SCRATCH WRITING CHALLENGE!

CREATE A WORK OF FICTION 3000-5000 WORDS: START AT THE BEGINNING, OR THE END, WHATEVER WORKS FOR YOU. JUST MAKE SURE THE STORY TAKES PLACE SOMEWHERE IN THE COLUMBIA BASIN AND HAS APPEALING CHARACTERS, A DYNAMIC PLOT, A MIND-BLOWING THEME AND A MAGNIFICENT STYLE. SUBMIT IT AT SCRATCHONLINE.CA/CHALLENGE.

GRAND PRIZE Get Published! $1000 CASH!

Challenge starts Dec. 1, 2009 and ends March 31, 2010

FOR RULES AND MORE INFO, VISIT SCRATCHONLINE.CA/CHALLENGE
Nothing splendid has ever been achieved except by those who dared believe that something inside them was superior to circumstances.

—Bruce Barton
Welcome to Issue 14 of SCRATCH Mag! I had a great time putting this together as my first task since joining Columbia Basin Trust (CBT). SCRATCH Mag receives submissions from youth throughout the Columbia River Basin. This magazine was created by youth for youth to have a voice and a medium for their art and their words.

Interested in writing for SCRATCH? Let me know! In addition to getting your work published in the mag, you can get tips and feedback from one of our writing mentors and get paid for your work. It’s just one way CBT’s Youth Initiatives fosters productive mentoring relationships for youth.

My other role with CBT is working with the fantastic ideas that come forward for our Youth Grants. I’m here to assist applicants in developing their work plans, budgets and final applications for review. Got an idea? Let me help you make it a reality. Visit scratchonline.ca to download the application form or contact me for more details.

If you haven’t visited scratchonline.ca you have got to stop by soon. If you’re into challenges, be sure to find out more about our SCRATCH Writing Challenge and the $1,000 cash grand prize.

Back to this issue! I want to give a big shout out to this issue’s Editorial Committee, the Cranbrook youth from the Mount Baker Secondary School Drama Department. They reviewed all the submissions and selected their favourites just for this issue. If you are interested in forming the next Editorial Committee, let me know.

Enjoy Issue 14!!

michelle d’entremont
basin youth liaison

SCRATCH Issue 14 Editorial Committee
Mount Baker Secondary School Drama Department
The Arts Station
601 - 1st Avenue
Fernie, BC
250-423-4842
www.theartsstation.com
The Arts Station, home of the Fernie & District Arts Council, is the hub of Fernie’s cultural scene. With two Art Galleries, a 100 seat Theatre, Craft Studio and Workshop/Meeting spaces, there’s always something going on.

Art Gallery at Nelson District Youth Centre
608 Lake Street
Nelson, BC
250-352-5656
www.ndyc.com
The Youth Art Gallery’s mission is to encourage and support the development of youth artists by providing: a studio and gallery space to create, discuss and display art in a safe and accepting environment; programming and workshops to assist in skill and idea development; and exhibition opportunities to promote their art and develop a greater awareness of it in the community.

Castlegar Youth Employment Services
875 Columbia Avenue
Castlegar, BC
250-365-8432
www.stationyouthcentre.com
Castlegar Youth Employment Services provides a range of employment services to unemployed youth between the ages of 15 and 30 legally entitled to work in Canada. Services offered: resume writing, cover letter writing, job board, career information, free Internet, free phone, free fax and free photocopying.

Langham Cultural Centre
447 A Avenue
Kaslo, BC
250-353-2661
www.thelangham.ca
The Langham provides art exhibits, theatre and musical performances, a museum experience and arts workshops to the community of Kaslo and North Kootenay Lake area. The Langham Cultural Society has been a part of the Kaslo community for over 30 years. It’s first project was the restoration of this unique heritage building (built in 1896) for use as a cultural centre.

Summit Community Services Society
201 - 125 10th Avenue South
Cranbrook, BC or
395 Wallinger Avenue
Kimberley, BC
250-489-3114
www.summitfamily.ca
The Society offers many programs such as youth counseling, women’s support services and a parent youth intervention program. The Parent/Youth Intervention Program provides a short-term, solution-focused response to situations where there is conflict between youth and their families. They offer sessions in a safe space where concerns can be addressed.

Wildsight
2 - 495 Wallinger Avenue
Kimberley, BC
250-427-2535
www.wildsight.ca
Wildsight has five branches across the East Kootenay region. These branches are independent societies working on specific local issues. Branch programs are designed to educate and inform local communities on environmental issues, to protect biodiversity, work on restoration programs and bring positive environmental alternatives to community development.

GOT A FAVOURITE SPACE?
The places and spaces in this section are taken from the CBT Youth Guide. Each issue we’ll highlight some cool and helpful spots in the Basin. If you have a favourite spot that you want to highlight in the next issue, or to order your own copy of the CBT Youth Guide, email us at cbtyouth@cbt.org and we’ll fit as many in as we can.
The Kootenay Gallery’s Monday Night at the Movies Series
120 Heritage Way
Castlegar, BC
250-365-3337
www.kootenaygallery.com/movies.html
The Kootenay Gallery’s Monday Night at the Movies Series is a fundraising and audience development initiative that extends the definition of arts and culture to include the medium of film. The series of movies from the Toronto International Film Festival aims to inspire and challenge audiences in their understanding and experience of the world around us.

