

BC FLORAL ART SOCIETY (founded in 1971)

Report for Arts New West, AGM November 2024

Our membership number is quite steady at about 42 this year. Average monthly attendance is about 22. All our meetings are held at Centennial Lodge, Queen's Park, New Westminster as we are affiliated with Arts New West. Our meeting dates are the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except for January) from 10 am to 2 pm. We do welcome guests. We offer our members an opportunity to develop artistic and creative designs using plant material of all kinds. We have show benches, workshops and have well-known demonstrators come to show us new ideas. Contact email prwillms@telus.net or info@bcfloralartsociety.com.

Meeting dates and the Program for 2024:

- February 13 – Show Bench, “Sticks and Stones” – a driftwood or natural wood design.
- March 12 – Work Bench, “Challenging” – an imposed contemporary design.
- April 9 – Show Bench, “I can see you!” – a transparent design
- May 14 – Show Bench, “Art in Bloom” – an interpretive design based on one of the following: Hokusai, Joe Average, or Picasso. Laura Grady helped with the critiques. Thank you.
- June 11 – Work Bench, a traditional Mass Design or Historical Mass Design (i.e. Baroque or Dutch-Flemish periods)
- July 9 – Show Bench – “Me and mini-Me”, A design of choice AND a miniature or petite of that same design displayed side by side.
- August 13 – Show Bench – “Another Day in Paradise” – a contemporary design incorporating tropical blooms and foliage.
- September 10- Work Bench, “A few of my favourite Things” – an assemblage design.
- October 8 – Show Bench, “Smoke and Fire” – a contemporary design, interpretive of the title.
- November 12 – Show Bench – “Hanging Out” – a modern wall hanging design. Also: a demonstration by artist Nikkie Lewis. Twig armatures.
- December 10 – Show Bench and Luncheon. Wearable floral art. Members were their own models to show off 2 pieces. Also, centrepieces for the luncheon tables.

Our meetings also have a “Show and Tell” component when members talk about a special technique they have learned, share an experience etc. We will start up again in February. The Executive is currently working on our Program for 2025. Our members enter various local flower shows (one hosted by the Canadian Western Association of Floral Art Clubs, two hosted by the BC Council of Garden Clubs, others hosted by local flower and garden clubs and then, some virtual shows as well ... with some very good results. Some of our members are floral art Judges and they are now also virtually attending Advanced Judging workshops hosted by Valerie Best, through our affiliation with the London & Overseas branch of NAFAS.

Our website at www.bcfloralartsociety.com and we also post, from time to time, on Facebook and Instagram.

Executive: President, vacant. Vice-President, Sherri Summers. Secretary, Mary Openshaw. Treasurer: Ann Peters. Membership: Rhonda Malyuk. Past President: Gerri Willms.

Submitted by G. Willms