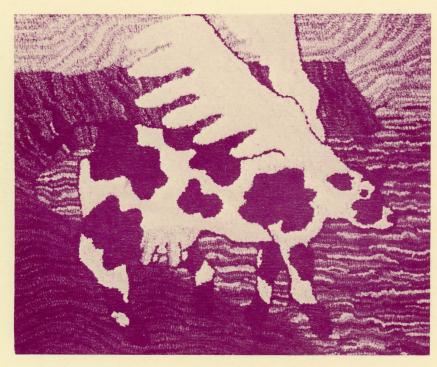
# The Art Gallery Mount Saint Vincent University

Annual Report July 1981 - June 1982



Edell, Nancy
Blomidon Cow 1981
Permanent collection

# Annual Report, July 1, 1981 - June 30, 1982

#### The Art Gallery

Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Having been in operation full-time for ten years, it was back to basics this past year at the gallery both with our physical facilities and our collections. For the former we received generous funding assistance from National Museums of Canada as well as from the university. This enabled the upgrading of the gallery's environmental control system, the installation of blinds and UV filtering plastic film over windows and the construction of an environmentally - controlled workroom and storage space. For the latter we are grateful to Ann Elwood, a summer student, for her help in compiling the data on our permanent collection for the same central information retrieval system which co-ordinates the Slide Registry of Nova Scotia Women Artists.

Regional Realism, an exhibition organized from our own collection celebrates our first decade of full-time operation. It is scheduled for two showings at the Mount - July/August '82 and January '83 as well as a year's provincial tour by the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia beginning March'83. Although it falls outside the scope of this annual report I am including an excerpt from the catalogue's introduction since it outlines both our developing collections policy and ten years of organizing significant group exhibitions from the region.

This exhibition brings together nearly 60 works from our permanent collection. Most of them acquired over the past ten years, they are by 35 artists who worked or are working in Nova Scotia. Our gallery's collection policy as well as its exhibition policy emphasizes the work of the emerging regional artist. We also support women artists, devoting significant solo and group shows to them. And we value fibre a medium traditionally associated with "women's work" - with its various manifestations reflected in our collection and exhibitions.

The bulk of this work in <u>Regional Realism</u> was acquired from exhibitions organized by MSVU, fully one-third selected from major group shows of work by contemporary artists. In fact in the past decade we have sponsored ten such exhibits. It seems useful to list them; the careful reader of the catalogue will note the recurrence of many of them in the artists' biographies.

- . Artists Media, March 5 April 28, 1974; selected by Marie Elwood and Mary Sparling, Halifax; funded by Canada Council; (work by 7 Nova Scotia artists as well as a chronological survey of work done by artists working in Nova Scotia from the 1770's to the 1970's).
- . Photography by Women, October, 1974; juried by Julia Healy, Halifax and Pam Harris, Toronto (37 photographers).
- . Print Nova Scotia, March 21 April 6, 1975; juried by Marie Elwood with Rosemarie Tovell, the National Gallery of Canada; organized by E. Mary Newton and Karl MacKeeman, Exhibitions Officer; funding assistance from National Museums of Canada (19 artists).

- . Some Nova Scotia Women Artists, April 11 May 4, 1975; selected by Mary Evans, Carol Fraser, Mira Schor and Sheila Stiven; organized by Maralyn Smith; funded by Canada Council (23 artists). Founding of Slide Registry of Nova Scotia Women Artists. A Nova Scotian tour of both was organized by Elizabeth Adamson; funded by the Department of Culture of Nova Scotia.
  - . <u>Graphics Atlantic</u>, October 15 November 7, 1976; juried by Heidi Oberheide, Newfoundland and Jack Pollock, Toronto; organized by Karl MacKeeman; exhibit plus Atlantic and Saskatchewan tour funded by Canada Council (31 artists).
- September 5, 1977; juried by Andrew Lynch, Sheila Stiven, Mary Sparling, Halifax; collaboration with Nova Scotia Association of Architects; toured in Saskatchewan by Norman MacKenzie Gallery (12 artists plus 1 group submission).
  - June 30 July 30, 1978; juried by Ted Lindberg, Vancouver; Penny Cousineau and Pierre Dessureault, Ottawa; organized by Peter Barss, LaHave, Nova Scotia; funded by National Museums of Canada; national tour. Collection purchased by the Public Archives of Canada (94 photographers from across Canada).
    - . <u>Survival Atlantic Style</u>, June 21 July 29, 1979; selected by Barry Lord, Ottawa; funded by Canada Council and National Museums of Canada for its national tour (16 artists from Atlantic Region).
- . Close to Home, August 2 September 16, 1979; selected by Doug Kirton, MSVU Exhibitions Officer and Mary Sparling; funding assistance from Nova Scotia Department of Culture, Recreation and Fitness (work by 11 Nova Scotia Women Artists).
  - . All Fired Up, March 19 April 18, 1982; organized by Beth Campbell, MSVU Exhibitions Officer; funding assistance from the Nova Scotia Department of Culture, Recreation and Fitness (20 Nova Scotia ceramic artists).

We are currently working on our 11th major group show MIRRORINGS, work by 15 women artists from the Atlantic region; curated by Avis Lang Rosenberg, Vancouver; funded by National Museums of Canada for a national tour beginning at MSVU September 17 - October 17, 1982.

Collaboration - inside and outside the university community - is the hallmark of much of what we do at the gallery. With a small full-time staff of three (which also provides weekday gallery security), we find we can magnify our outreach and effectiveness by working with groups and organizations who may reach a different public. Two forthcoming national travelling exhibitions which have involved significant outside participation over the past year are Mirrorings on which we have worked with the Nova Scotia Committee of Women in the Arts, and Past in Focus an exhibit of historic photography which is being organized with - to identify only the major participants - the National Film Board (Atlantic Region), Media Services, Nova Scotia Department of Education, and the Federation of Nova Scotia Heritage. With the latter we co-sponsored a workshop for the provincial museums

and galleries in the 4 Atlantic provinces who will circulate the exhibition to smaller centres in their areas.

The January symposium on the life and the work of Alice Egan Hagen, a Mount alumna and Nova Scotia's pioneer potter was the result of co-operative planning with Nova Scotia Designer Craftsmen; the Ceramics Division, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design; the History Section, Nova Scotia Museum; and Media Services, Nova Scotia Department of Education. Two outgrowths of that event are a film as well as a multi-media resource kit for use in provincial schools, both being produced by the Department of Education.

In January the gallery published the proceedings of a co-operatively planned symposium from the previous year. The Roles of Documentary Art in Understanding A Cultural Heritage was co-sponsored by the Federation of Nova Scotia Heritage. Papers were presented by: Mary Allodi, Canadiana Gallery, Royal Ontario Museum; Michael Bell, Director, McMichael Gallery; Jay Cantor, Curator of 19th Century American Art, Christie's; Marie Elwood, Chief Curator of History, Nova Scotia Museum; Hugh Taylor, Archivist, Public Archives of Nova Scotia. Introduction by Mary Sparling, Curator of the Exhibition Great Expectations: The European Vision in Nova Scotia: 1749-1848.

We were delighted to co-sponsor the second annual conference of the fledgling association of Atlantic Glass Artisans in conjunction with a major travelling exhibition of glass we held of work by Benny Motzfeldt a Norwegian artist. This association held its first juried exhibition of work two months later in our upstairs gallery.

Another set of collaborative activities came with the national conference of the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women, held at Dalhousie in Halifax in November. Working with its planning committee, we scheduled for that conference the exhibition Pork Roasts: 250 Feminist Cartoons; planned a high tea for the closing day of the conference; helped Dalhousie organize an exhibition of work by women owned by Halifax public galleries; and with funding assistance from the Mount's English department presented Joan Orenstein and Graham Whitehead in Personal Papers, selected readings of feminist material

The new credit course which I taught at the Mount this year Introduction to Museum Studies would have been impossible without the collaboration of the directors and personnel of local cultural institutions and organizations: the Nova Scotia Museum; Public Archives of Nova Scotia, Parks Canada (Atlantic Region), Federation of Nova Scotia Heritage; Art Gallery of Nova Scotia with the Mount's Art Gallery. Twenty-three students completed a course which comprised introductory lectures, on-site experiences and supervised work on the collections of the participating organizations (Dalhousie Art Gallery offered a supervised work experience to two of our students).

In summary then collaboration enlarges us, and complements an equal emphasism on the commitment of a single individual to a singular activity. Two such individuals and activities stand out. Jennifer Fisher completing a year's internship as Programs Officer organized with impressive attention to multitudinous detail an innovative Performance by Artists series, one in which Halifax-based artists extended art gallery activity throughout the entire university campus. And Beth Campbell our 8th Exhibitions Officer in this annually changing position challenged Nova Scotia's ceramic community to find new forms for traditional teapots and cups. The exhibition All Fired Up with its attendant Mad Hatter's Tea Party was the triumphant result. Parenthetically Dr. Jock Murry, neurologist-husband of our Board of Governor's chairperson wowed the visitors with a slide presentation on Lewis Carroll's neurologically-influenced perceptions.

The final listing of our activities must be preceded by the recognition that the gallery staff itself interacts co-operatively. Our indispensable Office Manager, Debora Cameron dependably provides the necessary connecting links between our public and private activities; the quietly perceptive Beth Campbell in her short year as Exhibitions Officer entered the ongoing work of the gallery in a number of ways, perhaps most significantly in her painstaking supervision of the upgrading of our gallery and its new storage. Betty Shatford on a ten hour weekly basis, as well as aiding with exhibition installation continued her capable curatorship of both the Slide Registry and our collection. And we are additionally blessed with reliable and interested senior students who share the duties of weekend attendants - this year Karen Brown and Kelly Code have interchanged.

Together we accomplished the following: (details may be found in the following pages)

. exhibits presented (22)

. lectures and demonstrations (17)

. performances (16)

- tours of exhibits (61)
- . classes ( 5 sets) art classes for children and adults
- . openings (7)
- . acquisitions (5)
- . grants and fees obtained (\$75,070)
- . videotapes produced (2)
- . workshops (3)
- . symposia (1)
- . groups in gallery (7) outside groups in gallery for receptions
- . flyers, posters, catalogues (16)
- . loans of kits, Slide Registry of N.S. etc (27)

This kaleidoscope of activity and collaborative ventures is only possible because of the strong support and encouragement we receive from all sectors of the university - most notably from our president, Dr. Margaret Fulton and our Chairman of the Board of Governors, Janet Murray and our Art Gallery Advisory Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sparling

Director

# Staff Full Time

DIRECTOR OFFICE MANAGER EXHIBITIONS OFFICER

Mary Sparling (B.Ed, M.A.) Debora Cameron (B.A.) ELizabeth Campbell (B.F.A.)

The rinal listing of our activities wast be preceded

# Part Time

SLIDE REGISTRY CURATOR & CATALOGUER

Elizabeth Shatford (B.A., B.F.A.) WEEKEND ATTENDANT Karen Brown and Kelly Code

#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Margo Aucoin Marie Elwood Bernard Hart Cynthia Taylor Margaret Campbell Sr. Agnes Westwater Mary Moore Uhl Dulcie Conrad Mary Sparling Elizabeth Campbell Elizabeth Shatford

Debora Cameron

Board of Governors Nova Scotia Museum Nova Scotia Department of Education Nova Scotia College of Art and Design Bridgewater Tourist Association MSVU Faculty Director Public Relations/Development Art Gallery Art Gallery Art Gallery Art Gallery Art Gallery

The gallery regularly invites other members of the university community to attend to discuss matters pertinent to their fields of interest.

Attendance: 15,650

Open 360 days

Karen Brown

Hours:

- 9am - 5 pm Monday through Friday - 9am - 9 pm Tuesday

Saturdays, Sundays

& Holidays -12pm - 5 pm

# GRANTS AND FEES (total: \$75,070.00)

Revenue in addition to the university's funding for July 1, 1981 - June 30, 1982

Canada Council . for matching grant for acquisition of Gathie Falk's painting . for travel to National Gallery orientation for Exhibitions Officer - Beth Campbell . for National Book Festival	\$2500 290 400
National Museums of Canada Exhibition Assistance	
. MIRRORINGS . Great Expectations (final) . The Past In Focus (first stage)	21690 2300 5500
Gallery Upgrading Training (final) for Programs Officer  **Indexique I - Vivi AI	29650 6000
Nova Scotia Canada Council Visiting Artists Committee  . Avis Lang Rosenberg, Vancouver  . Robert Rayher, Montreal  . Peter White, Calgary	500 150 240
Nova Scotia Department of Culture, Recreation and Fitness  Benny Motzfeldt (shipping)  World Print 111 (shipping)  All Fired Up (artists fees and catalogues)  Regional Realism (catalogue)	1000 1500 500 1400
Canadian Museums Association toward travel for APAGA meeting, Toronto	100
Canadian Eskimo Arts Council . honoraria for Mary Sparling	1350

Additional financial support for gallery exhibitions and programs which did not pass through our books

# National Film Board

. for forthcoming collaborative photography exhibit The Past In Focus (printing photographs)

#### Federation of Nova Scotia Heritage

. support of our Atlantic regional planning conference for the exhibition The Past In Focus

EXHIBITIONS (22)

There were 22 exhibits, 9 organized by or with the gallery, 11 from or about the Atlantic Region. There were 7 openings or receptions.

Continued from June Until 19 July

Land and Sea - Viewpoints of Prince Edward Island

Charlotte Hammond and Felicity Redgrave,

Nova Scotia. Courtesy Confederation Centre, P.E.I.

Until mid- August (outside)

On-site sculpture by John MacKinnon as part of <u>Sculpture '81</u>, organized by the Dalhousie Art Gallery

24 July - 1 September

Downstairs

Paintings in the Sky
Kites by Marilyn Congdon, Rose Bay
Reception - 26 July 2-5 pm

Upstairs

Women's Work: 4 Significant Nova
Scotia artists
Maria Morris (1813 - 1875)
Alice Hagen ( 1872 - 1972)
Maud Lewis ( 1903 - 1970)
Suzanne Swannie (1942 -)

4 September - 4 October

Downstairs & Upstairs

World Print III
Selections from an international
printmaking competition, organized by
World Print Council. Courtesy Smithsonian
Travelling Exhibition Centre.

9 October - 1 November

Downstairs

Grupo Piru
Neckpieces and wallhangings from Ecuador.
Courtesy Simon Fraser Art Gallery.

Upstairs

The Animated Film Courtesy National Film Board

6 November - 15 November

Downstairs

Pork Roasts
250 feminist cartoons. Curated by Avis
Lang Rosenberg. Courtesy Fine Arts Gallery, UBC

Upstairs Robert Rayher, Montreal

Film Installation

20 November - 13 December

Points of View: Photographs of Architecture Downstairs

Courtesy National Gallery of Canada

Nancy Edell, Wolfville, Nova Scotia Upstairs

Hooked rugs and drawings

Reception - 22 November 2-5 pm

2 January - 24 January

Downstairs Tiles Tell a Tale

Courtesy Royal Ontario Museum

Upstairs Mi'kmaq: Micmac Costume Reconstructions

from the 15th Century

Courtesy Nova Scotia Museum and the CBC.

Reception - 10 January

28 January - 7 February

Downstairs & Upstairs

8th Annual University Community Art, Craft, Baking, Hobby and Talent Show Opening: 12 noon, Thursday, January 28

12 February - 14 March

Downstairs A Norwegian Pathfinder in Glass: Benny

Motzfeldt

Sponsored by the Norwegian Ministry of

Foreign Affairs

Upstairs Carol Fraser, Halifax

Drawings and Prints from the permanent collection

19 March - 18 April

Sybil Andrews: Printmaker (1898 -) Downstairs

Campbell River, B.C. Courtesy Glenbow Museum

Upstairs All Fired Up

> Innovative teapots, cups and saucers by Nova Scotia ceramic artists. Organized by Beth

Campbell, Exhibitions Officer, MSVU.

Closing reception: Sunday April 18, 3-5 pm

23 April - 16 May

The War of 1812 Downstairs

Prints, maps, watercolours. Courtesy

Canadiana Gallery, Royal Ontario Museum

Upstairs Atlantic Glass '82

Works by Atlantic Glass Artisans. Selected

by Kenneth von Roenn.

Opening: April 23 at 8 pm by Paul Robinson, Senior Research Assistant, Atlantic Institute

of Education

21 May - 13 June

Downstairs

The Fort Mispec Series
Tapestries by Howard Garrett, Saint John,
New Brunswick. Courtesy New Brunswick Museum

Upstairs

Bird Paintings
Gary Low, Ontario. Courtesy the New Brunswick
Museum.