West Kootenay Youth Action Summit
March 2010
An event led by youth to empower youth to take action on critical global issues. The Summit will be built around interactive experiences that will challenge you to learn through doing rather than sitting and listening. The Summit is an introduction to such big picture global issues as armed conflict, international humanitarian law, human rights, social justice, and environmental protection. Each participant will also receive tangible tools through skill-building workshops and support so that we can move to action in our schools and communities. Visit the facebook group for up-to-date information.

Joe Hill Coffee House
Rossland Miners Hall
1765 Columbia Avenue
Rossland, BC
250-362-7170
Monthly variety show of talented performers of all ages and all styles of entertainment. The shows are the third Sunday of each month from 7-9:30 pm. This all ages event welcomes performing artists of all calibers and style to share their art in a coffee house setting. Cost: $3. For more info contact Michael at giffmus@telus.net.

Annual KSA Christmas Sale
December 11 - 12, 2009
606 Victoria Street
Nelson, BC
Naughty or Nice?
Either way, adorn yourself with things that sparkle, shimmer and shine! Fine handmade jewellery is being featured, along with fibre, clay and metal.

Cardboard Derby
Saturday, January 23, 2010
Fernie, BC
Participants recycle cardboard into the most creative sculptures! Test your creativity by constructing a cardboard craft able to cruise gracefully down a ski slope carrying you and your friends! Crafts will navigate the slope one at a time. This is not a race - there are no points for speed. Creativity and accuracy are key. The crafts can be simple or complex, with up to four pilots to maneuver down the hill. A good time is assured, so get your team together. For building regulations, please contact the ski hill.

Cinderella – A gala black-light theatre performance
December 18 - 19, 2009, 7pm
Mount Baker Secondary School Bright Lites Theatre celebrates diversity with a ground breaking production of a timeless classic performed entirely by students with developmental disabilities.

If there’s something happening and you want to let people know about it, email us at cbtyouth@cbr.org and we’ll put it in our events listing.
When I was in Crawford Bay a couple weeks ago, I stopped by my neighbour Dan Rude’s house to ask him a few questions about teaching, learning and what makes it all worthwhile.

As the new principal of Crawford Bay’s Gold LEED school, father of two young redheads, and math teacher to 2nd, 11th and 12th graders, Dan Rude has got his hands full. Laughing, he tells me he’s taught 23 different classes in his three years at Crawford Bay Elementary Secondary School.

Dan explains to me that it gets to a point where teachers have to ask themselves: “What do we know about learning and how do we teach everything? What is good teaching versus just good math teaching?”

Part of it is about continually learning, which he loves to do, he says. The biggest challenge of teaching he explains, is making information relevant to youth by connecting it to their world, while also connecting youth to the rest of the world.

“I strive to continually create opportunities that people will respond to, and get in a really deep way. It’s easy to present information, but the challenge is to have people really connect with it and make a difference in their lives, so they can do stuff they didn’t know they could before.”

For Dan, the best part is seeing people take initiative in doing something they might not have, without an experience they had in class. “It’s about seeing youth get involved in the world, seeing people take action and do things they didn’t know they could do before – myself included,” he says.

Since the goal is to engage and learn deeply, I ask Dan what classes he thinks have successfully done that.

“Outdoor Ed”, he answers instantly. “Getting students, teens and youth out into our natural environment. This kind of experience can’t help but engage, because you also have to power yourself to get there too; there’s this real physical element to it. And, every time I go on a hike to a peak, I know it’s going to be great, and every time I get there it’s a million times greater than I knew it would be in the first place.”

Dan says he’s excited about the possibilities of the new school. He says he feels there is the potential for a real community hub of learning involving adults and youth. There’s also an opportunity to try unique, trips-based programming within a non-traditional timetable.

“It all hinges on having creative people that don’t get discouraged; that don’t lose sight of a vision,” Dan adds.

A big question right now in the education world, says Dan, is, “What is good learning for 21st century students?” Dan believes it’s about learning and connecting our learning to the bigger picture, and not just about the information that we think of school as providing. Taking action in the world based on what we’ve learned is the challenge, which again is the reward when it happens.

“I’m always blown away by how much people can talk about their passions, and I think that’s the ultimate ‘show’ that you’ve learned something, that you can really talk about it.”

“I’m inspired by moments of clarity, where something is revealed that is always present but becomes clear. It could be anything from being on a mountaintop, to hugging a kid, to getting a math problem, to understanding how the heart works, to figuring out how relationships work.” - Dan Rude

Dan Rude/Haystack Mountain photo submitted by Dana Gallinger.
**.dollars&sense**

www.zippitydodog.com
Provides valuable personal financial information for youth; information on saving, budgeting, spending, investing and other financial planning issues.

**.mother tongues**

www.firstvoices.com
FirstVoices is a group of web-based tools and services designed to support Aboriginal people engaged in language archiving, language teaching and culture revitalization. Currently the project has over 60 communities archiving their languages. Hear the languages at the click of a button.

**.make a change**

www.emagazine.com
E - The Environmental Magazine is a bi-monthly “clearinghouse” of information, news and resources for people concerned about the environment who want to know “What can I do?” to make a difference. A 13-time Independent Press Awards winner and nominee, E is chock full of everything environmental – from recycling to rainforests, and from the global village to our own backyards.

