

# Imagine!



## BC's Largest Disability Art Show "INCLUSION" Returns

The INCLUSION Art Show & Sale is the annual profiling event hosted by posAbilities and we're excited to be back for our 18th year! We look forward to hosting our first hybrid show and we welcome you to join us in-person or from the comfort of your home.

More details can be found here: [www.inclusionartshow.com](http://www.inclusionartshow.com)

In-Person Show - October 6, 10:30am-7:30pm

Heritage Hall - 3102 Main Street, Vancouver

Admission by donation, fully accessible venue, ASL interpretation provided

Online Show - October 6-13

Visit: [www.inclusionartshow.com](http://www.inclusionartshow.com)

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Families Matter



Tom Mackie was one of the most successful and well-known artists in PotteryWorks' 22-year history. Tom felt joy in meeting people and they responded to him instantly. Over his many years with the studio, he received postcards from all over the world, from tourists visiting New West and community members who went on holidays. The cards were addressed to "the little Picasso" and "the mayor of New Westminster". He touched everyone that he met.

Tom sadly passed away on July 7, 2022. He will be remembered for his huge spirit and talent. He made a profound impact on his community and will never be forgotten by all who knew him. His legacy lives on - you can check out "Bleeding into Blue" by Tom at the INCLUSION Art Show.

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Do you have a story for our quarterly newsletter or website?

Email: [communications@posAbilities.ca](mailto:communications@posAbilities.ca) or call 778-945-3344.





**Protector of the Innocent, Rickie Sugars**

*"The INCLUSION Art Show has given me an opportunity to share my work with far more people than I could do on my own. I'm always learning, evolving, re-inventing, challenging, and trying new forms of art and I have many new pieces that are ready for sale." – Rickie*

# BC's Largest Disability Art Show Returns

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Here's what you can look forward to at the show:

- Celebrate the work of 200 artists with diverse abilities, disabled people and those identifying as having a disability.
- Individual pieces and collections of photography, paintings, illustrations, pottery, glasswork, jewelry, fabric art and more will be exhibited and for sale.
- Our in-person show at the iconic Heritage Hall will feature art demonstrations, live music, door prizes and delicious food and drinks!



**Lighthouse, Bart Vulliamy**

*"I'm a self-taught photographic artist from East Vancouver. To some people, I'm considered a Lomographer. I use cheap plastic cameras (Holga's) as my main sources, and I bring them everywhere. I love the look of the lo-fi film distortion and imperfections in every shot I take." – Bart*



**Freedom Forest, Rachelle Desousa, Alternative Creations Studio**

*Rachelle often works in a thoughtful manner leaning towards soft edges and colourful palettes. Her love of nature and animals informs her work whether she is working on abstract patterns, landscapes or figurative works. Rachelle is very tactile with her connection to paint, vigorously adding layers, and texture.*

## CREATE! Arts Festival

The 2nd annual CREATE! Arts Festival is a community initiative of the Eastside Arts Society bringing together local artists and the community to explore, learn and create art through a series of affordable and accessible art workshops, public art projects and art-making demonstrations. Attendees of all ages learned how to create art such as print making, glass fusing, ceramics and painting.

Alternative Creations Studio was proud to participate in the festival and host three workshops on July 23rd. Participants had the opportunity to explore creating with watercolour mediums in a variety of forms.

Be sure to also save the date for this year's Eastside Culture Crawl – November 17-20. It's an annual 4-day visual arts festival that involves artists on Vancouver's Eastside opening their studio to the public. The event is focused on the area bounded by Columbia Street, First Ave, Victoria Drive, and the Waterfront and involves painters, jewelers, sculptors, furniture makers, weavers, potters, printmakers, photographers, glassblowers – from emerging artists to those internationally established.

**More info: [www.culturecrawl.ca](http://www.culturecrawl.ca)**

## Celebrate Community Inclusion Month at the Vancouver International Film Festival

**September 29-October 9 | [www.viff.org](http://www.viff.org)**

The folks at VIFF share our philosophy and values - great stories have the power to connect us all. Film offers hope, builds empathy, and connects us with one another. This year, we are proud to sponsor: Okay! ASD Band. Meet four talented, autistic members of the ASD Band: piano prodigy Ron, with an impeccable memory for reciting the correct day of the week for any date in history; lead singer Rawan, who uses makeup to express herself and can hit an impressively high pitch; Spenser, an energetic drummer with an affinity for punk rock music; and guitarist Jackson, who loves all things 1950s. