

Call for submissions to:

“Life Support: Supporting the Living, Remembering the Lost”

An artistic initiative to engage the addiction and recovery community on the theme of addiction, recovery, and loss.

Open to all painters, sculptors, sketchers, illustrators,
doodlers, assemblage artists, photographers,
fabric artists, potters, printmakers,
performance artists, musicians,
song writers, poets,
and more!

Artists of **every level** welcome;
emerging, mid level, and professional, as well as amateur or Sunday artists

Dates for show: [February 23rd through 25th](#)

Opening ceremonies: [Friday, February 23rd](#)

Deadline for submission: Friday, January 12th

Art drop off: [Friday, Feb 16th, between 10 AM and 4 PM at St Raphael Wellness Centre \(SRWC\) on the 2nd Floor of 225 Vaughan Street.](#)

Art pick up: [Monday, February 26th, between 2 PM and 4 PM, at The Edge Gallery](#)

Artist attendance is welcomed but not required for opening ceremonies, as well as showing times.

Please contact Kat or Gord with any questions or for more information:

Kathleen Shellrude at (204)615-5503, or katshell76@gmail.com

Gord Pratt at ERP@straphaelcentre.ca, or 204-956-6650 ext 111

ART SALES

Artists will set the price of their own pieces. Proceeds of sales will be returned to artists, and artists are encouraged to **donate** anywhere from 10 to 100% of those proceeds back to SRWC, who will use funds to help provide services to help others recover from addiction. A small commission will also go to the Edge Gallery, in order to pay for processing of art sales, the cost of the space, and equipment/supplies required to hang the show. Please indicate if your art is for sale, the price of piece, and the amount you would like to donate.

PERFORMANCE ART

Performance artists, poets, writers, and musicians are invited to submit to the show. To accommodate this type of artwork, our opening ceremonies will include performances and readings. If this is you, please include a brief description of your piece, its length (in minutes), and any requirements you may have (space, microphone, podium, etc). We do not have a stage, or large amount of space, but will try to accommodate and work with artists to include as diverse a show as possible.

INSPIRATION FOR THIS PROJECT

My name is Kathleen and, perhaps like you, I am recovering from my addictions. On September 11th of this year, my 20 year old, adventurous, courageous, and deeply compassionate **nephew** lost his battle with addiction. He was found with his heart stopped, alone on a sidewalk, after suffering an overdose. He was on life support for 3 days before they found he would never recover, and the decision was made to allow him to begin his next journey. His death could have triggered a relapse for me, but thankfully, I have ART. I began painting a massive series of work to help grieve his loss, process my pain, anger, and sadness and remember the boy who was my very first nephew. I knew I couldn't be the only one who has used art to recover from addiction, from grief, from loss, or to process emotions – and the concept of “Life Support” was born.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

For this 2-day event, SRWC seeks submissions from **visual artists across several disciplines** who wish to be considered through a **committee selection process**. Artists must reside in Manitoba, and **should identify (and be comfortable being connected with) having lived with or overcome an addiction issue** (including but not limited to alcohol, street or over the counter drugs, food, or any behaviour related addictions such as shopping, gaming, or out-of-control sexual behaviour).

SELECTION CRITERIA

Artist applications will be considered based on the following, as made evident through a letter of interest and support materials:

1. **Interest** in our theme of “**Surviving Addiction, or Other Mental Health Problems**”. It can include any subject matter or meaning related to addiction or recovery as you see them, environmental, cultural, spiritual, social, physical, political, emotional, psychological triggers, effects, ways of healing from, or implication of. We are also focusing on “**Grief and Loss**”. This may include things or people you have lost, the spiritual and emotional toll, the recovery from loss, or changes grief or loss have made in your life. These are only suggestions; please feel free to include other work relating to those themes.
2. **Suitability** of the work to this event and to the collection as a whole
3. **Ready** to hang/display or **ease** of accommodating performance.

SELECTION PROCESS

Only selected pieces will be displayed. There are no entrance fees.

There is no minimum or maximum number of pieces required (other than one), and no preference will be given to those who submit more. The number of pieces chosen will depend on the number of pieces submitted (with an emphasis on showing as many different artists' work as possible. Please submit as many pieces as you are comfortable with.

A **panel** comprised of employees and/or volunteers of SRWC will review the applications and select pieces for the show. **Decisions will be made by January 31st**, and you should receive notice near that time. Please make sure to include your contact information!

SUBMISSION FORMAT

Artist selection will be based on a written expression of interest and support material.

Artists will be asked to sign a short letter of understanding when dropping off their work that indicates their agreement to the **terms and conditions** of the show.

Please include:

1. A brief artist **biography** (1-2 paragraphs)
2. An **artist statement** (or letter of interest) relating your art to the theme of “surviving addiction” (max. 250 words).
3. A **photograph** of each piece you are submitting, along with its title, dimensions, materials and substrate

EXAMPLE OF A SUBMISSION:

Biography

Jane Doe has been making paintings, sculptures and performances for almost 2 decades. She has been selected for juried displays in the Winnipeg area.

Artist Statement

Her battle with and recovery from anxiety, depression, and substance use disorder has informed her work by being both the motivation to create, and a barrier to completion. She draws from the living memory of her ache, but her pieces also typically evoke an atmosphere of hope and joy.

Piece

“The Bridge” (The name of the piece.)

Size

10”x12” (The length by height, in inches. Length by depth by height if 3D)

Materials

Acrylic and Collage (materials) on canvas (substrate)

Your submission should be **no longer than 2 pages**.

The submission format is NOT meant to be distressing in any way.

If you require help, have difficulty writing, or are unsure of what to include please contact Kathleen or Gord for assistance.

This is NOT meant to be difficult, and we are here to help!

Please fill out the information below for each piece as you are submitting:

Title of Work: _____

Medium : _____

Size of work including framing (in inches): _____

Is this item for sale? Y / N Price: _____ Percentage to be donated to SRWC: (10% - 100%) _____

ANY QUESTIONS? CONCERNS? SUGGESTIONS?

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