**.visual stimuli**

www.vimeo.com
Vimeo is a respectful community of creative people who are passionate about sharing the videos they make. It provides the best tools and highest quality video in the universe.

www.photofunia.com
PhotoFunia is an online photo editing tool that gives you a fun-filled experience. Upload any photo and just wait to see the magic. The proprietary technology automatically identifies the face in the photo and let’s you add cool photo effects and create funny face photo montages.

www.metowe.com
Me to We is a new kind of social enterprise for people who want to help change the world with their daily choices. Me to We began simply. Two brothers, one basic idea: helping others makes you happy. Better yet, it also changes the world.
Criminals would be exiled to the furthest reaches of the planet.

Restorative Justice seeks to build a middle ground between these exaggerated systems. In one system, justice is served, often brutally. In the alternative extreme, criminals would be shunned from a society that abandoned all hopes of their reform. In contrast, the Restorative Justice philosophies emphasize that the community is the best place to deal with offences and that victims do offenders a disservice if they fail to confront them with consequences. The victim is equally important to the process of defining and repairing the harm as the offender is vital in taking responsibility for their crimes.

Restorative Justice brings offenders and victims together in a safe environment that gives victims and offenders a voice.

In a Restorative Justice forum in British Columbia, victims, offenders and supporters of both sides will be present, along with an RCMP officer and the guidance of a trained facilitator. Throughout the forum the offender will have a chance to speak honestly regarding their actions, and acknowledge the pain they have caused. The dialogue can often be painful and emotional, so an unbiased facilitator is crucial to guide the conversation. The dialogue may broaden the victim’s perspective on the offender and the incident that is being discussed. Often when someone feels victimized, they wonder why they were subjected to the crime. In a restorative justice forum, the victim is given the opportunity to ask the offender why they were targeted specifically. The facilitator’s role is to make sure everything runs smoothly, clarify what reparation will be achieved and help produce an agreement between everyone that is fair. In some cases, it is sufficient for the offender to apologize, and fix or return what was broken or stolen. An example of an agreement may involve counseling, community service work or supplementary treatment for the offender. Further solutions are also possible and are welcome. The conditions that must apply for a forum to be successful are that the offender must take responsibility for their actions, the victim involvement is essential to the process, and the facilitator must feel that a community justice forum is suitable.

“What exactly is Restorative Justice?” is a question that I am often asked and it gives me sweaty palms just thinking about delving into the subject. After attempting to explain the topic with a few text book explanations, I am left with quizzical glances and curious expressions.

The philosophy of our current legal/disciplinary system is seemingly fair. Justice is seen to be accomplished through punishment, behavioral changes, and the safety of the community is taken into account. In many cases these principles are accomplished, yet what about the other side? The current philosophy focuses so closely on the offender that the victim becomes a bystander in their own case. If our justice system were to be picked apart and completely rebuilt, would it resemble our current system?

For example, imagine a ‘Sin City’-esque villa with rampant criminals in a free-for-all type system. It would be Darwinian to the extreme. People would be desensitized to crime; it would be a way of life. The only way to seek justice would be through vengeance and malice. On the other extreme, imagine a world where crime is as accepted as mating is between a peanut and an elephant.
How exactly is the “state” supposed to know what is going to give a victim justice? Surely the definition of justice is different for many people. Due to such an adversarial court system, instilled in our society is a belief that stigmatization and shunning is the only way to rehabilitate an offender. This is why Restorative Justice would not work alone as a justice system, but would work harmoniously in partnership with a willing government and participants. Even after doing a Restorative Justice forum, if the crime is very serious the offender will still go through the court system. The majority of healing of the offender and victim will hopefully have been achieved and frustrations, pains and reasoning may surface.

Locally based in the Kootenays, there is a group of volunteers trained in facilitation and the Restorative Justice principles working to build up a community awareness of Restorative Justice and the potential advantages it could have in small communities. This group also teaches a workshop called Conversation Peace, and is aimed to engage youth on important aspects of the criminal justice program and inform people about the basic Restorative Justice principles. The Conversation Peace workshop is a great way to learn about facilitation, mediation, and conflict resolution.

Upon taking part in the Conversation Peace workshop at Mount Sentinel Secondary School near Nelson, one student, Rachel Throop, was happy to impart these encouraging words: “It was a very cool environment to learn this information. Our teachers Chris and Trish were really good at explaining the importance of peaceful mediation and restorative justice. I really liked that I was able to learn so much: how to ask open questions, deal with situations in different ways and the importance of solving situations without violence. The course is definitely useful, and I encourage anyone to take it.”

In writing this article, I have challenged my fear of explaining the subject. So please, I dare you to ask me “What is Restorative Justice?” and you will receive a sweat-free earful. Also, for more information concerning the Kootenay Restorative Justice program go to www.krjustice.com.

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

—Martin Luther King Jr.
A recent CBT Telelearning event was presented to familiarize participants with the concepts of a community-oriented, grassroots approach to creating art in public places. The idea of using **ART IN YOUR INITIATIVE** is about **ENGAGING YOUR COMMUNITY**. It is not about the how but the what! Is there an issue or an opportunity in your town that people could really **RALLY BEHIND**? How can we express what our community means to us through an artistic process of creating community art? How can we make **COMMUNITY ART** about fun and about community building and about us?

