

Art Incubate was launched on May 31st - just a short 3 1/2 months ago - and we have been busy, busy, busy!

These exciting developments and progress are possible thanks to your generosity and support, the Art Incubate Sponsors and Partners.

THE STUDIOS

Fourteen visual artists at various stages in their careers now work in studios at Art Incubate. Some, or all, of the five sponsored artists will be hosting Open Studios in the Incubator on Sat. Sep. 21 from 12-4 pm and on Thurs. Oct. 17, Thurs. Nov. 21 and Thurs. Dec. 19; all from 7-9 pm

THE GALLERIES

The Window Gallery at 56 and The Gallery at 52 have been booked continuously, exhibiting a wide range of visual art. A fresh coat of white paint with proper lighting make the Window Gallery at 56 an attractive exhibition spot, something in short supply locally. The regular hours at Gallery at 52 are 3 days a week, supervised by participating artists and we hope to expand that soon.

Exhibitions have displayed artwork from Art Incubate tenants, the regional visual arts community, high school organization S.A.I.L. and University of Waterloo Fine Arts students. UW four year students will take over that space most of November and December, and Masters student Brubey Hu will have her first solo show at the Gallery at 52 Regina in November. My own exhibiting group, Artist Crit Group, has a show opening *Net-works* on Wed. Oct. 2nd..

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Art Incubate has applied for BIA Associate Membership and have been working with the Uptown North Neighbourhood Association representative Daisy Arseneault. Neighbours were invited and attended the May 31st Launch, are notified of upcoming events and invited to use 52 Regina for neighbourhood association meetings. The neighbours and community will be invited to Art Incubate Culture Days events on Sept. 27, 28, 29 which include a local Film-Makers Launch Night organized by AP, two art exhibitions, an opening reception, live musicians playing on the porch at 52 Regina and a community interactive activity on Sunday afternoon.

BRANCHING OUT!

- Young musicians from KW Symphony Youth Orchestra and Laurier organized by Daisy have been hired by AP to play on the porch at 52 Regina every Sat. afternoon all summer to the end of September.
- Secondary and post-secondary school artists are included and mentored in Art Incubate and AP exhibitions while AP continues to build these supportive relationships with the universities and secondary schools. UW Fine Arts staff were instrumental in selecting 5 recent graduate candidates for the first Incubator. Undergrads look for volunteer experience at Art Incubate and graduates and their supervisors are excited to have access to exhibition space. The Art\$Pay Members Annual Juried Show on Nov. 8 & 9 will include up to 6 student artists, secondary post- secondary.
- Habitat for Humanity and other community groups are planning uses for the gallery at 52, working with AP and the artists.
- Film Night, a new initiative organized by AP and AP filmmaker Dwight Storing, will launch on Fri. Sept. 27 to play a role in nurturing the art/experimental and documentary genre from local film-makers

who are currently without a “home” to do experimental work. Plans for next spring are to extend these film nights to include other genre of material and outdoor film nights for the neighbourhood and community, setting up chairs, popcorn in the back parking lot and projecting on the back of 52 Regina!

- LAF, a collection of 5 artist-run organizations founded by Art\$Pay, will host their second art crawl, a Festive Art Crawl, on December 5th; details below. Guests are invited to a special progressive crawl enjoying appetizers, main course and dessert along with great art at 3 different gallery locations. An artist guide will help those interested in using the ION to get to these locations, beginning at the Art District Gallery in downtown Kitchener, to Art Incubate where 3 organizations will display work, and finishing at Uptown Gallery.
- The 5 Incubator artists have begun their paid out-reach projects with their sponsors. Melika Hashemi working with the City of Waterloo completed her project at the Art Market after Open Streets workshops were cancelled. Jessie Rowe is making work to display at her sponsor Miller Thomson’s net-working reception on Nov. 20. Through the Region’s Helen Chimirri-Russell, artist Ioana Dragomir has begun planning a moving literary-based project with Michele Hopkins of the Region’s Libraries while Andrew McKay is exploring opportunities with the Regions’ Director of Children’s Services to work with children’s centres or youth at risk. Steven Restagno and sponsor David Gibson Perimeter Development Corp are talking about an exhibition of artists’ work curated and organized by Steven.
- Professional development and network building Meet-ups are hosted by AP monthly at 52 Regina with talks around themes such as branding, marketing and website design. Critique opportunities will be offered as part of the Open Studios.

DEVELOPING THE ART INCUBATE IDENTITY

Incubator artists, with Paul Kalbfleish’s guidance, were asked to help conceptualize a logo for new building signage and media, for Art Incubate to be marketed as a separate entity, as another project by AP. The egg, in varied formats to serve different purposes came out of that discussion and will be further developed.