

Call for Artists



Skeena Salmon heARTs Show

*An exhibition and online fundraising auction of works on wooden hearts
at three galleries in the Skeena Watershed:*

*Terrace Art Gallery, Misty Rivers Arts Centre and Smithers Art Gallery
August 2020*

2020 has been a challenging year for communities everywhere. The 2020 Skeena Salmon Art Show has been reformatted to foreground the ways in which we show compassion and care for one another during difficult times. The show will include up to 300 works on wooden hearts provided by the galleries to artists, inviting them to investigate the significance of Skeena Salmon and/or ideas of compassion and care. Artists are invited to show up to three hearts, one at each of the three galleries, with their artwork(s) included in a 50/50 online fundraising auction.

Salmon are one of the main reasons many of us are here in the Skeena Watershed, and are the foundation for many of our communities and cultures. Salmon inspire and sustain us. They can be a source of inspiration as a life sustaining species to celebrate during challenging times. While we are in the midst of a pandemic, the importance of our salmon remains critical. Now is the time for our communities to come together, to support one another with care and compassion, and to share our respect for salmon.

Submission Guidelines

All artists are encouraged to participate, interpreting themes of care and compassion and/or the Skeena salmon broadly and creatively. Some suggestions may include:

- Ways we show care and compassion for one another:
 - Coping during the pandemic
 - Self-care and creativity
 - Picking up groceries
 - Spending time together while social distancing
 - Celebrating events (birthdays, graduation, etc.) at a distance
 - Supporting local businesses
 - Supporting and celebrating essential service workers

- Skeena salmon theme:
 - Celebrating our sense of place in the northwest (bodies of water, mountainscapes, landscapes)
 - Bears, river otters, wolves and eagles are sustained by salmon
 - Salmon carcasses provide nutrients to streamside forests
 - Insects are food for juvenile salmon
 - Juvenile salmon eat eulachon eggs in the lower Skeena in the spring
 - Salmon require cold clean water (glaciers, lakes, rivers, rain, snow)
 - Communities are sustained by salmon
 - Salmon sustain and build cultures

While works are encouraged to be on the wooden hearts, all mediums made in the shape of a heart ranging from 8" x 8" up to 16" x 16" are also encouraged. For hearts made in other mediums, please include a hole in the top or hardware on the back for hanging.

Up to 3 hearts per artist may be submitted for showing up to one at each of the three galleries. Collaborative work will be accepted as an additional submission. The artist(s) can select which heart is to be shown at which gallery. All works can be dropped off/picked up at the most convenient gallery location, and the galleries will move them to/from the exhibiting spaces selected.

All works created will be accepted! There are no selection criteria, however, the Skeena Salmon Arts Festival Society has the right to reject work that includes any discriminatory content, cultural appropriation or contravenes copyright law.

To participate in the show, artists must contact skeenasalmonartfest@gmail.com by June 15, 2020 with the following information:

- Pick-up location of wooden hearts
- Amount of wooden hearts requested (up to 3 per artist) OR how many works on another medium will be submitted
- Size of wooden hearts requested (any combination of either 8", 12" or 16") - *not applicable if working in another medium, final size to be submitted with inventory*
- Which of the three galleries the artist would like to show their heart(s) at (Terrace Art Gallery, Misty Rivers Arts Centre or Smithers Art Gallery)
- A photo of a sample of their work
- A brief statement (1 - 3 sentences) on their idea for the final artwork(s)

Wooden hearts will be available for pick up at each of the three galleries from **June 15 to 19**, while supplies last. All hearts received must be returned as completed artworks to one of the three galleries by **July 15, 2020**. For artworks coming from a distance, arrangements can be made. Shipping costs will be the responsibility of the artist.

For more information, please email skeenasalmonartfest@gmail.com, or call Dave Gordon 250-638-0488 or Madalen Benson 778-347-3385

