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People's Place

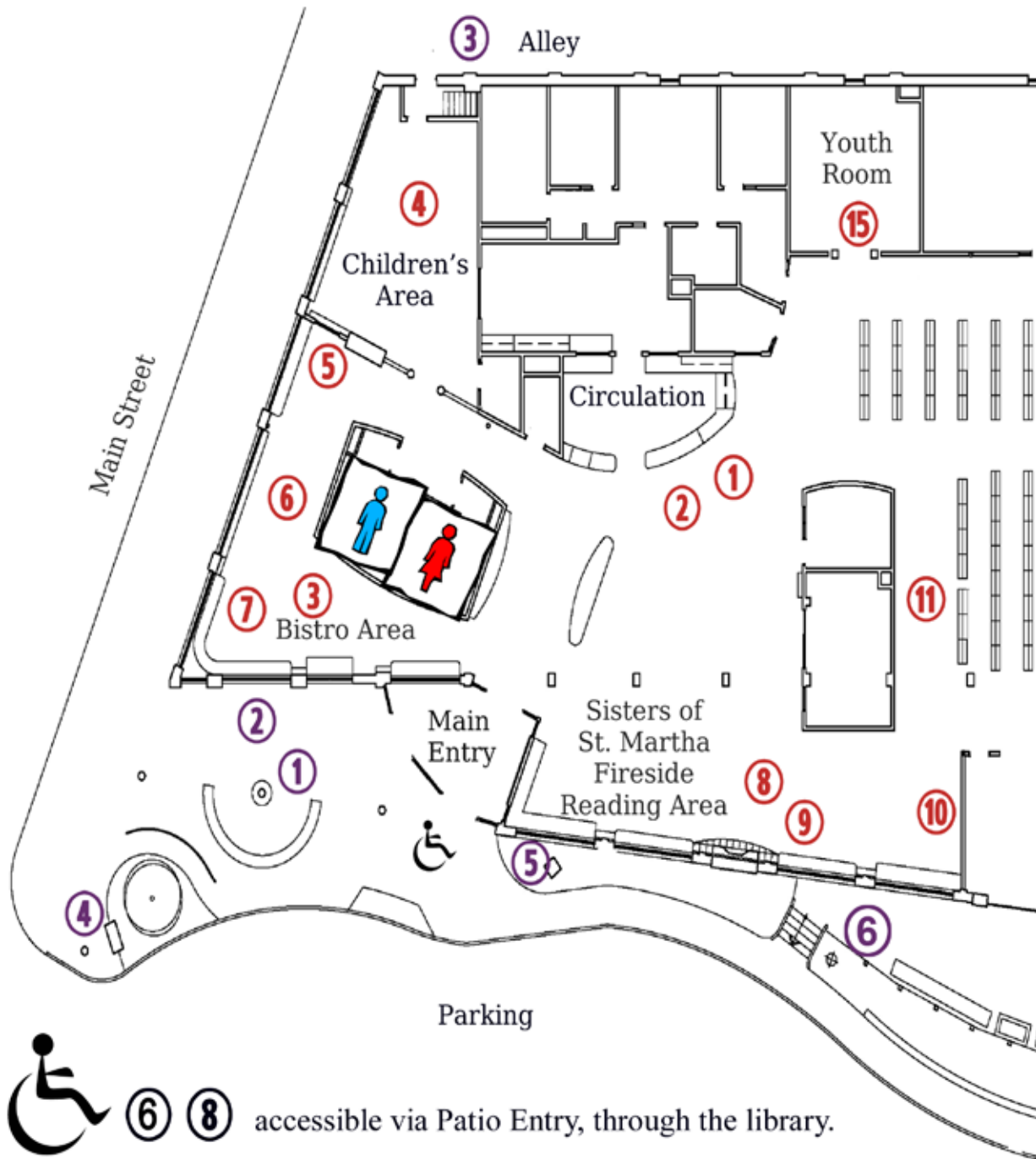
Artists & Artisans Walking Guide



Archibald and Fraser Architects Limited



Pictou-Antigonish
Regional Library



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Peter Ritchie — Declining Vertical Sundial
True North Concretions - Architectural Concrete Products
 952 Pleasant Valley Road, Antigonish Co. T: 902.867.2828



