



Art News

"Green" Bag

KAS is striving to be more environmentally conscious.

Now, with a minimum \$75 purchase, you can take your art supplies home in this great reusable bag.

If you want one or two extras, they are just \$1.50 each.



Random Acts of Art

A while back, I received a hand-addressed envelope in the mail and I was elated! This was not a bill or a piece of junk mail; someone was WRITING to me!

I decided to pay forward the thrill of meaningful mail with "random acts of art." My creative side took over as I painted some postcards and wrote expressive quotes or simple phrases in calligraphy. Just a simple gesture that tells my friends and family I was thinking about them. I wanted them to feel that little jolt of delight of getting something other than a bill out of the mailbox.

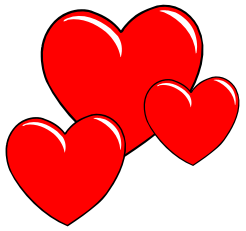
I've been told my mobile art has ended up on a fridge, in a scrapbook and some are in office cubicles to brighten a dreary work day.

Wherever they end up, I'm happy regardless. My intent has been accomplished – a smile, a giggle, a sense of connection.

So take some time today to create a little something so you can brighten up someone's day with a "random act of art."



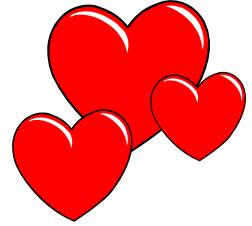
*By Annette Wichmann,
Owner of Kensington Art
Supply*



The Sweetheart Sale!

Look around our store from February 9th - 14th for red hearts on a selection of high-quality art supplies for a 20% discount on select brushes, journals, paints and pens just to name a few.

Here's a few staff favourites they picked for the sale.



Cretacolor Products Have Arrived at KAS

Groundbreaking art goods like the Aqua Stic, a water-soluble oil pastel, ergonomic charcoal holders for a cleaner more comfortable drawing experience and Silver Point Pencils to explore scratching techniques and creating fine lines in pastel work are a Cretacolor trademark.

With decades of experience, Cretacolor has excelled at creating superior products with exquisite lightfast qualities.



Tool Tip

Tired of staplers that don't work or hunting for staples?

Try the simple, hassle-free staple-less stapler.



Eco-Friendly Walnut Oil Products

M Graham is a company dedicated to quality and not quantity. Their tubes of paint are made by hand, lovingly crafted over for days to create a medium of superior caliber.

Using walnut oil instead of linseed oil in their paints is more expensive but gives a unique flow to the paint and increased ease of use. Using walnut oil in place of turpentine will free your studio of dangerous solvents. It can remove colour from your brushes effectively after you've finished painting.

Walnut alkyd medium thins the colour, accelerates drying and enhances adhesion between layers without yellowing.



Design Your Own Fabric

Spoonflower is a relatively new company that lets you design your own custom fabric and order by the yard (swatches available for just \$5), allowing anyone to create objects using textiles they design on their own. Seems like a no brainer for the crafting community.

The site even offers rudimentary community elements like a Flickr photo gallery and a featured fabric of the week, a bit of inspiration for those just looking to explore. Check them out at:

www.spoonflower.com



Canadian Company Promotes Green Art

ECO-HOUSE, based in New Brunswick, created a 3-part solvent system consisting of solvents & thinners of gradual strength. They allow the painter to make a well-targeted choice regarding the solvent potency and the associated health risks.

Mild Citrus Thinner is an excellent medium strength solvent and thinner.

Neutral Thin is an odorless, hypo-allergenic thinner, brush cleaner and volatile painting medium for oil-based paints.

Natural Orange Terpene Solvent is a potent product capable of dissolving damar resin solvents and hardened paint. An excellent substitute for turpentine.

For more information, go to:

www.eco-house.com

Exhibits and Shows

Calgary Community Painters

Woodgreen Show, March 29, 2009

Triwood Show, April 25, 2009

Calgary Sketch Club

Centennial Exhibition, Jubilee Auditorium

Jan 15 - April 6, 2009 (evening performances)

Elveden Centre Feb 17 - 27, 2009

Weekdays only, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Dalhousie Community Centre April 18, 2009

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Centennial Exhibition, Leighton Centre

July 11 - August 29, 2009

Tues. - Sat., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Pastel Workshop

R. Duane Hendricks' work has a depth and brilliance which is enjoyed by many. Join Duane for a full-day pastel workshop and get some tips from a master.

When: Sunday Feb 22, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Where: The Purple Door Art Studio

Register at KAS

Cost: \$60



Calgary Sketch Club Turns 100

A.C. Leighton. Roland Gissing. Margaret Shelton. These remarkable artists share the distinction of being past members of the Calgary Sketch Club over its 100 years of artistic excellence.

While the name might suggest that pencil and paper are the only tools used by this talented group, they work in multiple media including oils, acrylics, pastels and watercolours.

A number of exhibits showing the work of the club's artists will help celebrate this special anniversary. The Jubilee Auditorium will display 100 works by 100 current members until April 6. A calendar featuring these paintings is available. A summer exhibit at the Leighton centre will have art by current members as well as a historical display of past members.

For more information about this stalwart association, go to www.calgarysketchclub.com.

www.kensingtonartsupply.com

132 - 10 Street N.W.
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
T2N 1V3

Phone: 403-283-2288
Fax: 403-206-7095
Email: info@kensingtonartsupply.com

Hours:

Mon. - Sat. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Thurs. 10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Sun and Hol. 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm