

PRESS RELEASE: Museum offers DIY Painting Picnic Experience

Create your own painting picnic with the help of the Brockville Museum and some downtown businesses. Visitors to *Painting Picnic with Prudence Heward* now have a chance to enhance their experience AND support local businesses hard hit by the pandemic. Interested museum visitors will be given a package to help them have their own “painting picnic” reminiscent of the sketching trips that produced some of the works showcased in the exhibit. The package includes a road map to some of the locations depicted in the exhibit, a primer on picnic etiquette, and best of all, discount coupons to downtown businesses for all the necessary supplies: a picnic lunch from The Sweet Life Café, art supplies from Medium Effort, and framing services from Hang Ups Creative Picture Framing.

The individual painting picnic package replaces a cancelled fundraising event the museum had planned for later in August, which was to feature an elegant 1920s-era picnic in St. Lawrence Park. That event has been deconstructed to create this do-it-yourself version, which the museum hopes will also help support local businesses.

Painting Picnic with Prudence Heward brings together for the first time, works by famed Canadian artist, Prudence Heward (1896-1947) and some of her friends, including Group of Seven member, A.Y. Jackson, which exclusively feature Brockville and area scenes. The temporary exhibit was to open on March 31, but the pandemic and resulting shutdown delayed the opening to July 21. Since then, over 100 people have visited the exhibit using the museum’s private appointment system, which provides individual social bubbles of up to five people an exclusive hour to explore the museum at their leisure. Bookings can be made online at www.brockvillemuseum.com/reservations or by calling the Brockville Arts Centre Box Office at 613-342-7122. The museum is offering appointments Tuesday-Saturday, 10am to 4pm. Admission is by donation. *Painting Picnic with Prudence Heward* closes October 9, 2020.

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