The sundial is a time-keeping technology that is accessible to all. It is for this reason I chose to create a sundial for the People's Place Project. In a sense, the sundial is timeless, for as long as the sun continues to transit the sky this landmark will continue to tell the time of day, as well as the time of year, no batteries required. This piece is the first of what I hope will be many commissions for True North Concretions. Concrete is a remarkable medium with which to create, and the design possibilities are nearly endless. From counter tops to fireplace hearths, furniture to monuments, purely functional and/or simply decorative, if you can imagine it in stone, I can create it better in concrete.

Patricia Gaines & Wendell White — Bench
 E: patriciagainesart@gmail.com E: wendellwh@gmail.com
 T: 902.386.2722

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Like the coastal areas of Nova Scotia, our bench is rough, wild, spirited and colourful, embodying the elements that make up our majestic coast. The bench was created by casting coloured concrete into a complex wooden and rubber mould, and adding coloured glazes and finishes. The carved mandala shape of the fiddlehead fern morphs into a spinning comet spitting life into the primordial forests. Ancient Long Boats turn into contemporary fishing craft, and ancient totems grow into lighthouses. It is all of life, beginning to end, and the wild, discordant display in-between. A vigorous display of movement, form and colour, grows quieter. The draped cloth represents the transitory, the human, and the impermanent. The open book represents knowledge, power and the mystery of life. It is there, waiting for each viewer to give meaning to her experience of looking at art.



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Heather Lawson — *Standing Word Stone*

www.heatherlawson.ca



Trained as a Restoration Stone Mason, I transitioned from architectural restoration to sculptor some 20 years ago; working out of my studio and gallery in Bass River, Nova Scotia. Having grown up in Antigonish, I am both pleased and excited to have contributed to this important project. The sculpture I have created for the People’s Place is a six foot high Word Stone hand carved from Indiana Limestone. The piece was envisioned to reflect all of the activities that will come to life at the center and will provide its own activity; that of reading and personal reflection. The words chosen for this piece were contributed through a variety of sources, including local community brainstorming sessions. In this way, it is truly representative of those who will enjoy the Peoples Place.