Reception - 27 May - Canadian Museums Association Annual Conference

18 June - 11 July

Downstairs and Upstairs

Ghitta Caiserman-Roth, Montreal
A retrospective view 1947-1980. Courtesy
Sir George Williams Art Gallery, Concordían
University.

# Acquisitions (5)

Marilyn Congdon

Migrating Herons ( 2 panels )
sailcloth 3' x 4'

At the End of the Rope, 1980 Oil on canvas 167.5 x 76.7 cm

Nancy Edell

Blomidon Cow, 1981

Hooked rug 83 x 63 cm

Gathie Falk

Beautiful B.C. Thermal Blanket - Huyen

Oil on canvas 244 x 244 cm

Charlotte Hammond
Amaryllis Cutout # 3, 1982
Oil on masonite 93 x 124 cm

#### SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Lectures and Demonstrations (10	Lectures	and	Demonstrations	(16)
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Land and Sea: Viewpoints of P.E.I. July 2 Slide talk by Charlotte Hammond and Felicity Redgrave What Is And What Is Not An Original Print - Or September 15 Must The Buyer Beware Slide talk by Edward Porter, artist-printmaker, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design Tori Hashizume, Director of the Sumi-e International September 25 Centre, Japan demonstrated Sumi-e brush painting September 29 The State of Contemporary Printmaking Slide talk by Richard Field, Associate Director, Yale University Gallery in reference to exhibit World Print 111 October 26 An Overview of Past Performances Slide talk by Jennifer Fisher, Programs Officer, MSVU Robert Rayher, experimental film maker, Montreal November 9 Slide talk on his work Avis Lang Rosenberg, curator of Pork Roasts, November 12 Presentation on the exhibition November 19 Performance Problems Slide talk by Bruce Barber, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design January 10 Ruth Whitehead and Joan Waldron, Nova Scotia Museum and 13 demonstrated pre-contact Micmac painting techniques using natural pigment and bone painting tools and moosehide Modern Architectural Stained Glass February 26 Slide talk by Kenneth von Roenn, Louisville, Kentucky. Sponsored by the Atlantic Glass Artisans. March 23 The Development of Contemporary Sculptural Ceramics (twice) Slide talk by Beth Campbell, Exhibitions Officer, Sybil Andrews March 30 Slide talk by Peter White, Glenbow Museum The War of 1812 and the Change in the Nova Scotian April 27 Attitudes to British North America Slide talk by Dr. Brian Cuthbertson, Public Archives of Nova Scotia Sponsored for National Book Week by Canada Council

April 27 The Cambridge Military Library; Customs-made

from the War of 1812

Slide talk by Lou Collins, Historian

Sponsored for National Book Week by Canada Council

June 23 Ghitta Caiserman-Roth

Slide talk on the social and political context

of her work

Workshops (3)

August 6 Marilyn Congdon conducted kitemaking workshop

in conjunction with exhibit Paintings in the Sky

September 26 Tori Hashizume workshop on Sumi-e brush

painting

June 22 Workshop with Ghitta Caiserman-Roth: Holes....

Spaces...Penetration of Light in Nature

Symposium

Alice Egan Hagen Symposium

Saturday, 16 January, a symposium on the life and work of pioneer potter Alice Egan Hagen marked the 10th anniversay of the Mount Art Gallery's Seton location which opened 7 December, 1971. Hagen (1872-1972) graduated from the Mount Saint Vincent Academy and her work forms a significant part of the Mount's collection. Collaborating in the planning were the Nova Scotia Museum, Nova Scotia Department of Education, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Nova Scotia

Designer Craftsmen and Mount Art Gallery

Performances (16)

November 15 Personal Papers, selected readings of feminist material

performed by Joan Orenstein and Graham Whitehead

Performances by Halifax-based artists at various sites around the campus: October 27 - November 17. Organized

by Jennifer Fisher.