The **IDEA OF COMMUNITY ART** is different from the concept of street art or graffiti because those media have traditionally stemmed from subversion & culture jamming. **GUERRILLA ART** or community art tends to be a part of a **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT** process and is rooted in a sense of impermanence of being a part of a process, not the end result. It also takes the profession out of the artiste and **ENCOURAGES THE ARTIST IN EVERYONE**.

**Are you ready to put art into your initiative?**

Community engagement is not about the how but the what.
Is there an issue or an opportunity in your town that people could really rally behind?

How can we express what our community means to us through an artistic process?

Check out 100 Ideas at www.kerismith.com

flickr

video

tweeting

blogging

Wish Tree

Button making

Guerrilla Knitting

Is there an issue or an opportunity in your town that people could really rally behind?
Upcoming Telelearning Sessions

Register at cbtyouth@cbt.org

Media Relations
November 26, 2009 @ 3:30 PST
Learn how to build a communications plan and talk to media to get the word out about your project or event. The session will cover a number of topics in media relations such as preparing for a media interview, effectively using news releases and community contribution editorials, advertising and promotions, and relationship-building and sponsorship opportunities.

Speaking and sharing their knowledge for this session will be CBT’s communications department.

Handling Stress
January 28, 2010 @ 3:30 PST
Develop strategies and habits to help manage an increasing workload and subsequent anxiety and stress. Being the go-to person in your town for projects, volunteerism and coupling that with school, work, friends, parents and relationships can be the perfect moment for your hypothalamus to send a message to your adrenal glands and within seconds you are ready for fight or flight!

Speaking and sharing their knowledge on this subject for this session will be Melissa Koftinoff, Selkirk College Wellness Council Member and Robin Higgins, Counsellor, Selkirk College.

Developing your Project Budget
March 18, 2010 @ 3:30 PST
This session will teach you how to develop a budget for your project or event. This will include allocating resources for wages, travel and accommodations, office supplies, printing, space rental, snacks, etc. This course is required for the next session on Fundraising.

Speaking and sharing their knowledge for this session will be Christine Lloyd, Director, Finance and Operations, CBT.

Fundraising
March 25, 2010 @ 3:30 PST
Frame your fundraising plan for your project or organization. Some of the key topics to be covered in the learning event will be developing a fundraising strategy, being strategic about your fundraising, the various types of funders and funding sources. Participants will also have the chance to develop an effective case statement for a funder to donate to the project. These case statements will be critiqued by a panel of funders in order to offer constructive feedback on each project.
Prerequisite: Developing your Project Budget (Mar 18, 2010).

Speaking and sharing their knowledge for this session will be Dana Welsh, Basin Youth Liaison.
In East Africa, where one of the main languages spoken is Kiswahili, there is a saying among the farmers that is often repeated: “Magi ni Uhai,” or “Water is Life.” While attending the first CBT Youth Water Forum – CURRENTS – in Golden on September 25-27, I kept coming back to this phrase and the fact that water is one of the most essential ingredients to life, regardless of where we are in the world.

I spent quite a bit of time in Kenya and Tanzania, first as a Canada World Youth exchange participant in 2004-2005 and then in 2008 as a volunteer in an orphanage near Nakuru, Kenya, where I experienced the importance of water. Many of the discussions and activities at CURRENTS reminded me of my time in Africa.

Over the course of the weekend, as I observed and interacted with the other participants, I came to appreciate the diversity within our group and how each of us brought something unique to the dialogue. Regardless of our life experiences, we were all brought together by the very basic understanding that knowing water and understanding its strengths and weaknesses, is integral to protecting our environment and our existence.

Many young people are faced with big questions about what they want to do with their lives. The varied age group of CURRENTS (from 15 to 29) represented this well. High school students were asking questions about post-secondary opportunities, be they studying at university or college or just getting out and traveling; students who were in college or had graduated were looking for direction in their working lives. Often, these questions can be daunting, and I know from personal experience that the answers do not come easily, if they come at all.

A notable part of the weekend was the interaction we had with professionals working in the field. We talked with professors, biologists, naturalists and writers. Immediately I noticed that despite the different types of education these presenters had, they all worked with water, and indeed most of them have devoted their lives to it. So, for all youth, students, adults, or grandparents looking for inspiration in their future endeavours, look no further than water. Water is the ultimate interdisciplinary topic.

Working with water you can be a scientist, an artist, a lawyer, a writer, an entrepreneur, a labourer, a politician, a farmer, a journalist, a mediator, a graphic designer, a cook, a carpenter, a computer technician, a brewer and even an astronaut! Water offers limitless opportunities. Many people, when they think of working with water think of biologists, or
hydrologists, or other gifted scientific minds that are unraveling the mysteries of our world one molecule at a time. While these jobs are exciting and necessary, they are by no means the end of the list of water jobs. Your interest in water can take you in any direction. If I may say so, go with the flow; see where it takes you.