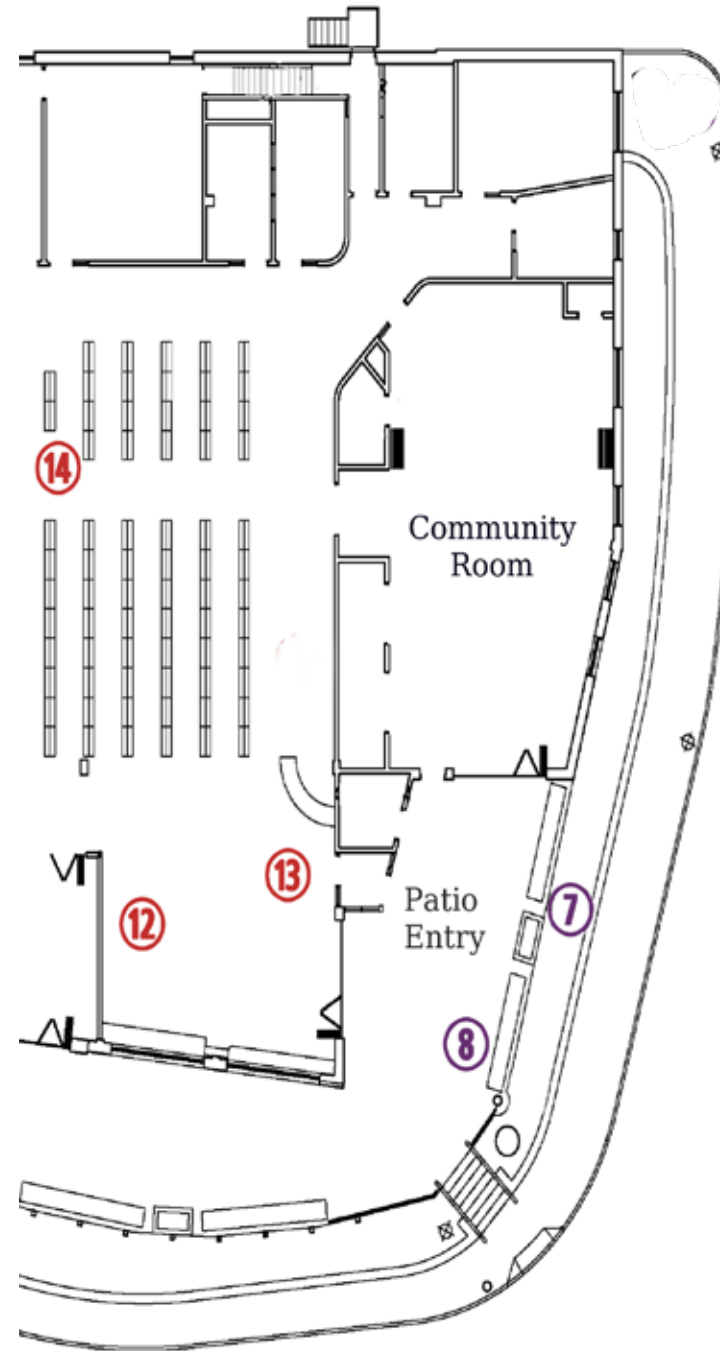
Unknown artist and Joe Arsenault — *Sandstone Bench*

Joe Arsenault, North Grant, Antigonish

The sandstone seat for this bench was created by an unknown artisan many years ago. You can see the chisel marks in the stone indicating it was shaped by hand. The stone was uncovered during excavation for the west foundation wall of the new library. It is likely the threshold of the old bank, from the 1880’s or 1890’s. It was the suggestion of the architect, Dale Archibald, that it be made into a bench. Joe Arsenault from North Grant, created the wonderful faces, using a stone that was at the doctor’s entrance of the former St. Martha’s Hospital. To see more of Joe Arsenault’s imaginative creations please visit his studio beside Arsenault’s Monuments in North Grant.



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Indoor Artworks

- 1. Mural
- 2. Desk Panels
- 3. Shelves
- 4. Textile
- 5. Stained Glass
- 6. Banners
- 7. Tables
- 8. Ceramic Tiles
- 9. Mantel
- 10. Mural
- 11. Study Carrels
- 12. Mural
- 13. Textile
- 14. Posters
- 15. Drawing

Outdoor Artworks

- 1. Bench
- 2. Maps
- 3. Mural
- 4. Sculpture
- 5. Standing Stone
- 6. Bench
- 7. Sundial
- 8. Bench

1**Kate Brown Georgallas — *Mural***

E: kbrown@stfx.ca T: 902.863.0151



My concept for the Library Mural was to celebrate the culture of our local region using visual patterns, textures, and colours taken from the arts and crafts of many Antigonish traditions. Look closely and you can see elements of pottery, rug hooking, quilting, painted manuscript, and other unique genres. I also wanted to suggest the beautiful local landscape as well as town and county landmarks. There are birds and wildlife too: a perfect match with the decorative concept of the mural as a whole. The figures dancing, working and performing show the act of celebration, history and community. The mural is framed on one side with the Antigonish landing and on the other side with the sea, defining how water is an important aspect of our life, commerce, and culture. The bear and the

berries symbolize the town and a river meanders through the whole mural bringing everything together. The mural is painted in acrylics on gesso-primed hardboard. I work largely in oils, acrylics and as a printmaker focusing on landscape, animals and the figure. My other works can be seen in local galleries and in galleries across the Maritimes. My other murals can be seen throughout the town of Antigonish, including St. Martha's Hospital, Sunshine on Main and Wong's Dragon.

