



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

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THANK YOU!

Muskoka Chautauqua would like to extend a special thank you to our exceptionally talented and dedicated volunteers who made 2014 another successful year!



Muskoka Chautauqua

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ABOUT US

Muskoka Chautauqua is a vibrant arts-based community where visitors come for personal growth, enrichment and renewal. Formerly known as the Muskoka Lakes Music Festival, we are a member of the North American Chautauqua Trail. As a non-profit, Muskoka Chautauqua is an uplifting cultural hub that encompasses the arts, education and reflection; a place removed from the day-to-day world, where practitioners and leading thinkers of our time share innovative and creative ideas.



2014 Reading Circle panel with host Rolland Smith

OUR VISION

To be internationally recognized as a leader in the provision of creative arts-based programming for entertainment and life-long learning that enhances and enriches our communities.

OUR MISSION

To design and deliver multi-disciplinary arts-based programs that inspire personal growth, enrichment and renewal by celebrating creativity, the human spirit, and Muskoka's unique heritage and natural environment while contributing to the economic and social vitality of our communities.

HISTORY



Muskoka Chautauqua was founded on Tobin Island on Lake Rosseau at the turn of the last century, and has now been reawakened after 80 years. In keeping with its historic tradition, Muskoka Chautauqua continues to engage, innovate and provide opportunities for transformational experiences through the arts and through lifelong learning. Muskoka Chautauqua is a part of the North American Chautauqua movement and 21st century cultural renaissance, and is the only Canadian chapter of the movement currently in operation.



Inspired by the stunning natural beauty of its environment and a rich cultural heritage, Muskoka Chautauqua offers unique and innovative arts and culture programming for personal growth, enrichment and renewal. It is a space where families gather, where local, national and international communities converge to share ideas and deepen relationships.



Chautauqua Trail

Chautauqua was a social and cultural phenomenon that permeated rural North America until the mid-1920s. At its height, the Chautauqua Movement attracted millions to hear educators, preachers, explorers, travelers, scientists, politicians and statesmen, singers, violinists, pianists, bands, and orchestras.

Today, Chautauqua is experiencing a renaissance. People are discovering that lifelong learning is one of the keys to living a happy, fulfilling life. Muskoka Chautauqua is one of 15 surviving Chautauquas across North America and a proud member of the Chautauqua Trail. They are places of family and tradition located in some of the most beautiful natural settings in North America.

The Chautauqua Trail is made up of a group of organizations and individuals committed to the communication and implementation of the chautauqua concept of building community by supporting all persons in the development of their full potential intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and physically. The Chautauqua Trail facilitates interaction and communication among its members to further their preservation, growth and development.

GREETINGS FROM MUSKOKA CHAUTAUQUA

Muskoka Chautauqua is proud to be a leading organization promoting and offering numerous arts programs to residents and visitors of the Muskoka region.

A few highlights from this past year included: Flavours of Muskoka Chautauqua, The Reading Circle, Armed with the Arts' Peace Crane Project, and the Kaleidoscope Arts Camp.

There were also some new and exciting ventures to our programming in 2014. The biggest and most exciting was the inauguration of ChautauquaFest, a 10 day festival, which included the Toronto All-Star Big Band, a mural painting reflecting the original location of Muskoka Chautauqua on Tobin Island, and many other entertaining events. Another exciting addition was the collaboration with OperaMuskoka.

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and government grants, we were able to expand our exceptional variety of music, arts, and educational programs across the Muskoka region.

Planning is well underway for 2015 and Muskoka Chautauqua aims to continue strengthening our partnerships with all the organizations that support the importance of broadening the outreach of arts, culture and lifelong education to residents and visitors of the Muskoka region.

PARTNERSHIPS

Muskoka Chautauqua believes strongly in building and strengthening partnerships in the community, regional, provincial, national and international levels. The organization has developed many meaningful cross-sectoral relationships and collaborations, without whom none of our accomplishments would be possible.