One thing is for sure, if you decide to work with water your future is going to be extremely interesting. It is widely accepted that the next big global conflict will be over water; as a resource it is something we have learned to take for granted, but it is also something we cannot live without. This alone is a dangerous formula, and while the second part of it cannot be changed, the first surely can. I would suggest that is where we start. We cannot afford to take water for granted. That is an unsustainable position and will only exacerbate future conflicts. Hosting forums like CURRENTS is a good start, but it is only a drop in the bucket and the initiative to carry on with actions like this has to move into the hands of the general public.

So, with the wise phrase “Magi ni Uhai – Water is Life” in mind, I want those reading this article to think about ways you can work with water and how you can ensure its continued life-giving force the next time you’re drinking water from your tap, standing in the shower or enjoying the scenery of a beautiful alpine lake.
Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) held its first Youth Water Forum CURRENTS, bringing together over 40 youth from around the Basin to learn about important water issues in communities, and learn how to take action to improve and protect water values in the Basin.

This event focused on experiential learning as youth spent Saturday in the field learning about local water issues and getting some hands-on experience. Through the field sessions, youth were able to connect and network with key influencers and local experts working on water issues.

Local water experts and university professors presented on water quality and aquatic invasive plants, and gave youth some suggestions on how to turn their ideas into action. Youth then took to the Columbia River for a group paddle in voyageur canoes listening to historical accounts of the early explorers on the Columbia River.

In the evening, Kindy Gosal, Director of Water and Environment for CBT presented on the Columbia River Treaty to increase youth awareness and understanding of its history, impacts, effects, and its future. Bob Sanford, Chair of the Canadian Partnership Initiative of the United Nations International Water for Life Decade gave a presentation about current water issues and how we can resolve disputes and avoid potential conflict over water resources.

Through CURRENTS, funding was available for participants to initiate youth-led water projects in their home communities. To close the forum, Dana Welsh, CBT Youth Liaison presented on Action Planning and gave youth various tools and examples of how they could successfully implement water projects through CURRENTS grant funding.

As a result of CURRENTS, four water projects were initiated by youth:

- An inventory and GIS mapping project to identify aquatic invasive plant populations in wetland and riparian areas and determine appropriate control methods;

- Community restoration and planting work along a local river to create a healthy riparian area and community engagement/involvement;

- A music video focusing on water issues in the Basin featuring various forms of artistic expression;

- A community invasive plant pull and awareness campaign.

CURRENTS raised awareness among youth and identified key water issues and topics that are of interest to youth. Youth were able to network with their peers, as well as water experts to increase their skills and knowledge around important water issues in the Basin. Youth were encouraged to take action on water issues and get involved in their own communities. The next Youth Water Forum will take place in the fall of 2010. Join us on our Facebook group to learn more and get involved!

When you drink the water, remember the spring.

–Chinese proverb
HAVE AN IDEA?
HAVE A DREAM?
WE HAVE THE MEANS.
Many people who have visited the West Kootenay area can tell you that there is something undeniably magical about it. For 29 year old Nelson artist and Kootenay School of the Arts (KSA) graduate, Eryn Prospero, this is what first drew her to become a student at Selkirk College. Eryn, who graduated from KSA’s clay program in 2007, now successfully works as a part-time artist out of her simple basement studio on Vernon Street in Nelson.

Born and raised in Toronto, Eryn made the move to Nelson after learning from a friend about the clay program at KSA. Already possessing a degree in Environment and Resource Studies (with a minor in fine arts and geography), Eryn had been practising clay as a hobby for some time in Toronto, but wanted to take it to the next level. KSA’s hands-on clay program would not only give her the opportunity to do this, but also give her a reason to move to the West Kootenay region—something she had long dreamed of.

Eryn feels that art is more appreciated in the Nelson area compared to larger cities, and loves that her education at Selkirk College has allowed her to “live the dream” as a self-employed artist in the community. She especially enjoyed the studio-work focus of the KSA Clay program. She feels that Selkirk College not only encouraged her to develop an individual style through experimentation, but prepared her to leave school and start her own business with confidence. Being a student at KSA also helped her to overcome her self-doubt.

“The most difficult thing for me as a student was to learn from my mistakes and not be afraid to make them. The instructors are so experienced and talented at KSA—they really encouraged me to experiment and develop my artistic style.”

Eryn creates functional and somewhat utilitarian, yet unmistakably beautiful, clay forms, such as mugs, bowls, and plates. She has developed a signature style by glazing the outsides of her pieces with warm earth-tones and the interiors with amazing bright, iridescent, striking colours and patterns, reminiscent of candy, robin’s eggs, snowflakes, and seashells.

Eryn is happy with her choice to attend Selkirk College and the lifestyle it has enabled her to have. When Eryn is not in her studio, she spends her time skiing, hiking, cooking and gardening. With a list of hobbies such as these, it is easy to see why the creative and outdoor-focused Kootenay lifestyle resonates with her.

Eryn currently operates Prospero Pottery out of Factory Studios on Vernon Street in Nelson, BC. She sells her pieces out of her studio and at Hazeldean Gallery in Nelson. She plans to stay in the area and to expand her business by getting her work into other galleries, building a web presence, and teaching. In the future she hopes to make a living as a full-time artist and teacher.

Eryn can be found most times in her studio, or email her at erynprospero@gmail.com. To learn more about KSA programs, visit selkirk.ca/programs/ksa.

