

Second Chances, the last chance to see summer exhibits at Six Degrees

Six Degrees Muskoka is winding up the summer of 2009 with the seventh and last of its themed art shows *Second Chances*, running Sept. 3-15.

"Second Chances is your last chance this summer to see some of the most wonderful and inspiring art from emerging and established artists that Muskoka has to offer," said Six Degrees co-founder Don Skinner. "Muskoka has been officially designated an arts community for good reason."

The exhibit includes Chad Arney's whimsical take on found objects, Sylvia Bouchard's wizardry with recycled fabric, one very lucky fish as depicted by visual artist Col Mitchell, and much more, from nearly two dozen of Muskoka's most talented artists.

An opening reception will be held Friday, Sept. 4 from 3 to 6 p.m. As always, there will be great art, artists in attendance and live art demos. Everyone is welcome.

A not-for-profit pilot project supporting youth and the arts community from June to September in downtown Bracebridge, Six Degrees Muskoka has presented seven biweekly themed art shows and events in collaboration with more than 140 of Muskoka's visual, performing and literary artists, and arts and community groups.

In addition, nearly 250 kids ages six to 17 have participated in 90 digital animation classes at Six Degrees' Pixels on the Parallel. The venue also is host to a unique book collection of works on art and architecture, available for on-site browsing.

Also, Six Degrees is currently hosting a retrospective of the work of National Film Board animation pioneer Kaj Pindal, creator of the Emmy Award-winning children's series *Peep and the Big Wide World*. The exhibit is on until Sept. 15.

"The Six Degrees Muskoka initiative is about community," said Skinner. "My wife Jen and I are honoured to have been able to facilitate that, from the artists who have exhibited their work to those who have volunteered their time, from the community groups that have partnered with us to those individuals who have dropped in and made a point of expressing their appreciation. As Joan Eaglesham, former executive director of the Muskoka Heritage Foundation once said to me, 'It takes a village to make a village,' and it really has worked out that way."



LUCKY FISH. Visual artist Col Mitchell's painting depicting one very lucky fish is one of many local masterpieces on display during Six Degrees Muskoka's final themed art show, *Second Chances*. An opening reception will be held today, Sept. 4, from 3 to 6 p.m.

The name Six Degrees Muskoka is a tip of the hat to the six degrees of separation theory that all people, and by extension society's cultural, artistic, scientific or even economic assets, are closely interrelated. The gallery

was developed to better equip our local community to explore and understand our commonalities and to manage our differences.

For more on Six Degrees Muskoka, visit to www.sixdegreesmuskoka.com.



STEADY CLIMB. A man hiking up a steep slope, passing a juniper tree, in British Columbia's grasslands is one of the pieces featured in Six Degrees Muskoka's final themed art show *Second Chances*, running Sept. 3-15 in downtown Bracebridge. The photograph, titled *Steady Climb*, was taken by Karen Longwell.

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CONCERT CALENDAR

GEORGE CANYON



Canadian Country Superstar

Sept. 15
at 7:30 pm
Algonquin Theatre
705-789-4975

STUART McLEAN



& *The Vinyl Cafe*
Oct. 22 @ 7 pm
Stockey Centre,
Parry Sound
705-746-4466

RANKIN SISTERS



Christmas Concert

A Maritime Christmas
Dec. 7 at
7:30 pm
Algonquin Theatre
705-789-4975

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