



# 2012 Annual Report

A Rebirth  
of Inspiration



MUSKOCA  
CHAUTAUQUA



# Engage Innovate Transform



## Muskoka Chautauqua

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Muskoka Chautauqua, established on Tobin Island on Lake Rosseau at the turn of the last century and now reawakened after 80 years, engages, innovates and provides opportunities for transformational experiences through the arts and life-long learning. Muskoka Chautauqua is a part of the North American Chautauqua movement and 21st century cultural renaissance.

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.

**creative, multi-disciplinary  
arts-based programming that  
engages, innovates and transforms**



# greetings from **Muskoka Chautauqua**



**Gary Froude & Gayle Dempsey,  
Founders**

This has been a year filled with significant and exciting accomplishments. Muskoka Chautauqua is delighted to be an official member of the Chautauqua Trail, a cultural heritage trail linking Chautauqua centres across the U.S. and Canada. Combined with the explosive growth of cultural heritage tourism, Muskoka Chautauqua is uniquely positioned to offer its programming as more and more North Americans seek to improve their lives through lifelong learning. We are pleased to be a part of this international cultural renaissance.

Thanks to generous support from our sponsors and government grants, we were able to expand our Kaleidoscope arts programming for children and offer an exceptional variety of music, art and education based events throughout the Muskoka region.

Highlights of those events included: the Reading Circle Signature Event, celebrating top Canadian authors and facilitated by Steve Paikin, TVO's host of The Agenda; and Flavours of Muskoka, a gourmet food and wine event featuring the area's most distinguished chefs, Ontario's best wineries and breweries and fine entertainment.

Muskoka Chautauqua is looking forward to furthering its strong working relationship with all the organizations in the region that support the importance of broadening the outreach of arts, culture and lifelong education to residents and visitors.

Heartfelt gratitude goes to our hands-on Board of Directors and to all staff and volunteers for the selfless devotion of their time and efforts in making 2012 a year of fulfilling the vision of Muskoka Chautauqua.

# 2012 Board Members

**Andrea Binkle**

**Brad Burgess, Treasurer**

**Mary-Lou Gardner Sonmor**

**Cheryl Hollows**

**Michael Jones**

**Michael Lawley**

**Leah Leslie**

**Ellen Mann, Chair**

**Beverlie Robertson, Secretary**

**Michaele Robertson**

**Marsha Skain**

**Susan Terry**

**Barry Wansbrough, Vice-Chair**

## Administration

**Gayle Dempsey**

Director of Festival  
Development,  
Aboriginal and Arts Education

**Gary Froude**

Executive Director

**Emma Lovell**

Marketing and  
Communications Coordinator

Thank you to our team of fantastic volunteers in 2012 who helped with events such as the Signature Event, Flavours of Muskoka and the Kaleidoscope Children's Festival. We honestly could not do it without you.



The 6th annual  
**Walking in My Mother's Shoes**  
took place on Saturday, May 12  
and Sunday, May 13.

Celebrations, held every year around Mother's Day to honour the lives of our mothers, were held at JW Marriott The Rosseau Muskoka Resort and Spa. The event attracted over 150 participants, beginning with an elegant evening of music, poetry and spoken word tributes on Saturday and a visual art exhibition and an interactive Spirit Painting workshop with Krysia Bower on Sunday. All proceeds raised went to the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign, a program of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. This event was held in partnership with the Arts Council of Muskoka, the Muskoka Multicultural Association and JW Marriott The Rosseau Muskoka Resort and Spa.

Muskoka Chautauqua presented the 4th annual **Wings Over Muskoka** in partnership with the Muskoka Heritage Foundation in celebration of International Biodiversity Day – Aquatic Biodiversity on May 25, 26 and 27 at The Marriott in Minett. Celebrations included a painting workshop, demonstrations and presentations,



wildlife lectures and the popular “Loons in the Morning Mist” expedition, which brought multiple sightings.

Once again, Muskoka Chautauqua was pleased to host an exhibition

## Reading Circle Signature Event June 1 to 3, 2012

Muskoka Chautauqua's third annual Reading Circle Signature attracted more than 200 participants to Clevelands House Resort and JW Marriott The Rosseau Muskoka Resort and Spa. The event's theme was “Our Canada: Rocks and Roots – Reimagining Common Ground”.