David & Peter MacLean, MacLean Bros. Woodworking — *Panels on Circulation Desk*T: 902.863.2922
227 Old Beaver Road RR#1 Antigonish NS B2G 2K8

We have been operating together for 30 years from our shop in the Beaver Meadow area of Antigonish County. Working with wood is our passion. Over the years it has been a rewarding experience for us to collaborate with artists in other media to compliment or complete their work. We welcomed the opportunity to utilize our experience to contribute to this facility both functionally and aesthetically. It is commendable that the People's Place has endeavored to involve local artists, artisans, and craftspeople. Our products are available at many craft stores throughout Nova Scotia including Antigonish (Made in Nova Scotia Store and Lyncharm Pottery), the Atlantic Provinces and in Ontario. We are located 2 km off the Trans Canada at Exit 30 towards Keppoch Mountain.

**2****3****Andrew Murray — *In the Stacks***

Antigonish, Nova Scotia



With my theatre scene painting training I was delighted to take these skills outdoors. This mural is painted with latex paint on 6'x8' Dbond, the same material used for street signage, and coated with UV protecting varathane. It is painted in the same style as the other murals that I created on buildings nearby. The lady you see peeking through the books is the librarian of my childhood, Mrs. Grace MacKinnon. Also note some interesting titles on various volumes! These public artworks are dedicated to my parents, Bob and Mavis, who have always been an inspiration.

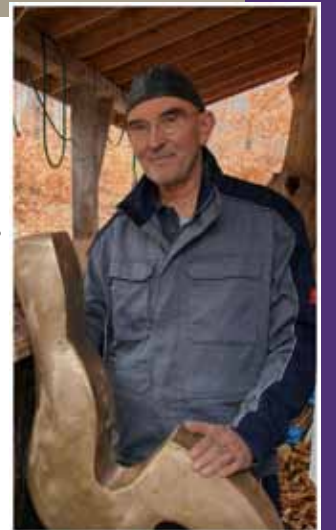
Rudolf Henninger — *Sculpture*

Lime Hill, 4091 Marble Mountain Rd. West Bay N.S., B0E 3K0

E: art@rudolf-henninger.com www.rudolf-henninger.com

T: 902.345.2147

I am a sculptor and architect based in Cape Breton. In the past five years I have established a number of public art installations and showed my work at various indoor and outdoor solo exhibitions in Canada and Europe. One of the central themes of my work is the contemplative human being, as an abstract figure, reflecting on the longing for harmony and communication in the modern world. This finds continuation in my concept for the People's Place Library outdoor sculpture. In its translation, it indicates a community supporting its library, as symbolized by book supports and a stack of books. The bronze book supports are abstract figures of today's community members holding up traditionally styled marble books containing the knowledge of centuries.

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Murray Gibson - Tapestry <http://people.stfx.ca/mgibson>
(from left) Lisa Leuschner, Matthew Wright, Cory Pelly, Michael Boddy,
Mary Ann MacKinnon, (seated) Tommy Landry



Tapestry weaving is a centuries-old art form practiced by most cultures around the world. Its hands-on process is slow and solitary, and seems antithetical to our contemporary age of digital technology when time is measured in nanoseconds rather than the days, weeks and months it takes to weave a tapestry. You might be interested to know that weaving is essentially a binary process, and that today's computers are the direct descendents of very old weaving technology.

Tapestries, based on a European tradition dating back many hundreds of years, are essentially narrative. My tapestry created for the People's Place also tells a story about life in Antigonish for a special group in our community - the artists from L'Arche Antigonish. Their drawings and paintings provide the pictorial elements which I have collaged together to create the design for this tapestry. It is bright and colourful, humorous yet thoughtful; much like the people who inspired it.

