

## ART GALLERY

# Gallery openings

Submitted

Chairman Dieter Friese of the Spree-Neisse District in Germany came up with the idea in 2001: to raise an avalanche of folk-culture, an energy which gathers more and more performing groups and visitors and finally "overruns" all – a cheerful meeting place of music, dance and artistic expression. Thus the "International Folk-culture Avalanche" was initiated and continues its efforts for international understanding and dialogue, giving the people in the region the opportunity to learn more

about other cultures.

Performers from more than 40 countries around the world have been guests of the Spree-Neisse District since the first festival in 2001, including the Boomtown Garter Girls from Rossland in 2001 and Les Folles Jambettes from Grand Forks in 2003.

Richard and Beverley Reid of Christina Lake travelled to the Spree-Neisse District in April of 2006 where Richard's water-colours and Beverley's quilts were exhibited at the Niederlausitzer Heidemuseum in Spremberg, Germany.

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THE GAZETTE, Grand Forks, B.C., Wednesday, October 10, 2007-11

## GRAND FORKS ART GALLERY

# Art gallery includes First Nations and German delegation

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On Tuesday, Oct. 16 at 7:30 p.m. the *International Folk-culture Avalanche* exhibition of photographs by Jana Weber and paintings by Irmgard Kuhlee and Klaus Bramburger will open at the Grand Forks Art Gallery. The public is invited to the opening reception to meet the delegation from Spree-Neisse District, including photographer Jana Weber.

### Drawing on Identity: The Inkameep Day School Art Collection

"I want you to teach my people how to meet the world upon its own terms"

—Chief Baptiste George

The drawings featured in this exhibition were created by children of the Osoyoos Indian Band who attended the Inkameep Day school, near Oliver, British Columbia, on the Nk'Mip Reserve.

Between 1932 and 1942, these students and their teacher Anthony Walsh worked together to create

drawings, paintings, stories and plays that honoured traditional Okanagan language and culture.

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7:30 p.m. the  
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Avalanche* exhibition  
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will open at the Grand  
Forks Art Gallery**

The arts became a way for the students, aged six to 16, to depict their everyday realities and evolving sense

of identity.

Their world was complex, layering Okanagan tradition and stories, old and new ways of life, an evolving agricultural economy and North American popular culture.

Anthony Walsh's approach to teaching and learning through the arts was very unusual for his time.

For Walsh, the arts provided a way to connect with the students, earn their trust and learn about them in order to be a better teacher for them.

Running concurrently with *Drawing on Identity* is an exhibition of Aboriginal Students Art created by the First Nations students of the Boundary School District.

The public is welcome to attend the opening reception for both of these exhibitions on Saturday, Oct. 20 at 1 p.m.

Anthropologist Dr. Andrea Walsh (not related to Anthony Walsh) will give a free public lecture on the Inkameep Day School at the Grand Forks Art Gallery on Saturday, Nov. 10 at 1 p.m.