every item in this kit are light to carry, quick to set up, and easy to pack away. It becomes a companion that helps me capture the essence of my journey, one sketch at a time.



Concertina (hand made)
and small sketchbooks



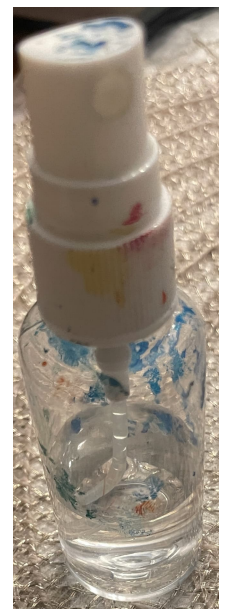
Brushes filled with water
come in various sizes



Color Palette



Foldable Glass for water



Small Water Spray

LIBRARY EXHIBIT – Dominique Lachance

Landscapes - I am a painter living in the West Island of Montreal. I first studied and worked in environmental biology and engineering. In recent years, I have rediscovered the pleasure of creating with acrylic paint, watercolor and drawing.

This series of paintings presents different landscapes painted in acrylic. My inspiration mainly comes from observations I made during many outdoor activities that I enjoy.

Through art, I try to transmit the state of harmony, contemplation, rejuvenation and return to nature that these landscapes give me. Some works are also fictional
lachance.dominique@outlook.com



ART IN THE CIVIC CENTRE BISTRO

We are looking for submissions for the two showcases in the Bistro (ground floor, senior's centre). The cases are designed to show the work clearly and are locked for protection.

At this time, we are looking for unframed work to hang in the cases.

"Thanks to everyone who's already submitted artwork!

We're extending the deadline until April 10 to give more members a chance to participate.

If you haven't submitted yet, we'd love to see your work!"



GST, PST and the AAD –

Following a restructuring at the DCA and a deep dive into the financial records, it was discovered that the DCA had been paying sales tax on AAD membership for many years.

Note that as a not-for-profit institution rather than a non-profit, the DCA and constituent parts (AAD membership, courses etc.) are subject to sales taxes. The DCA has offered the AAD a one-time tax subsidy for the 2026-2027 year which we accepted. We will revisit the topic again next year.



Centre des arts de Dollard
Dollard Centre for the Arts

If you are registering for a course with the DCA, be sure to ask for your AAD discount worth 15% on top of any other discount you may be eligible for (DDO

resident and/or senior). Until the DCA transitions to a new registration system in July, you will need to register by telephone to get the discount.



Reminder that as AAD members, you can get 10% off on framing and supplies (except Golden) and framing at Galerie D'Art in Plaza Pointe Claire. The staff is very helpful and well informed.

Les Encadrements Olympic at 6831 Av. de l'Épée, Montréal, QC H3N 2C7 has a very good selection of frames and very competitive prices.



POEM about "Home" - Derek Wills

Oh where is Cosmic home?
On planet Mars, under a dome?

Too futuristic you may declare
Think it more of an earthly affair

Like fox, rabbit and mole
For whom home is merely a hole!

And down which Alice
Might seek tea, in a palace!

Deeper still on ocean floors
Lie coral condos, without doors

Where also many a crustacean
Clings to rock in frustration

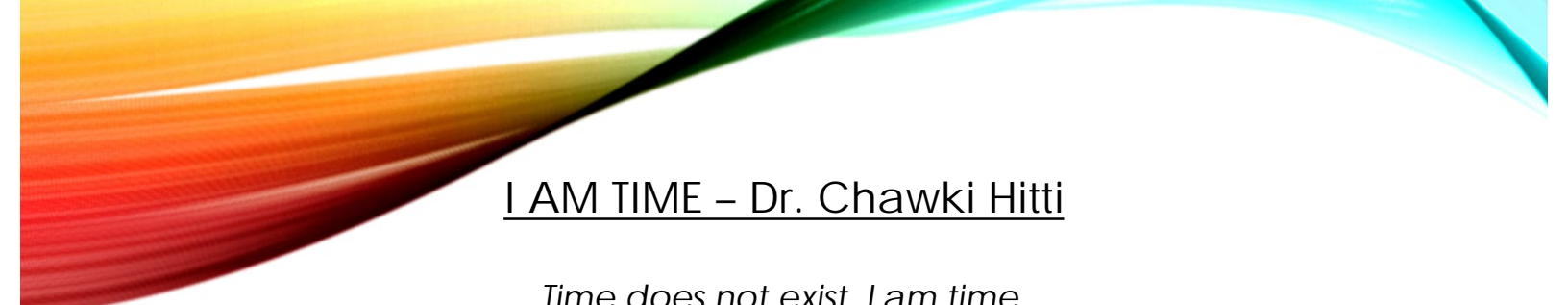
Home, home where one seeks rest
And hopefully to avoid any pest

But let's not be too emphatic
There is no fixed home for the aquatic

Constantly on the move for feeding
Even more so for breeding!

Then far above where wings beat the air
Homely nests are essential for every mating pair

But happiest are the human homeowners who can claim it's "sweet"
When the bank declares: "your last mortgage payment is complete!"



I AM TIME – Dr. Chawki Hitti

*Time does not exist, I am time.
I am the echo, I am the beat.
Time does not pass, it is I who fade away.
It is I who walk, it is I who tire.
I cross the hours as one crosses a bridge.
But the hours are only names I give.
I am the river and the current.
The hourglass without sand, the clock without a dial.
Time is not a river, it has no source.
It is I who draw its own course.
The past is only a memory I visit.
The future is a mirage my mind conjures up.
I am the moment, I am the shiver.
I am the dawn, the dusk, and the furrow.
It is not time that pushes me forward.
It is my breath that creates movement.
Time doesn't age, it's me who changes,
It's my face that space disturbs.
Wrinkles are not traces of time,
They are paths I've walked for a long time.
I am the painter, I am the canvas,
I am the flame, I am the star.
There is no time, there is only me,
A traveler who invents laws for himself.
Time doesn't flee, it doesn't collapse,
It's me who flows between my own steps.
When I stop, time will cease,
For time is me. Nothing other than that".*



Rosemere in Art – Rosemere, June 6 – 7, 2026

Fundy-St Martins Plein Air Art Festival 2026 – Saint Martins, NB, June 12 – 14, 2026

Art in the Park – Ottawa, June 13 – 16, 2026

Parrsboro International Plein Air Festival – Parrsboro, NS, June 16 – 21, 2026

Art in the Country – Picton, ON, June 26–July 12, 2026

Artfest Kingston – Kingston, ON, June 26 – 28, 2026

1001 Pots – Val David, QC, early July to mid-August, 2026, (120+ ceramists)

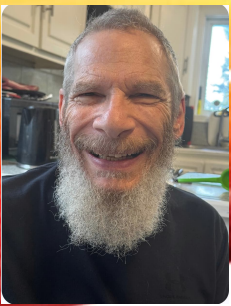
Toronto Outdoor Art Fair – Toronto, ON, July 10–12, 2026

Tour des Arts – Sutton, QC, July 11 – 19, 2026

Symposium de peinture du Kamouraska – Saint Germain, QC, July 16 – 19, 2026

Festival des Arts de Valleyfield – Valleyfield, QC, August 8 – 9, 2026

Symposium Bromont en art – Bromont, QC, August 28 – 30, 2026



Bobby Bennett



AAD MINI EXHIBITION AT THE CIVIC CENTRE

As a member of the AAD you have some opportunities to show your work. Every artist is unique, and we want to celebrate you wherever you are in your art journey.

Bobby will happily guide you through the process.

You can review past palettes to see previous exhibitors.

#1 Art at the Dollard Library!

Members of the AAD are invited to display their artwork on our designated library wall.

Every two months, one artist gets the space. No jury, no pressure – if you want to show your work, just reach out to Bobby.

You'll need 5–10 finished pieces (large or small), framed or with painted canvas edges, all with wire hangers. A short bio and a brief note about your artwork are also requested.

#2 Art in the FOYER!

We have two locked display cases dedicated to AAD members in the entrance to the DDO civic center

1. Work can be in any medium and must be on paper and unframed.
2. You can submit several pieces depending on their size.
3. They can be sketches or even unfinished work.

#3 Call for Artists – Showcase Your Work in the AAD Display Cases

AAD artists are invited to share their artwork in our two locked display cases located in the foyer (between the glass doors) at the Civic Centre, next to the library.

This is a simple, supportive way to introduce your work to the community and connect with fellow artists and visitors.

Quick Details:

- Any medium, but work must be on paper and unframed
- Submit enough pieces to fill one display case
- Each case features the work of one artist

This is not a juried exhibition, and your work doesn't need to be finished—just a reflection of where you are in your creative journey.

Interested? I'd love to hear from you and can guide you through the process.

Please email or telephone for more information at – bobbinnett@gmail.com | 514-249-5456

ART IN FOYER - Bobby Bennett



Ann De Benedetti

MESSAGE FROM THE WEBMASTER

artddo.ca - Attention all members! If you have not updated your work in the gallery section of our website, please send in new images of recent work now. If there are no images under your name, we need some now. A blank box above your name does not convey the sense of your artistic practice!

Send a short bio and a few jpeg images to artddo.ca@gmail.com

New to artddo.ca: On the Exhibits page click on the poster for our permanent exhibit *Celebration* and you'll find a photo of participating artists. On the Archives page you will see posters and invitation cards from our past exhibitions.

EXECUTIVE 2025-2026

Chair	Karen Sciortino - overall and general charge of the Association; a coordinator.
Vice-chair	Marie Guergues - support and replace Chair as needed.
Treasurer	Jerrold Fischer - monitor and account for AAD funds
Secretary	Mariska Smeding - record and distribute minutes of meetings
Exhibitions	Marie Guergues - responsible for all aspects related to exhibitions
Hospitality	Linda Farber - maintains a list of members for refreshments table at monthly meetings, coordinates vernissages with Exhibitions team
Membership coordinator	Jacinta Ionno - registers and collects annual membership fees
Mini exhibitions/Art in the Civic Centre	Bobby Bennett - monthly rotation showcasing work of one member in the library; two showcases at entrance; semi-annual rotation of members works for "Art in the Civic Centre"
Newsletter Editor(s)	Deepali Bhargava - English to French proofreading - circulates monthly newsletter "La Palette"
Programming & Workshops	Angelo Russo & Magda Mikhail - research potential presenters and workshops
Publicity	Joan Flynn - uses traditional vehicles such as radio, newspaper and television to promote events
Social media	Terry Fishman - informs our followers on Facebook and Instagram about our events
Webmaster	Ann De Benedetti - maintains and updates member web pages at www.artddo.ca ; posts upcoming meetings, exhibition dates, links from the site, etc.



COOKIE CORNER

30 September	Linda Farber – Raina Carolla
28 October	Susan Hodgson – Linda Shetzer
25 Novembre	Bahareh Fatemi – Terry Fishman
Thursday 18 December	Pot-luck dinner Everyone brings something!
27 January	Meeting Online
24 February	Visit to an Art Gallery
31 March	Mariska Smeding – Bobby Bennett
28 April	Reisha Bennett – Bob Field
Tuesday 26 May	Pot-luck dinner Everyone brings something!



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La Palette – The Newsletter
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