

PRESS RELEASE: Museum exhibit extended and programming resumes

The Brockville Museum is delighted to announce that due to the overwhelming success of its exhibit “Painting Picnic with Prudence Heward”, the closing date has been extended until Friday, October 30. Visitors so far have been delighted with the beauty of the work and the professionalism of the exhibit, and have commented that “it’s worth the drive to Brockville” and “it’s the most important exhibit the museum has ever hosted”.

“Painting Picnic” brings together for the first-time paintings by Heward (1896-1947) and some of her friends that exclusively feature Brockville and area scenes. An associate of the Beaver Hall Group of painters, a Montreal group of both female and male artists active primarily in the 1920s, Heward spent her summers at the family’s cottage at Fernbank. There she was known to host “painting picnics” with her friends and colleagues including A.Y. Jackson and Sarah Robertson. The exhibit includes works on loans from a dozen private collections and institutions, a number of which have never been exhibited publicly before. The exhibit’s extension has been possible only through the generosity of these lenders.

Visits to the Brockville Museum are by appointment only. This gives you an opportunity to enjoy a private museum experience for you and up to four other members of your social bubble (max. party of 5). Appointments must be made at least 24 hours in advance and are subject to availability.

Your safety as well as the safety of our museum staff is our top priority. Safety protocols are in place to help keep everyone safe: masks are required to be worn by all visitors (and staff), hand sanitizer is available, washrooms are open for visitors only with regular cleaning, and all guests are asked to complete a symptom screening questionnaire upon entering. These protocols are subject to change based on the advice of the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark Health Unit and the City of Brockville.

In addition to having the museum’s galleries open, the museum has now resumed some of its’ public programming, including the popular “Talk and Tea” program, now being offered virtually (and at no charge for the duration of 2020). The next Talk and Tea is October 8 at 2 p.m. and the theme is “Patent Medicine in Brockville”. Participation is simple, just go to “public programs” on the Brockville Museum’s website and click on the “Attend via Zoom” button 5-10 minutes before the presentation is to start.

Also available this fall is the Brockville Museum’s “Haunting Histories” guided walk that includes tales of the supernatural, the mysterious, and the almost forgotten. This guided walk covers a distance of three km through the oldest parts of Brockville, starting and ending at the Brockville Museum, and lasting about 90 minutes. Many dates have already filled but a limited number of private tours are available. Contact the museum for details.

Since reopening, the museum’s focus has been on providing the community with safe opportunities to come together and explore our community's stories, both onsite and online. We're grateful for the response and support and we remain committed to serving you safely and creatively! If you have any questions about our protocols or offerings, please don't hesitate to reach out. We hope that no matter your comfort level, you can find a way to engage with us during these challenging times.

Bookings for museum visits, including “Painting Picnic”, and tickets for “Haunting Histories” guided walk, can be made through the Brockville Museum website or by calling the museum at 613-342-4397 (and following the prompts).

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