

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 5, 2008

## **SOOKE FINE ARTS SHOW RUNS ON VOLUNTEER MUSCLE**

**Sooke, BC – June 5** – As the July 26 opening for the 2008 Sooke Fine Arts Show nears, the need for volunteers intensifies. The whole show is driven by volunteers, from the committee that runs the show to the white-gloved individuals who care for and move the art.

“We are delighted with the response and the spirit of volunteerism in Sooke and beyond,” says Faith Livingstone, Volunteer Chair for the show. “While most volunteers live in the Sooke region, we have people lending a hand from all over the island. Some even come from as far away as Calgary, Alberta and Alabama, USA.” Livingstone, herself works for the show from her home in Victoria.

There are still a few critical areas in need of volunteers. Help with show set-up and break-down are the most important. “The show will set-up over the week of Monday, July 7 to Monday, July 14, while break-down will occur on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 5 and 6,” says Livingstone. “For this work, we need able-bodied people with strong backs for moving and setting up the display units and lighting. Of course, we’ll supply lots of food and soft drinks for anyone who can volunteer for this work.” People can volunteer for anywhere from a three-hour shift to the whole time.

Most of the other volunteer opportunities do not require muscle, just a little dedication and a willing spirit. For instance, the Art Show Bistro, which provides food and soft drinks for show visitors, needs help with the 5:30 until 8pm shift, serving food and handling cash only, no credit cards.

Volunteers work in a wide variety of areas before, during and after the show, from greeting to ticket and gift shop sales, to security and set painting. Training for volunteers who work during the actual show will occur at Seaparc on July 20 at 7:00 pm. Other volunteer training will be on-the-job.

The show itself opens on Saturday, July 26 and runs daily from 10 am until 9 pm through BC Day on August 4, when it closes early at 6 pm so that all volunteers may attend the private Volunteer Thank You Party on the evening of August 4. Anyone wishing to volunteer should call the Sooke Fine Arts Show office at 250-642-7256.

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### Backgrounder

The Sooke Fine Arts Society presents the Sooke Fine Arts Show, the premier juried fine arts show on Vancouver Island, each summer. The Society, a volunteer, non-profit

organization founded in 2006, promotes awareness of the visual arts and appreciation for local artists from Vancouver Island and Gulf Islands.

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