

My Artist's Corner Society, BC

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Make art. Be well.

2020 November

My Artist's Corner Society, BC delivers an art program for adults living with mental health issues residing in New Westminster and Burnaby. MAC operates in partnership with the Fraser Health Authority mental health Clubhouse in Burnaby, ECHO. Our program runs with a strong peer component, since the 20 MAC members make most of the major decisions about how we operate.

The past year has been, for all of us, a very unusual year!

Due to COVID-19, the program was closed mid-March to the end of May 2020. While the program reopened in June, it is now formatted as two shifts per MAC day, with 6 members per shift. This has brought challenges in scheduling, instructing and programming however we are all grateful that we can continue to provide this service. Our members gave us 'top marks' in a recent Satisfaction Survey and reported that the program helped with their sense of purpose, wellness and calmness.

The MAC Show schedule was thrown off kilter as first the Show we usually held at 100 Braid Street Studios in May was cancelled, and then the Annual Show & Sale at Shadbolt Centre for the Arts was cancelled in October. We were able to hold a small by-appointment-only Show in late October with considerable success!

Funding for the MAC program was severely affected by the pandemic and the grant we received from the Emergency Community Support Fund (Government of Canada) allowed us to continue operations. We are enormously appreciative of that funding. We have also started preparing video demos for our YouTube channel and are working on an on-line show through Instagram.

Teresa Morton
Coordinator,
My Artist's Corner