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Abbey Allen — Drawing
E: mail@abbeyallenart.com www.abbeyallenart.com



Since childhood, I have loved creating a magical world of alluring queens, whimsical fairies, and other strange creatures that appear in my imagination. I am drawn to the cavernous forest, its trees having surrounded my home in Antigonish for the better part of my life, and have always envisioned an enchanted and serene world radiating from even the darkest corners of everyday life. I love reading stories and showing stories in my artwork. For me, the most important thing about reading books is to be able to escape to different worlds, to learn, and to expand your mind. I love the fact that a new book can expose you to something that you never experienced or ever thought possible. Magic is the underlying focus in the piece, and

its purpose is to inspire curiosity to explore all the different stories the library has to offer. Anything you read can be real if you let it.

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**David & Peter MacLean, MacLean Bros. Woodworking —
Tables T:** 902.863.2922
227 Old Beaver Road RR#1 Antigonish NS B2G 2K8

Throughout the library there are 15 tables, made by MacLean Bros. Woodworking. All table tops are constructed from Bird's-Eye Maple sourced in Nova Scotia. Bird's-Eye Maple is indigenous to the Acadian and Great Lake-St. Lawrence Forest Regions of Eastern North America. The Bird's-Eye Maple pattern or formation can occur where ever Sugar/White Maple grows, but is often in mixed hardwood stands in harsh northern growing conditions, often in deformed trees. This perfectly describes the forests of Nova Scotia.

8

Fenn Martin — Living Stories
Sculpted Ceramic Tiles for Fireplace Surround
E: martinfenn@hotmail.com

For The People's Place Fireplace Surround, I have chosen to unite two distinct aspects of Antigonish culture that I have come to admire. Living Stories weaves two imagined narratives that travel up the sides of the fireplace to join in the top section. The left side of the fireplace surround explores a world of past experiences, a world of self reliance and tireless work within declining small scale agrarian life. Amidst the beams of a barn, an aging man holds an axe. The right side of Living Stories embodies friendship surrounded by natural beauty. People are gathered to enjoy a campfire, and the rush of canoeing down the West River. Along the top, the river unfurls into field, a harbour vista where two stories, past and present, become one. I graduated from NSCAD and am a practicing ceramic artist working from a renovated barn in the Ohio Valley, Antigonish.



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David & Peter MacLean, MacLean Bros. Woodworking —
Mantel T: 902.863.2922
 227 Old Beaver Road RR#1 Antigonish NS B2G 2K8

The woodwork component framing this fireplace was created by master craftsman Peter MacLean of MacLean Brothers Woodworking, Beaver Meadow, Antigonish.

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Keith Grant — *Study Carrels*
 E: kkgrant@seasidehighspeed.com T: 902-863-8237

A carrel desk is a small desk featuring high sides meant to visually isolate its users from any surroundings. It is thought that carrels originated in monasteries or cloisters to help contain the cacophony of roomfuls of monks reading aloud, as was the early practice. These carrels are an original design by Keith with input from architect Dale Archibald and Chief Librarian Eric Stackhouse.

Alan Syliboy—*The Dream Canoe*
<http://alansyliboy.com>

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I am a Mi'kmaq artist living on the Millbrook First Nation reserve outside of Truro, Nova Scotia. Sometime in the mid-80's, I was visiting the Afton reserve where I developed many lasting friendships. I came upon the Prosper kids playing in a canoe on a summer's day. This took me back instantly to many summer days of my childhood where I did the exact same thing. But now, I was an observer. I was lucky to have my camera with me and that I went unnoticed (which would have broken the spell). This is the closest I'll ever come to re-living a moment of my childhood. This painting will forever take us back to a warm summer's day on a voyage with your best friends. Most of my subjects deal with the concept of family - their searches, struggles and strength. All of these things are part of my art, and my art gives me strength for my continuing spiritual quest.