Photos submitted by Jeremy Addington.
The Youth Advisory Committee (or YACers as we call them) is a group of involved, inspired, creative youth from around the Columbia Basin who are interested in making a difference in their communities. YACers are involved in a number of projects, from cultural events and youth forums, to special projects and presentations. Another key part of the commitment to the CBT YAC, is that members of the committee evaluate our Columbia Basin Youth Grants.

If you are interested in becoming a YACer (Committee Member), applying to be part of the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) really couldn’t be easier. The YAC begins recruiting for new members in May of each year. New people bring new ideas and new perspectives, so don’t hesitate… applicate! Our application form is quick and interesting to fill out and can be found on the web at scratchonline.ca/aboutus/application.
JENNIFER TERNOWAY  
by Emily Dumaresq
Jenn’s awesomeness landed her an invite to be an honorary YAC member for 5 months last year. Jenn is a student at the College of the Rockies studying psychology. She applies her quirky sense of humour and goofiness and sometimes opposing social norms to the stage, where she is currently participating in the play Cinderella.

When you’re out looking for Jenn, try the drama club at the high school, your local coffee shop or the library where this young published poet can be found creating her next masterpiece. You may also find her pursuing her interest in different cultures at any of the multi-cultural events happening in the greater Cranbrook area. If you see her, be sure to say hi!

EMILY DUMARESQ  
by Jennifer Ternoway
This aspiring comedian is known for such classic childhood jokes as “Why did the gum cross the road? Because it was stuck to the chicken’s foot.” This is her first year on the YAC and her sheer awesomeness and fun jokes always make meetings fun.

Emily is from Fernie where she can be found horseback riding and hitting the slopes. So if you need to find her, check the trails or the ski hill (if you can keep up with her). She can also be found raising awareness of the importance of sustainable housing. Now she hasn’t always lived in Fernie, believe it or not, she is originally from the land of beautiful green hills, the Annapolis Valley, Dalhousie and Acadia University...yes, folks, I’m referring to beautiful Nova Scotia. In the words of Emily “go big AND go home!”

UNDINE CLARA FARRELLY FOULDS  
by Melissa Koftinoff
Clara is a patient person with a huge heart and a creative way of looking at the world! Raised in Nelson, Clara feels fortunate to have grown up in a place that is beautiful and has a grassroots feel to it. As a young girl, she spent a lot of time at the KSA art studio, where her mother was taking classes. Later, Clara would discover her own passion for art in the form of sewing. She loves creating her own clothing, costumes or simply just “stitch[ing] together [anything] to make into something new”. She is also fond of baking, preferably dessert such as pie or ginger cookies.

Clara believes her upbringing contributed to her drive to achieve whatever she puts her mind to, as well as her ability to “think outside the box,” which is probably how she formed the answer to the question: “What happens to the OTHER sock?” She theorizes that the bed bugs eat them!

Considering her compassionate nature, is it any wonder that Clara’s aspirations in life include: to see as much of the world as she can, to always learn from wherever she is or whomever she is with, and to make a positive impact?! 

Clara’s Words to Live By:  
“Today you are you, this is truer than true. There is no one alive who is truer than you” – Dr. Suess
LAURA ARCHER
by Graham Knipfel

Looking for a way to contribute to her community on a larger scale, Laura Archer was selected for the Columbia Basin Trust’s Youth Advisory Committee in August 2009. She enjoys learning more about the Basin and wants to connect Golden’s motivated and amazing community to other community initiatives throughout the Basin. As the Project Support Coordinator for Golden Area Initiatives, she strongly believes Golden’s most valuable asset is its people.

Laura loves soccer, camping, hiking and is a fanatic tobagganeer… or tobogganer… or toboggan enthusiast. She also enjoys cooking and board games and claims to be much better at the latter. CBC Radio 1 and Radio 2 can often be heard coming from Laura’s speakers as she attests to the station’s quality forum that involves everyday Canadians in some really interesting and important conversations. Her adoration of CBC doesn’t end there: she also claims to be a huge George Stroumboulopoulos fan.

Laura is a Halloween-loving dog person who has a Degree in Human Geography, Anthropology and Urban Studies from Simon Fraser University and continually strives to stand up for what she believes in. She is happy to be a part of Golden’s community where she enjoys spending time with her boyfriend, her two sisters and her brother-in-law. She boasts of Golden’s spirit of volunteerism and the promising future that awaits an already stellar town.

Laura is excited to be a part of the YAC and she looks forward to empowering citizens to be proactive in the development of their communities.

Next Issue meet the rest of the YACers: Neil, Graham, Adam, Kamilah, Jody, and Amanda!

MELISSA KOFTINOFF
by Clara Foulds

Melissa is a self-proclaimed Vintage Visionary, a smiling, modern photographer ‘with a twist of old fashion ideals in the mix’. Melissa grew up in Nakusp, where she remembers going for a canoe ride with Astronomer John Dobson when she was 5 years old. She has always loved being outdoors, and hiking in the Kootenays is a favorite pastime of hers. Currently attending Selkirk College in Castlegar, Melissa values how friendly and accommodating the school is (probably because she is this way herself). While Melissa works hard at Selkirk, she often listens to CBC Radio 3’s podcasts and playlists for inspiration, after all, "Canadian music is stellar!