October 27 7x, Ellen Pierce

November 1 Lee Saunders

November 3 Ways of Seeing: A Shocking New Musical, Diane Chisholm

November 13 Crossdressing, James MacSwain

November 17 Bruce Campbell, Ed Slopek and Garry Conway

January 28 Selections from Godspell by Drama Club, MSVU. Organized

by Dr. Patrick O'Neill

January 29 - Six lunch hour presentations by staff, faculty and students

Feb. 5

January 31 Puppet Shows by the Education Department, MSVU

April 4 <u>Edward Bisha</u>, cello and ensemble presented a program of chamber music. Courtesy Musicians Performance Trust Fund

# Art Classes ( 5 sets: 38 individual classes)

- . Film Animation Workshop for children with Pat Colp ( 3 sets)
- . Adult Art Classes with Felicity Redgrave ( 2 sets)

#### Tours (61)

- . Orientation tours for new students (6)
- . Summer School Class visits for "coffee and culture" (17)
- . MSVU classes held in conjunction with exhibits (10)
- . Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (12)
- . High School tours (9)
- . Elementary School tours (7)
- . Brownie groups (3)
- . Elderhostel (2)
- . MSVU Alumnae (2)
- . MSVU Board of Governors (2)

Other groups holding meetings and/or receptions (7) CBC, MSVU Business Society, University Women's Club, Nova Scotia Reading Specialists

# Illustrated Catalogues, posters and flyers (16)

- . 4 gallery flyers listing upcoming exhibits and activities produced at 3 month intervals
- . <u>Paintings in the Sky</u>: Marilyn Congdon catalogue (and poster)-essay by Don Pentz
- . Women's Work: 4 Significant Nova Scotia Artists catalogue essays
- by Marie Elwood, Cora Greenaway, Mary Sparling and Sheila Stevenson
- . Nancy Edell catalogue and poster essay by Susan Gibson
- . Mi'kmaq: Micmac Costume Reconstruction catalogue (and poster) essay by Ruth Whitehead
- . Performance by Artists posters and postcards
- . The Roles of Documentary Art in Understanding a Cultural Heritage papers
- by Hugh Taylor, Jay Cantor, Marie Elwood, Michael Bell and Mary Allodi
- . All Fired Up- catalogue (and poster) essay by Beth Campbell
- . Atlantic Glass (poster) biographies of artists

# Interpretive Videotapes produced by the gallery and AV Services (2)

- . Marilyn Congdon on kitemaking
- . Nancy Edell on her work

#### Loans (27)

- . Creativity in Children Kit (2)
- . The Artist in Nova Scotia kit (5)
- . Videotapes and Slidetapes (5)
- . Slide Registry of Nova Scotia Women Artists (6)
- . Works from permanent collection (9)

#### Films

This year there was no separate film program; instead we continuously made available specific films, videotapes and slidetapes related to the exhibits on display.

#### Memberships

- . Atlantic Provinces Art Gallery Association
- . University Art Association of Canada
- . American Association of Museums
- . Visual Arts Nova Scotia
- . Canadian Museums Association
- . Smithsonian Institute
- . Federation of Museums, Heritage and Historical Societies of Nova Scotia
- . International Council of Museums
- . Canadian Council of the Arts

# Related Professional Activities of the Director Conferences attended and professional travel

- . 5 meetings for Canadian Eskimo Arts Council Ottawa and Toronto
- . 2 meetings of Atlantic Provinces Art Gallery Association Toronto and St. John's
- . 1 meeting as member of advisory board of Arts Atlantic Charlottetown
- . annual conference of the <u>Canadian Museums Association</u> Halifax (member
- of local organizing committee)
- 2 <u>Canada Council</u> juries Ottawa
   gave seminar at Mount Allison University to Canadian Studies Program on
- early artists in Nova Scotia Sackville, N.B.
  . member of national salary study committee for Canadian Museums Association

#### Other Involvements

- . attended 4 meetings of local gallery curators
- . attended 4 meetings of Nova Scotia Canada Council Visiting Artists Committee
- . member of Mount's Administrative Committee
- . one of 5 national examiners for professional accreditation by the
- Canadian Museums Association
- . taught 5 sessions for Atlantic Summer Institute on Nova Scotia artists
- . speaker at board meeting of Black Cultural Society on museum planning
- . member of museum training advisory board of Federation of Nova Scotia
- . twice juried school posters for Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission
- . weekly broadcasts on gallery activities on radio station CHNS
- . presenter for Dr. Helen Creighton, folklorist at Mount Convocation

### Outside Presentations

. Slide Registry of Nova Scotia Women Artists by Elizabeth Shatford (8)