**12**

Nicholas Johnson – *Let the Outside In - Mural*
 Acrylic and Pencil on Birch Panels
www.nicholasjohnson.ca

For *Let the Outside In* I wanted to depict the experience of reading - the feeling that the surrounding space is merging with other places. I began the work by making a collage in order to explore ways of combining different spaces in the same composition. Bringing the outside indoors seemed like a good way to depict how other experiences and places can filter in through a book to colour one's experience of the place they're in. Also, by jumping between styles and techniques, a painting can be about many things at once. The space at the centre of the painting is intentionally empty - a kind of abstraction which I think is interesting because of its contrast to the natural forms of the trees. Its emptiness also represents my thinking about the library where the painting would eventually hang, but which didn't exist at the time I made the painting. The figures on the far right are flattened and meant to appear as if they were cut out of paper, revealing the painting's beginning as a collage. I hope you enjoy looking as much as I did painting.



5**Linda Henke and Iris Roach - *Irilin Designs***Antigonish E: irilindesigns@eastlink.ca

Linda Henke studied design and textiles at Florida State University. She recently retired as Development Officer at St. Francis Xavier University. Linda is a member of the Antigonish Culture Alive (formerly GAPACC) Board of Directors, served as its Chair for three years, and is currently Treasurer. Iris Roach has a Master of Fine Arts degree and has been Chair of the StFX University Fine Art Department for the last 14 years. We are both long time members of the StFX Art Gallery Board of Directors. After studying the art of stained glass, we formed a partnership, Irilin Designs, in 1985. Irilin Designs is a small business specializing in commission pieces on which we collaborate. Our

commissions can be found locally, throughout Nova Scotia, Canada, the USA and in Europe. Most of our designs are created using hand blown European glass. This design was inspired by the magnificent colony of great blue herons found in the wildlife sanctuary at the Antigonish Landing. The three great blue herons depicted stand together in the marshes, adjacent to local rocks, land and grasses with a beautiful Antigonish sunset behind them.

Anne Camozzi — *Nature Celebration - Banners*www.annecamozzi.com

I created six paintings on silk to celebrate the natural beauty of the Antigonish area and to help bring nature indoors to the library. Each of the images features wild or cultivated flowers, creatures familiar to all, and people reading books. Sarah O'Toole coordinated the reproduction of my images on banners and installed them in the Bistro Area. My belief that art improves lives, and that the People's Place Library will be an important gathering place for our community, made me excited and grateful to participate in this public art project. Thank you to all who made it possible! My work can also be seen at the Dickson Building of the QEII Health Sciences Centre in Halifax, the Antigonish Mediplex, the Antigonish Women's Resource Centre, and at Lyghtesome Gallery in Antigonish. To see more of my art, and learn more about me, visit my website.

**6****14****Anna Syperek — *Dewey Decimal Posters***E: seabright@ns.sympatico.ca

When I moved to Antigonish in 1971, I was profoundly moved by the landscape and culture of this area. Self-taught in oils and watercolour, I studied printmaking at NSCAD and teach at StFX in the Art Department. I have exhibited in galleries across Canada, and in 2005 I traveled overseas with a large exhibition of my work called "Old New Scotland" to four galleries in the Scottish Highlands. The Dewey Decimal poster project has given me the opportunity to honour some of the local artists and photographers who have contributed so much to the artistic community of Antigonish and to me personally over the years.

Mary MacGillivray studied under Angus Macgillivray and Christopher Pratt and was a painter and high-school art teacher in Antigonish. Angus "the Beard" Macgillivray (1914-1978) was a self taught artis who excelled in sculpture, painting, printmaking and photography. Some of his best known works can be seen in the St. F.X. Chapel. Tom Roach was Chair of the St. F. X. Art Department and a founding member of the University Art Gallery, and former president of Visual Arts Nova Scotia. He is a regular contributor to the University Art Association of Canada. Gerry MacGillivray organized a painting group at St. Joseph's College, taught art in the schools and for the last 10 years of his career was the Director of Art for the elementary schools. Peter Murphy is a photographer and filmmaker, whose productions have been broadcast nationally by CBC and Bravo TV and has done extensive work in historic photographic processes including the tintype studio in Sherbrooke Village. Archie MacLellan has been a freelance photographer in the Antigonish area for more than thirty years and helped Peter set up the tintype studio. He has taught and helped many budding and established photographers in the area. Jeffrey Parker began photographing seriously in the early '70s while studying at the University of Rochester and the International Museum of Photography in Rochester, New York, and his work has been exhibited in the United States, Taiwan and Canada. Linda Johns has expressed her unique wisdom through paintings, drawings, linocuts, sculpture in wood, whale bone, and clay, and several published books. V. L. (Vicki) Maclean taught painting, printmaking, and drawing with the StFX University Art Department and the Continuing Education program and was the director of the University Art Gallery for eleven years.

