

Holiday Season at the Lyceum

December 2007

Issue No. 3

*Celebrating Creativity and lots of Holiday Spirit!
A photo gallery...*



Children of all ages attend a Special Holiday Home-school class where they engage in the creation of beautiful holiday ornaments.



A special story and craft morning shared with our Kindergarten class. The children demonstrated exceptional fine motor control as they brought their ornaments to life.



The Tods enjoyed a classical story of reciprocity to celebrate the season.



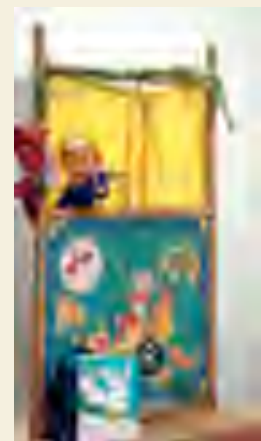
Neighbors of the Lyceum gathered together to join Mary Duffy for a festive Community Christmas Puppet show. It was wonderful welcoming so many new faces to the Lyceum.



A very unique Card Making workshop produced stunning images on cards that are sure to be cherished.



Students eagerly engaged in the creation of very fine jewelry using Australian crystals, intricate glass beads, and sterling silver fittings.



Tamara brings the Christmas Spirit to the Grouchy Galumph!

~ Sharing the journey we have travelled together...

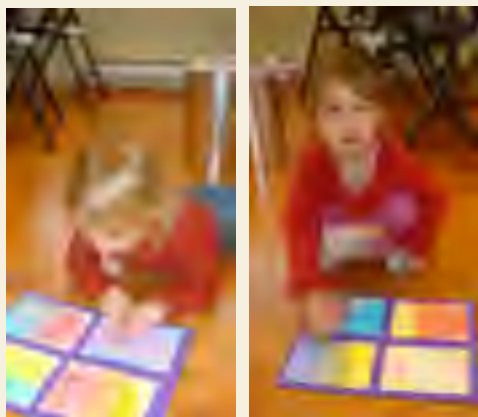
Both the Tale Spinners and Story Catchers put on memorable presentation events for family and friends. Each student showcased examples of the term's writing in a way that both engaged and inspired the audience. Many in the audience have commented on the high calibre and passion present in the students' writing. We look forward to future opportunities to share the work of these enthusiastic authors and poets.



Program Highlights...

Moms/Dads and Tods Program

It has been a very exciting journey working alongside our little ones. They share such curiosity and excitement for the world around them. Our most recent exploration of primary and secondary colors led them into the creation of some beautiful watercolor pieces. It was simply amazing to observe their genuine interest, awareness and engagement in the act of blending colors.



We would like to take this opportunity to let you know that there is still space in the Moms/Dads/ Tods Program as well as our newest program, *Story Hour with Rainbow Caterpillar*. Please call the Lyceum for further information and/or registration.



Kindergarten Literature and Art Program

In recognition of the many Kindergarten classes that switch between mornings and afternoons in February, we have decided to split our winter Kindergarten session into two terms (Term 1 will include 4 classes in January and Term 2 will include 6 classes between February and March). Spring term will go back to the usual 10 classes. With a wonderful fall term behind us, we are excited to explore new theories and ideas with your young ones in the new year.

Author Book Launches

We continue to enjoy launching the work of new authors and illustrators. Both Caroline Adderson, *Very Serious Children*, and Jennifer Llyod, *Looking for Loons* and *One Winter Night*, drew large audiences and treated families to an inside view of what goes into making a picture book. It was an additional treat to see the original art work that was used in the illustrations of *Looking for Loons* and *One Winter Night*. Attendees can attest to the outstanding skill of both Kirsti Anne Wakelin and Lynn Ray.

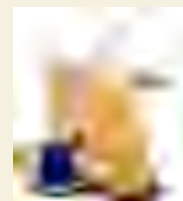


YA author, Teresa Toten, set the Lyceum on fire with her passionate nature and risqué sense of humor! Her lively performance was a treat for all who attended and she is sure to have gained many new readers.



Adult Writers Workshop

Our Monthly Author's Night out has generated lively discussion about some unique and intriguing pieces. One of our members shared that the Lyceum is an oasis and escape from the monotony of everyday life. If you are a closet author, looking for a passionate, yet sensitive, open minded and intelligent group to workshop your ideas with, please give us a call. We have room for one or two more people to join our group.



Reminder!

The Sidura Ludwig event is just around the corner. You've got just enough time to read her book, *Holding my Breath* over the Holidays! If you do not have a copy and would like to purchase one, you may do so at the Lyceum. Please watch for our flyer.

Parking reminders

* In deference to our neighbors above, please be sure not to park in the 3 spots behind the Lyceum. Thank you!

Story Symbols hidden in the walls of the Lyceum

Featured item: The Ceramic Warthog



Some of you may wonder what a life-like ceramic warthog trophy head is doing in the carrel area of the Lyceum. Well... back when the Lyceum was little more than an idea, Christianne's nephews, Blake and Koshi went down to Granville island in search of a gift to keep their Auntie motivated through the construction process. Somehow they ended up viewing a showing of Penny Birnam's clay ceramic sculptures. Their father attempted to guide them into choosing the grizzly bear with the fish, or a wolf; however, the sales person exclaimed, "But the Warthog is clearly her most superior work." That was it! Blake and Koshi could consider no other piece. They wanted only the best for their Aunt. The fact that very young children might be terrified by this image was beyond their consideration!

When Christianne opened a 3 foot square box, to unearth this magnificent creature, her first thought was that it would scare the living daylights out of the infants and preschoolers that she was planning to teach at the Lyceum. After briefly explaining this concern to her nephews, the crestfallen look in their eyes was enough to tell her that the warthog would find a home in the Lyceum.

It needed to go in a place of prominence and yet away from the eyes and hands of 2 and 3 year olds. The perfect spot was finally found just about the carrel units where all bookclubbers would pass beneath the mighty warthog on their way up to the mezzanine.

When you consider that a warthog always enters his den backwards, it looks like our warthog is entering the mezzanine wall to be a part of bookclub himself.

Thank you

* Thank you everyone for respecting the Lyceum space by removing your shoes. We really appreciate your assistance in maintaining our beautiful space.

* The novel library is finally completed with many thanks to Stephan Schaefer of Swiss Touch Construction. We have begun the process of transferring Christianne's private collection from her home to this beautiful new space. Several authors have already contributed copies of their books. While we are happy to share this resource space within the walls of the Lyceum, unfortunately, this is not a lending library.



Closing words from the Lyceum Team

"I can truly say that I am enjoying this adventure. No one day is like another and I feel stimulated in a way I have never been before. The presence of you and your children brings so much joy and inspiration to my life. My colleagues, Vanessa and Susan work harder and longer than is reasonable to expect. I know you join me in appreciation of their work and unerring attention to detail. May you have a joyful holiday creating memories for the future!" ~ Christianne

"May this holiday season bring you and your families much rest and time together. (Hallmark actually stole this from me -- not the other way around!) See you all in the New Year!" ~ Susan

"As I reflect upon the past 4 months, I am simply amazed by the journey in which we have travelled together. Since stepping into the Lyceum doors, my life has changed. Most significantly my life has changed through the people I have met. Thank you to each and every one of you for sharing your excitement, passion, knowledge, curiosity and creativity to enrich and inspire a lifelong journey of learning. Wishing you peace, love, joy and happiness for the holiday season." ~Vanessa