The weekend was facilitated by TVO's The Agenda host Steve Paikin. Guests included noted speakers and writers, including political columnist and award-winning author Richard Gwyn, the Globe and Mail's Ottawa bureau chief John Ibitson, historian and professor Dr. Francoise Noel, award-winning Native American flutist Mockingbird and former American television news reporter and anchor Rolland Smith.

and lecture on the Alcuin Society Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada, Canada's only national book design competition. The exhibition ran from August 20 to October 1 and was split between the Muskoka Lakes Museum and Muskoka Lakes Public Library. Jason Dickson, specialist in antiquarian books, presented a lecture on August 22 at the Muskoka Lakes Museum.

2012 in

## Flavours of Muskoka

June 28, 2012



Muskoka cottagers, residents and visitors were once again wowed by the offerings at the 12th annual Flavours of Muskoka at The Rosseau, a JW Marriott Resort and Spa in Minett. With more than thirty wineries, breweries and food vendors, the offerings were impressive. As the main fundraiser for Kaleidoscope Arts in Education Programs, it is an important event for Muskoka Chautauqua and 2012 didn't disappoint, with nearly 250 attendees and more than \$11,500 raised by the silent auction alone.



The life and work of renowned creative thinker Dr. Kenneth G. Mills was celebrated in Port Carling and Minett from August 19 to 25 with the **Kenneth G. Mills Foundation Festival of Sound, Light and Peace**, presented in partnership with Muskoka Chautauqua. Participants took part in workshops, lectures, art exhibitions, drama and music, exploring Mills' unique and inspiring philosophy and artistic approach. The festival concluded with a sold out public performance by the Toronto All-Star Big Band on August 23 at the Port Carling Memorial



Community Centre.

On Saturday, September 29, book lovers gathered at the Rene Caisse Theatre in Bracebridge for an author's talk with Canadian author **Joseph Boyden**. The Giller Prize winner, who wrote Through Black Spruce and Three Day Road, delighted the crowd of more than 100 with jokes, anecdotes and readings from both of his novels. The evening was co-presented by Muskoka Chautauqua and Muskoka Tourism and in partnership with Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corporation, Penguin Books and Porter Airlines.

In celebration of Muskoka's fall colours, local artists gathered on October 13 for Muskoka Chautauqua's

### Local Colours



at the Bethune Memorial House in Gravenhurst. The day included the display and sale of the autumn-inspired works of a dozen local artists, as well as live demonstrations. Classical guitarist Peter Wainwright provided musical interludes. The afternoon also included presentations and exhibits from Bethune House on the life and work of Dr. Norman Bethune.

The **Muskoka Chautauqua Christmas Jam** was held on Friday, December 14 at the JW Marriott The Rosseau Muskoka Resort and Spa in Minett. Local musicians jammed together, performing seasonal favourites. The evening also featured the Rosseau Lake College Tone Chimes with conductor Sarah Lundy, head of performing arts at Rosseau Lake College. Grandmothers to Grandmothers had their eclectic wares and jewelry for sale in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

# Review

# Muskoka Chautauqua's Kaleidoscope Arts in Education

## In the Schools



### May 1 to 4: "Do Something" at Bracebridge Public School

With Ms. Robin Allison, Ms. Beth Ratcliffe and Ms. Kathryn Aitken's Grade 7/8 students and artists Kathy Reid, Peter Jarvis, Bryan Dearsley and Virginia Hastings.

For four days in May, students worked with four professional artists to create artwork, performances and written pieces that reflected lessons they learned while working on their "Do Something" projects. The students had spent the school year working with various community organizations including the OSPCA, the Salvation Army, Out of the Cold community kitchen, and Interval House. Through visual arts, drama, writing, music and video documentary, the students

explored and documented how their "Do Something" projects impacted their awareness of themselves and their place in the broader community.

### June 1 to 3: Signature Event - Monck Public School & the War of 1812

Students from Monck Public School joined Muskoka Chautauqua as hosts of the War of 1812 Exhibit at the Signature Event in June. The students and their teacher Jennifer Cassidy were a huge help during the event. They circulated among the guests, sharing information about the War of 1812 and touring them through the exhibit. The exhibit was sponsored by TD Bank and Canadian Heritage, and went on to be displayed during the summer at the Port Carling Library and Muskoka Lakes Museum.

