

## Winners Announced for the 2004 Marie Manson Memorial Arts Award

The 2004 recipients of the Marie Manson Memorial Arts Award were recently named. They are: Stephen Strutynski, a third year student in the honours program, Faculty of Visual Arts, University of Victoria (\$600); Sarah Wiens, who graduated from UBC with a BA in Studio Art (\$300), and Valerie Rogers, a local watercolour artist who is also a writer and children's entertainer (\$300).

The Award was set up in 1981 by friends and family to honour the memory of Marie Manson, a talented and versatile artist and craftsperson. It is open to serious artists in all fields who have a connection with the Shuswap. The fund is administered by Shuswap Community Foundation and disbursed by a group of five trustees. Over the years the Award has assisted close to 40 artists.

Stephen Strutynski attended both Salmon Arm Senior Secondary and Okanagan University College. The 4th year honours program is an intense eight-month studio course; only 15 students are chosen to participate. His work focuses on painting, drawing, photography and sculpture. He is interested in installations, using all of these mediums in the same piece. The Award will help to pay for art material. Stephen plans to teach art

at the secondary level in his own community and eventually earn a master's degree in visual arts.

Sarah Wiens, who graduated from UBC with a BA in Studio Arts, is also a certified secondary school teacher. Although she studied printmaking, sculpture and textile arts, she particularly enjoys the two-dimensional aspects of painting and photography, often combining them directly in one image. Her eventual goal is to create a viable career as an artist. Sarah plans to use the Award to take an art course that will enable her to develop her painting technique further.

Valerie Rogers is a local watercolour artist who paints in-depth visual studies of nature and its creatures. Recently, she was one of three finalists in the BC Wildlife Federation's "Artist of the Year" award. Valerie describes her work as "an effort to make a small tear in time to hold nature still for you to see." She plans to put the Award toward attending a workshop led by an expert in the field of wildlife painting. Valerie, who was co-ordinator for the Banner Project this spring, also won an Arts Council Community Art Award.

(Robin Suddaby)



Marie Manson

## YACOS - Year in Review

In December, Salmon Arm Savings and Credit Union provided the second installment of their three-year commitment to the Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy initiative. The Credit Union's contribution of \$4,000 was matched by the Vancouver Foundation in February.

The Credit Union knew it would take time for the youth endowment funds to earn substantial interest, so they added an additional \$1,500 to be given away this year.

In May, YACOS\* paid a visit to Sicamous: "We're looking for representatives with ideas," says YACOS member Drew Hilland to youth attending a meeting at the Red Barn. Some 30 young people, and a dozen adults, were present to hear how they could generate ideas and apply for grants for projects that would benefit youth in the Sicamous/Eagle Valley community.

In June, YACOS also came in for high praise when they organized an All Candidates Forum at Salmon Arm Senior Secondary School, prior to the spring Federal Election, aimed at those students who would be voting for the first time. At the time, it was the only All Candidates forum

in town. On hand were Conservative MP Darrel Stinson, Liberal party rep Will Hansma, the NDP's Alice Brown and the Green Party's Eric Nelson.

In July, the YACOS made their grants for 2004. The Salmon Arm Storefront School Park, located in the Education Centre beside the former JL Jackson site, will see more improvements thanks to a \$1,000 grant from YACOS. Committee members were impressed with the work of Storefront youth to date, and see the park as a major contribution by youth to future school attendees.

YACOS second grant was \$1,500 to the Shuswap Development Rugby Club to support the growth of rugby in the Shuswap by building a pool of competent coaches and referees.

\*YACOS (Youth Advisory Committee of Shuswap) is a committee of Shuswap Community Foundation. It is comprised of youth who meet regularly to plan and implement grant-making activities for youth projects, and, with the help of the Salmon Arm Savings & Credit Union and the Vancouver Foundation, to develop youth endowment funds.



Greg Schell (left), marketing manager with Salmon Arm Savings & Credit Union, joins Barbara Dates (right) representing the Vancouver Foundation to present cheques to YACOS members (l-r) Drew Hilland, Kim Shuert, Cheryl Long and Paige Hilland.



Storefront School staff accept a cheque for \$1,000 from YACOS for upgrades to Education Centre Park. From left: Cheryl Long, Rita Beraro, Kim Shuert, Paige Hilland, A.J. Decker and Brian Maurer.