1**Nancy Turniawan — *Mosaic Bench***

T: 902.863.5825



Since moving to Antigonish County in 1977, I have come to love the environment of the costal shoreline. As a mixed media artist, teacher and beachcomber, and in keeping with the name People's Place, I was inspired to produce a piece of artwork for the curved bench that will be a welcoming place for all. I thought of the Sun, rising in the East over the water, signifying a new day. I thought of the First People, the Mi'kmaq, and their birch bark canoes which played a vital role in bringing communities together, their beautiful and unique porcupine quill boxes, prized for their beautiful designs. I thought of the sea which brought new peoples to the Mi'kmaq homeland, and years of tumbling waters which smoothed the rocks

and pebbles to reveal nature's colours. I invited fellow beachcombers to share their collections, and to come to the bench location to help sort the pebbles by colour, size and shape. The collaborative effort will enhance, through the look and feel of the mosaic, the importance of a place for all peoples.

Andrew Murray—*Two maps*

E: ndrwmrry@yahoo.ca

From a young age I wished to be involved in the Arts. After studying Fine Art at Mount Allison University for a year, I was invited to be Artist in Residence at Neptune Theatre in Halifax. I then went on to work with the Stratford festival as set and costume designer. I received a Gemini Award nomination for my work in film and television art direction in Toronto. I am now based in Antigonish where I am a mural painter, an interior designer and art teacher. The maps are 2' x 3' each, painted with watercolours, and photographed into steel. One is a bird's eye view of landmarks of downtown Main Street looking west to east. The second map shows the county of Antigonish, with illustrations pertinent to the various communities.

2**3****Keith Grant — *Shelves***

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I am a local craftsman running a small custom production woodworking shop in Antigonish County. I have done work for the School Board, the Theatre in Guysborough, StFX, St. Martha's Regional Hospital, as well as private libraries and residential kitchens. My affinity for public libraries goes back to my childhood; my mother, Rosemary Grant and my uncle, Donald Ross were voracious readers and going to the library each week was, for them, as important as going to the grocery store. Public Libraries were accessible to anyone, regardless of formal education, and provided an inexpensive way for people to explore the world beyond their own community.

Regina Marzlin — *Textile* www.reginamarzlin.com

Participating children: Martha, Emma, Donald & Creighton Jewkes, Celia & Kara MacDougall, Julian & Tabea Marzlin, Christopher Melchin, Grace Poole

This art piece was designed and executed with a group of local children. The children chose their favourite book characters and made coloured drawings of them. The fabrics were prepared according to their colour schemes. After choosing a bookshelf as a background the children worked with the fabrics in a collage-style technique. I provided the necessary guidance and expertise for the project and did the final machine and hand stitching. The children included many details and the result is a beautiful, vibrant and engaging conversation piece. As a fibre artist I enjoy working with different materials, especially hand dyed fabrics. The fabrics may be further altered by surface techniques such as painting, printing and photo transfer. The texture of different fabrics, layering and stitching by hand and machine are means to convey the beauty of nature, the joy of colours, and the wonder of everyday objects. My textile pieces are exhibited in national and international shows and in private collections across Canada, the US and Europe. My work can be acquired in art galleries across Canada.

**4**