### Six String Nation Guitar at Bracebridge-Muskoka Lakes Secondary School

Students at Bracebridge and Muskoka Lakes Secondary School were part of a significant Canadian heritage experience. Jowi Taylor brought a moving presentation on the creation of the Six String Nation Guitar to geography and history French immersion students at BMLSS. Inspired by the Quebec referendum, the project encourages Canadians to tell their story from a multitude of perspectives, to know and embrace Canada's diversity and to celebrate the power of music. The guitar, named Voyageur, is made from unique pieces of Canadian History.



2012 in the schools...

4

Projects

191  
Students

16

Artists

8

Teachers



The students came together with intellectuals and professionals from around the world who were part of a concurrent think tank on Lake Rosseau which explored the same theme as the in-school project. The experts were moved by the students' work and provided individual feedback to each student.

## June 19 to 23: Soul of Place at VK Greer Public School

*With Ms. Howell and Mrs. Connor's Grade 5/6 classes and artists Gordon Miller and Emma Joy Lovell.*

Over the course of two days, students explored the theme "Soul of Place," examining the places that inspire us and shape the person that we are. With artists Gordon Miller and Emma Lovell as their guides, the students created mixed media collages and accompanying poetry. They were introduced to Gordon Miller's creative process, freely covering their paper with colour and then adding collage images based on a theme.

Their completed works and poems were shared at a community celebration held at Clevelands House Resort in Minett on June 23, 2012.

## In the Community



## June 30 and July 1: Kaleidoscope Children's Festival

This year's Kaleidoscope Children's Festival took place at Clevelands House Play World on Saturday, June 30 and at The Rosseau, a JW Marriott Resort and Spa on Sunday, July 1.

The event was a huge success with eleven artists involved in art workshops for the kids to enjoy. On Sunday, Canada Day events took place on the event lawn of

The Rosseau, a JW Marriott Resort and Spa. Face painting provided by Ana Wagner-Chazalon and henna tattoos provided by Sammy Noland were a huge hit with many participants. Jam Sandwich performed from one o'clock p.m. until two o'clock p.m. and were well received, as always, with Canada Day Fireworks in the evening.



## July 23 to August 3: Kaleidoscope Art Camps

"Showtime" performance camp was lead by Debra Brown, emmy-award winning choreographer for Cirque du Soleil. Campers got to experience the creative process behind Cirque du Soleil shows, using movement, music, dance and mask making. On Friday, July 27, the young performers held a show of their work at the Port Carling Memorial Community Centre.

The final camp was an art and drama camp, instructed by Wing Chow and Jen Morgan Anderson, where children produced an entire play, called "The Hundred Year Snooze", doing everything from constructing and painting sets, assembling costumes to the full performance on August 3.

# Thank you Partnerships & Collaborations

Muskoka Chautauqua believes strongly in building and strengthening partnerships in the community, region, province, nationally and internationally. The organization has developed many meaningful cross-sectoral relationships and collaborations.

Arts Council of Muskoka

ArtsSmarts

Arts Network for Children  
and Youth

Bethune Memorial House

The Chautauqua Trail

Explorers' Edge

Kenneth G. Mills Foundation

JW Marriott The Rosseau

Muskoka Resort & Spa

Sherwood Inn

Muskoka Magazine

Muskoka Lakes Museum

Muskoka Lakes Public Library

Muskoka Opera Festival

Muskoka Tourism Marketing Agency

Muskoka Lakes Chamber of Commerce

New Actors' Colony Theatre

Savour Muskoka

Trillium Lakelands District

School Board

Wasan Island/Breuninger Foundation

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

# Investment & Support

Muskoka Chautauqua recognizes the following corporations, agencies, governments, foundations, businesses and individuals for their invaluable and generous support:

## Up to \$500

BEAN  
Township of Muskoka Lakes  
Barry Wansbrough

## \$500 +

Bracebridge Muskoka Lakes Rotary Club -  
Beth Barry Bursary  
Sherwood Inn (Clublink)

## \$1,000 +

Baytides Management Inc.  
Jakolyn Elliott  
Jennifer Murphy  
McLaren Press Graphics  
Service Canada