Arts Network for Children and Youth

Brandy Creek Music & Publications

Bethune Memorial House

Celebrate Ontario

The Chautauqua Trail

Clevelands House

Explorers' Edge

Kenneth G. Mills Foundation

JW Marriott The Rosseau Resort and Spa

Sherwood Inn

Muskoka Magazine

Muskoka Lakes Public Library

Muskoka Tourism Marketing Agency

Muskoka Lakes Chamber of Commerce

OperaMuskoka

Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Wasan Island/Breuninger Foundation

Thank you to all of our partners in the Muskoka community, and also to more than 10,000 Muskoka Chautauqua participants who, through their support of the organization, contributed over \$1 million to the local economy.

SPONSORS/DONORS/FRIENDS

Government/Foundations

\$ 75,000+

FedNor

Ministry of Tourism - Celebrate Ontario

\$20,000+

Explorer's Edge

\$10,000+

Canadian Heritage
Jackman Foundation

\$5,000+

Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership

up to \$5,000

Town of Bracebridge
Township of Muskoka Lakes
Muskoka Futures
Service Canada
Walkerwood Foundation

Individual supporters

\$1,000+

Jackolyn Elliot
Jennifer Murphy
Kathie Nunno
Martha and Alf Davis

\$500+

Diane Adamson
John Wright
Peter Seybold
Sheila MacIver
Fiona Blair

up to \$500

Collin Reaney
Gerald Richmond
Jane Craig
Sylvia Miles
Elizabeth and Claude Ricard

Corporate sponsors/donors

\$5,000+

John Adamson

\$1,000+

McLaren Press Graphics
Muskoka Magazine
TD Bank

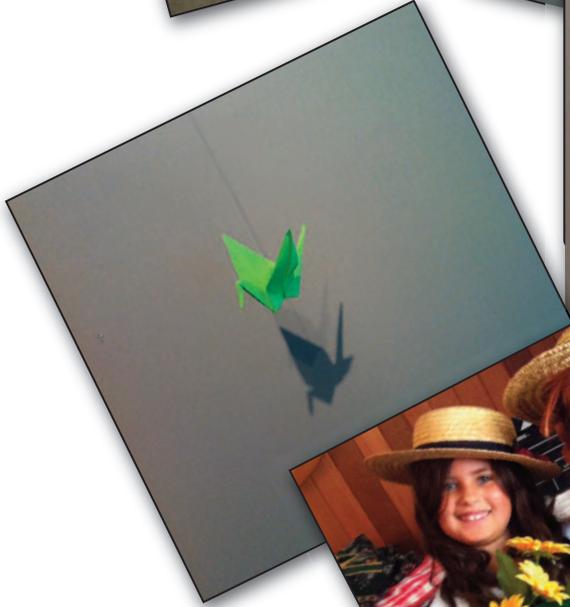
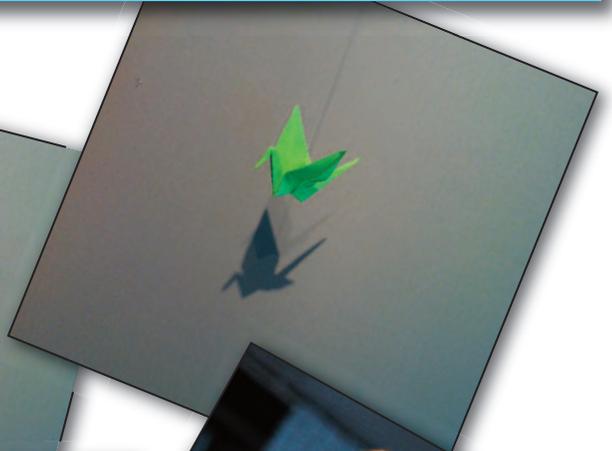
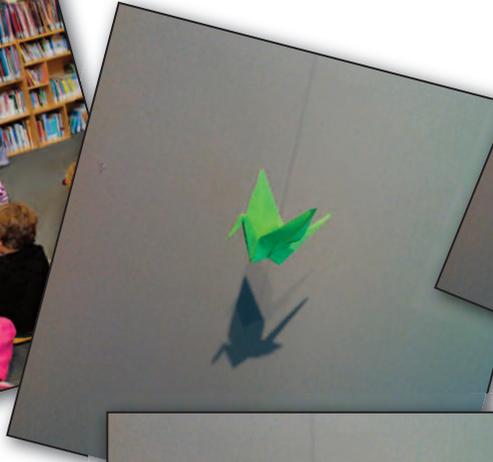
\$500+