Perhaps Melissa’s love and appreciation for different cultures is what makes her love the book Persepolis, the graphic novel memoir written by Majane Satrapi. As she is always thinking of ways to positively impact others and improve the state of the world, she is often doing many different projects at once. This year, her goal is to manage stress better! If Melissa were to be a utensil, she would be a spoon as it is not as pointy as a fork or knife, and it is often associated with one of her favourite things: dessert!

Melissa's Words to Live By:
"Smile, it’s the key that fits the lock of everybody’s heart." - Anthony J. D’Angelo
Get inspired, get creative, get going out there and take pictures or make pies or make music or make people think. SCRATCH Mag puts your stuff in our mag. Get creative and get paid. Get going to www.scratchonline.ca to submit your stuff. Get voted in by your peers.
Snow Globe

mia ostere

invermere

Three Little Pencils Went Out One Day

kristen goold

sparwood
Canoeing on the Sky

kamilah carter
crawford bay/cranbrook

Wildflower

brooke amélie
nelson
Rainbows Are Visions

Joel Robison
Cranbrook

Bicycle
Alli Roda
Nelson
Photo Composition Tips

**keep it simple:** Identifying the subject of interest and avoiding distracting backgrounds will help to keep the picture clear. Zoom in to clear out irrelevant parts of the scene and capture just what you’re looking for, avoiding objects like signs, buildings or people that take the viewer’s eye away from the point of focus.

**rule of thirds:** Picture a tic tac toe board: two horizontal lines intersected by two vertical lines. This creates an easy formula - line up the horizon of the shot with either of the two horizontal lines, and line up the subject (either a person, building or the focus of your picture) with either of the vertical lines, ideally where the lines intersect.

**lines and shapes:** Applying simple shapes (circles, triangles, curves) to your subject matter can help to simplify complex scenes and add visual interest. Consider trying to capture an image of a person walking down a long, straight street. Instead of shooting straight down the line, move yourself five or ten feet to the side and shoot that road at an angle - having that line crossing through the intersecting lines of the imaginary tic tac toe board from the rule of thirds can create the illusion of movement as they lead the eye through the picture.

**vantage point:** Most images taken by amateur photographers are taken at eye level - this means most of these pictures are taken from the narrow range of 5 to 6 feet in height. Taking a picture from a lower vantage point (for example crouching or even lying on the ground) can add grandeur and significance to the subject, while getting more height (from climbing up a tree, fence or steps) will reduce the significance of the subject in your scene.

**balance:** When considering what you’re capturing, look through the lens and pick out the dominant subjects, like people, buildings, trees or mountains and arrange them so that they compliment each other. This can mean either symmetrical balancing, where objects of equal size are positioned on either side of the picture’s center, or asymmetrical balancing, where objects of different sizes are used on either side of the picture’s center.

**framing:** Framing is a way of drawing attention to the subject in the picture by blocking off or framing parts of the scene using natural or artificial barriers, and however accomplished can add prominence to the subject, and will help add a sense of depth to the photo.
Getting Richelieu

There was silence in the theatre. On stage she stood over him, wood knife in two hands above her head, waiting. In his feather-capped appeal he shared his unwavering love in shoddy imitation dialect, explained his betrayal meant to strengthen their love and that the hour and a half of him cavorting with corset wearing bimbos to the deep-voiced narration of the downtown bank-teller could be forgiven in the midst of such red-blooded, middle-aged, amateur acting-troupe emotion.

She drove the particle-board blade between his chest and arm. I clapped.

I hate to see you shaking

Dear Heart,
Forgive me when I tremble,
For I know you tremble too.
This is a brand of anguish I never meant to give you.
Now you’re so tired up;
Bound up in this most complex web
Of old, recent, the new and the future.
Knights and Dragons

They say a true knight never fails
They say a Dragon never dies
They say a pure priest never burns
They say a worm will never fly
The rain mixes with his blood
And stains the fighting grounds
Teardrops fall onto his empty eyes
I scream and make no sound
I stand alone at his head
Dressed in black I light the flame
His sword lies beneath his hands
Engraved in silver with his name
My knight has fallen, my dragon died
The priest is burning, the worm will fly
My world is fading but I go on
watching until my heart is gone

strange and surprising

I’ll hazard a guess,
And I’ll assume, that
I no longer occupy a space
In that strange heart of yours.
I’d be surprised to learn
That you still think of me
Fondly, with ghosts of emotion,
From time to time.
More surprising however,
Is that after all this time
My heart still lurches
With the shadow of love,
Of love, pain and regret.
Memories still pierce,
Like daggers laced with poison.
Old angers still stir, faded laughter
Brings the curve of a smile
To lips that still tremble for you.
Strange and surprising.
I find it rather pathetic though,
That you have found love again
With another and I sit here:
Wishing for love, regretting love,
Missing love and knowing
It is a magic I shall not experience
Anytime soon.