## \$5000 +

ArtsSmarts  
Explorers' Edge  
Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership  
Scotiabank  
TD Bank  
Trillium Lakelands District School Board

## \$10,000 +

Canadian Heritage

## \$20,000 +

FedNor

## \$50,000 +

Ministry of Tourism - Celebrate Ontario

## In-Kind Supporters

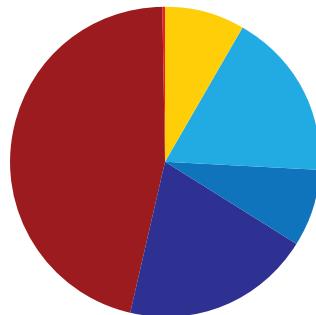
Arts Network for Children and Youth  
Bell Canada  
Brad Burgess, CA  
Bethune House  
Clevelands House  
Experitech  
JW Marriott Muskoka Resort & Spa  
Ellen Mann - Kemias Enterprises  
MetrolandNorthMedia  
Michael Jones - Pianoscapes  
Muskoka Lakes Museum  
Muskoka Lakes Library  
Muskoka Magazine  
Muskoka Tourism Marketing Agency  
Moose FM  
Susan Terry – ICU Media  
The UPS Store  
Wayside Garden Market

Thank you to Flavours of Muskoka supporters who help to bring arts in education to Muskoka students through our Kaleidoscope programs. And thank you to the many chefs, resorts and restaurants who make Flavours of Muskoka such a huge success.

# 2012 Financial Summary

## Income

Earned Revenue	15,054
Private Sector	30,892
Fundraising	14,263



### Government Revenue

Federal	34,654
Provincial	81,276
Municipal	200

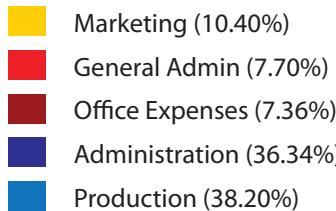
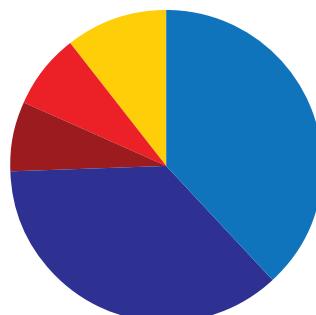
**Total Income**      **\$ 176,339**



## Expenses

Production	62,181
Administration	59,159
Office Expenses	11,987
General Admin	12,538
Marketing	16,910

**Total Expenses**      **\$ 162,775**



The complete, audited Muskoka Chautauqua Financial Report for 2012 is available upon request.

# You can be part of this cultural phenomenon.

Muskoka Chautauqua is a unique arts and cultural initiative in Muskoka. Investing in the organization will reap an immesurable rate of return. You can be part of this emerging Muskoka arts community, now and in the future.

As a charitable organization, Muskoka Chautauqua is absolutely dependent upon generous community support. Muskoka Chautauqua also offers exciting opportunities for corporate sponsors.

Find out more and give online at:



[www.muskokachautauqua.ca/giving](http://www.muskokachautauqua.ca/giving)





## 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, travellers, 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.

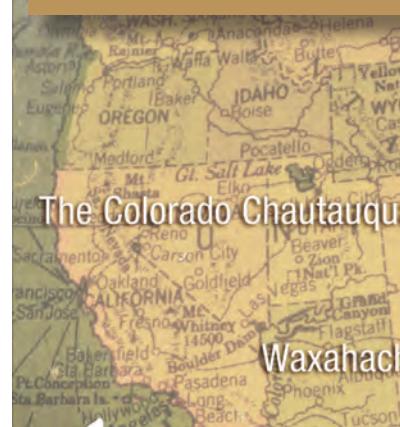
The Chautauqua Trail is made up of a group of organizations and individuals committed to the communication and implementation of the Chautauqua concept of building community by supporting all persons in the development of their full potential intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and physically. The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



# Chautauqua Trail

A North American Cultural Renaissance

[www.chautauquatrail.com](http://www.chautauquatrail.com)



The Colorado Chautauqua ---

Waxahachie Chautauqua ---

Jump on the trail...





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