Bracebridge and Muskoka Lakes Rotary Club
- Beth Barry Bursary
Baytides Management Inc.
Sherwood Inn

Friends

Anne Clement
Arts Network for Children and Youth
Bell Canada
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Bethune House
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Expertech
JW Marriott Muskoka Resort & Spa
Ellen Mann - Kemas Enterprises
MetrolandNorthMedia
Michael Jones - Pianoscapes
Muskoka Lakes Association
Muskoka Lakes Library
Muskoka Magazine
Muskoka Tourism Marketing Agency
Moose FM
Susan Terry – ICU Media
The UPS Store

2014 IN REVIEW



Jan. 25
Coffee House: Often Running

(Coffee House concerts are organized in partnership with Brandy Creek Music)

Feb. 22
Coffee House: Rob Korb & Aidan Mason

March 29
Coffee House: Fraser & Girard

April 26
Coffee House: Po Cholly, Mose Scarlett & Beverlie Robertson

May 10
Walking In My Mother's Shoes



Attracting nearly 150 guests in its 8th season, Walking In My Mother's Shoes was a wonderful mixture of culture, featuring an art exhibit, singing, poetry and storytelling. It is organized

in partnership with Celebrate Ontario, the J.W. Marriott The Roseau Resort & Spa, Grandmothers to Grandmothers/Stephen Lewis Foundation.

May 22
Aboriginal Symposium

Award winning author, Joseph Boyden returned for the 7th annual Aboriginal Symposium reading passages from three of his novels: Three Day Road, Through Black Spruce, and The Orenda.

May 31-June 5
Wasan Island

Muskoka Chautauqua's board members participated in discussions regarding relationships of the planning, design and management of public spaces in creative ways.

June 7-8
Muskoka Lakes Spring Art Tour

Celebrating its 12th anniversary, taking place in the municipalities of Bracebridge, Gravenhurst and Muskoka Lakes, the art tour attracted 1,000 visitors to the region.

June 15
Flavours of Muskoka Chautauqua



The 14th annual Flavours of Muskoka Chautauqua event featured nearly 20 wineries, brewries, chefs and restaurateurs, live music and both a live and silent auction. The event

raised more than \$6,500 for the Muskoka Chautauqua Kaleidoscope Arts in Education programs for children and youth in the Muskoka region. The event was organized in conjunction with J.W. Marriott The Rosseau Resort and Spa.

June 28-29
Kaleidoscope Children's Festival

Held at Clevelands House, parents from the community brought their children to participate in a number of activities ranging from Mural Painting and rock carving to print making, lego building and drum making. There were more than 150 kids participating over the two day event.

July 1
Canada Day

Muskoka Chautauqua held a two part event at the J.W. Marriott The Rosseau Resort and Spa with children's activities during the day and then a fireworks display at night. Nearly 5,000 visitors flocked from land and water to view a spectacular fireworks show.

CHAUTAUQUAFEST

Aug. 14
Family Fun Day

Over 100 people stopped by the Muskoka Lakes Public Library to participate in Peace Crane folding, face painting, and storytelling.