leah avalon
nelson

alexa laing-moore
cranbrook
An Ocean Fills My Torso

My ribcage and abdomen have been hallowed out
With scalpel and scoop; my organs removed.
The sides scraped down to the flesh.
All that remains are my heart and my lungs,
Left behind to keep me alive.
So as long as I breathe and as long as I beat
The hope is that I'll see life through.
Now my organs sit in a bowl at my side
With intestine holding stomach for comfort.
And before I'm sewn up, one step still is left:
To fill me up to the brim.
Someone came along to finish the job
With a pitcher of sparkling water.
They poured the water in,
Filling me to the brim,
And stitched me up right quick.
Now an ocean fills my torso.
It is teeming with sea life;
It’s got fish, it’s got sharks, it’s got whales.
So I still have to eat to appease them
Lest they wreak havoc on my heart and lungs.
With no moon for an eye to control my inner tide,
Emotion has taken up this position.
When I’m blissful and peaceful
My ocean is calm and the fish go about their business.
Now the whales like to sing to each other
When I’m in love and bursting with glee,
But when heartbreak and grief grip me
Lucinda, Can You Please Not Talk To Me
Like I Am Six-Years Old

Pressing down on the pedal
the car won’t go.
She sits beside him,
looking right into
the side of his face,
while he looks at the pedal,
wishing he could go

cole nowicki
castlegar
i hate you. i do. you do this to me all the time. but i can’t stop it. i hate you. always taking my trucks. that green punch- buggy was my fav and you took it. and i hate you. the way you have your hair. i hate that. all messy and sticking up and i hate it. and you think it’s cool. you think you have the bestest hair and i hate that. my hair is nice too. my mother cut it and i know she isn’t as good as that old lady at that place but she is my mother and my hair looks nice and i hate you. you have stupid eyes. they are not brown and they are not green they are some kind of halfsies thing. and i don’t like it. why can’t you just pick one colour and stay with it? i did. they did. my mother did. and i hate you.

and i don’t care if you have the most LEGO. i can build LEGO too, and they are nice and creative and colourful and so what if i don’t have a full set of the black pieces. at least i have more green pieces than you do and green is better than black because black is dark and black and not green, and yeah. i made a pyramid and it was a good pyramid but then you have to go and make a bigger pyramid and i hate you. i spend all that time trying to get a good team on Pokemon to beat you and then you say that you don’t play Pokemon no more and you say it’s lame and you’re lame and i hate you. and i know i can’t climb trees as well as you can but you don’t have to climb them when i’m around. you know i can’t and you do it anyway and i don’t care if you’re getting a kite or a cat or a bird. i hate you and if you cared you would have built steps on that tree for me. i don’t like being alone on the ground and i hate you.

i can see you coming over here. you walk weird. and i don’t like it. walk straight for once. you look so smug and cool and admirable and i hate that. i can’t walk like you can and i can’t look smug and cool and admirable and i hate that. and i hate you. and you’re smiling at me. and i don’t like it because you know you have a better smile than i do because i need braces and you have straight teeth that i don’t have and my mother always says that she wishes i had teeth like yours because then she wouldn’t have to buy me braces. and i know that is a weird thing for her to say but it’s true and you know it because you agreed with her and you laughed and she laughed and i hate you.

this bench is making me uncomfortable and i hate you for it and you’re still smiling and you’re still walking and you’re almost here and i hate you. your eyes are still that half-thing and your hair is still sticking up and your teeth are still straight and i still hate you.

“hey,” you say to me. and your voice is nice and i hate that. my voice isn’t and you’re not wrecking your voice box to make me feel better and i hate you.

“hi,” i say back to you, and you smile and i don’t. you’re digging into your pockets,
Golden (continued)
Golden Family Centre
Columbia Basin Trust Office
Golden Secondary School

Gray Creek
Gray Creek Store

Invermere
Dave’s Book Bar
Columbia Valley Employment Services
Kicking Horse Coffee Cafe
Quality Bakery
Summit Youth Centre
David Thompson Secondary School

Kaslo
Langham Cultural Centre
Kaslo & Area Youth Council
JV Humphries Secondary School

Kootenay Bay
Ashram Books
Fairy Treats

Meadow Creek
Lardeau Valley Community Centre

Nakusp
What’s Brewing on Broadway
Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services
Nakusp Secondary School
Columbia Basin Trust Office

Nelson
Centre for Innovative & Entrepreneurial Leadership
Nelson District Community Resource Society
Ripping Giraffe
Sidewinders
Oso Negro
Jigsaws Coffee Co.
Grounded Organic Coffee House
Dominion Cafe
Otter Books
Nelson & District Youth Centre
Nelson Waldorf School
International School of the Kootenays
Earth Matters
Advocacy Centre
ANKORS
LV Rogers Secondary School

New Denver
Lucerne Elementary Secondary School

Revelstoke
Community Connections Society
Revelstoke Secondary School

Rossland
Ross Vegas Board Sports
Sunshine Cafe
Rossland Secondary School

Salmo
Salmo Valley Community & Youth Centre
Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy
Salmo Community Services
Salmo Public Library
Salmo Secondary School

Slocan/South Slocan
Harold Street Cafe
WE Graham Community Services Society
Mount Sentinel School
WE Graham Community School

Sparwood
Sparwood Secondary School
Sparwood Recreation & Leisure Centre

Trail
Rebelato’s Morning Perk
Clive’s Coffee Bar
Trail FAIR Society
Greater Trail Community Skill Centre
Career Development Services
Sanctuary
Columbia YCDC
JL Crowe Secondary

Valemount
Valemount Secondary School

Winlaw
Sleep Is For Sissies
Jennie’s Book Garden

e-mail cbtyouth@cbt.org to get your copy or get a pile dropped off at your establishment.