Aug. 14
Broadway

The official opening performance for Muskoka Chautauqua's new 10 day arts festival. Broadway stars talented singer/performers: Heather Bambrick, Diane Leah, and Julie Michels, and was praised by all in attendance. A mixture of Broadway music, the improvisation of Jazz, a pop sensibility, and their unique sense of humor made for a fantastic evening of non-stop entertainment.



Aug. 17
Music on the Barge

An amazing performance by the Good Brothers attracted a sea of 2,000 spectators to join in on the fun and music at Gull Lake Park in Gravenhurst.

Aug. 18-22
Kaleidoscope Summer Arts Camp

A week long program held at Clevelands House involving numerous arts activities ranging from mask making and acting techniques to water colour painting and film making. The camp also featured special entertainment such as, Birds of Prey, a screening of the 1919 silent film Anne of Green Gables, The Magical Duda's Magic Show, The Masked Messenger and the Dancing Juggler. To conclude the weeklong camp, Sue DiCicco, an animator for Disney shared her knowledge of animation and constructed a 9 foot origami Peace Crane with the children. The camp was organized by Tori Wines and Fiona Blair.

Aug. 18-25
Pein Air Painting



Artists in Residence Greg and Susan Hindle, with many interested guests, visitors and local artists transformed a blank white wall at Cleveland's House into a beautifully coloured mural representing the original Muskoka Chautauqua's original location on Tobin Island. At week's end, the Mayor of Muskoka Lakes, Alice Murphy, unveiled the masterpiece.

Aug. 18-21
OperaMuskoka

OperasMuskoka returned for its 5th year during the week of ChautauquaFest. Kicking off the week long lineup of concerts was Fledermaus-Trio Desiree and renowned opera singer Jennifer Tung, a Vocal Masterclass with Elaine Overholt, and to close out the week, Richard Margison's Opera to Broadway.

Aug. 20
Be My Guest

Produced by Peter Jennings and held at the Port Carling Community Centre, Be My Guest featured author, humorist, and former political worker Terry Fallis. The interview lasted nearly two hours concluding with a Q&A segment and a give away of several copies of Terry Fallis' book.

Aug. 22
Toronto All-Star Big Band



Returning for a remarkable 17th season at Cleveland's House, the Toronto All Star Big Band attracted more than 150 guests for a delightful evening of entertainment. The band which consisted of youth aged 16-23 years of age, performed hit songs from the 30's, 40's, 50's, and 60's. Muskoka Chautauqua is proud of the long standing partnership with the Toronto All-Star Big Band.

Aug. 23
Joe Charron Concert

The excellent acoustics of Christchurch in Windermere contributed to a stellar performance by singer/songwriter, Joe Charron. His singing and amazing guitar playing had the audience rockin'.

Aug 23
Reading Circle

Hosted by renowned author and former broadcaster Rolland Smith, this year's Reading Circle topic was based on the arts and communication. The panel consisted of 5 artists/authors: Michael Jones and Andrew Wagner-Chazalon, Directors on the Board of Muskoka Chautauqua, Lucille Joseph, co-founder of the Luminato Festival, Rubia Braun, Australian filmmaker, and Sue DiCicco, animator for Disney and founder of Armed with the Arts. Each artist shared their perspective on communication and the arts. Organized in partnership with The Kenneth G. Mills Foundation and the J.W. Marriott Rosseau Resort & Spa.

Aug.-Sept.
Alcuin Awards Display

The Alcuin Society returned to Muskoka this year providing an opportunity for residents and visitors alike to discover and learn the decisive factors of what makes books artistically beautiful and how they stand out in such a tough marketplace as publishing.

Sept.27
Coffee House: Ondine Chorus

The first coffee house of the 2014-2015 season kicked off with a beautiful acoustic ensemble by Ondine Chorus. Refreshments were donated by Sherwood Inn. As always, it was a wonderful event produced in partnership with Brandy Creek Music and Publications.

Oct. 4
Local Colours

2014 marked the 3rd year "Local Colours" was held at the historic Bethune house in downtown Gravenhurst. Hundreds of tourists, mainly from China were taking pictures of the artwork displayed by members of the 45th Parallel. Canadian songs of the fall season were performed by Beverlie Robertson.

Oct. 25
Coffee House: Arnie, Kathy & Hanna Naiman

The Naiman family trio performed an entertaining set of songs, mainly Appalachian ballads using a wide assortment of instruments ranging from a fiddle and banjo to a dulcimer and a banjo uke.

Nov. 29
Coffee House: Tricia Brubacher & Ian Reid

One of the more unique coffee house concerts to take place at Muskoka Place Gallery. Patrick and Robert McCrudden (father & son) opened the evening performing their original songs on acoustic guitar and then followed by two exceptionally talented performers, Tricia Brubacher and Ian Reid.

Dec. 12
Christmas Jam

2014 marked the 4th annual Homegrown Christmas Jam. Sixteen performers playing a variety of instruments from the banjo and ukulele to guitar and baritone ukulele. Carols and hot apple cider were enjoyed by all. Organized in partnership with the J.W. Marriott The Rosseau Resort & Spa.

ARMED WITH THE ARTS

The Peace Crane Project

In December of 2013, Muskoka Chautauqua joined the Armed with the Arts' Peace Crane Project. It was established by Sue DiCicco, an artist, author and an animator for Disney Productions.

Sue started the Peace Crane Project to commemorate the tragic event that took place in Sandyhook, Connecticut two years ago. Throughout the 2014 season, Muskoka Chautauqua orchestrated its programming to include Armed with the Arts' Peace Crane Project. During the Children's festival in June, kids were



provided the opportunity to learn how to fold origami Peace Cranes, which were later displayed in Muskoka Place Gallery. Using a unique diagram, Rob Gill setup a wonderful display of origami Peace Cranes at the gallery for visitors to experience during the weeklong festivities of ChautauquaFest.

On Friday Aug. 22, Sue DiCicco instructed a workshop for the children in the Kaleidoscope Summer Arts Camp, which involved constructing a 9 foot origami Peace Crane. As part of the celebration for the first ChautauquaFest, Mayor Alice Murphy presented Sue DiCicco with several origami Peace Cranes to take to the United Nations for display.

In September, Muskoka Chautauqua brought the Peace Crane Project to Honey Harbour and Glen Orchard Public Schools. Staff from Muskoka Chautauqua lead workshops on folding the origami Peace Cranes. Once the workshops were completed, the announcement was made that the two schools would be exchanging their Peace Cranes with another school located in California.



FINANCES

Financial Summary for year ended September 30, 2014

REVENUES

Donations and Sponsorships	\$33,687.00
Fundraising - Flavours of Muskoka	\$10,843.00
Grants	\$1,360.00
Other Revenue	\$225,681.00
Ticket Sales	\$17,579.00
Total Income	\$289,150.00

EXPENSES

Direct production	
Artists Remuneration	\$2,850.00
Special Events - artists	\$27,583.00
Special Events - expenses	\$33,303.00
Hall rentals	\$1,612.00
Marketing and promotion	
Fundraising - Flavours of Muskoka	\$4,969.00
Media and promotion	\$10,351.00
Printing Programs and banners	\$7,597.00
Digital presence and audio relations	\$77,206.00
Administration and general	
Amortization of capital assets	\$580.00
Compensation	\$96,101.00
General administration	\$10,959.00
Office administration	\$12,026.00
Strategic planning	\$3,020.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$288,157.00
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$993.00

CONNECTING



As a non-profit organization, Muskoka Chautauqua depends on the tremendous support of the surrounding community. You can become part of this phenomenal arts organization today and in the future. Investing in Muskoka Chautauqua will help ensure the future for arts and culture throughout the Muskoka region.



For information and event listings please visit
muskokachautauqua.com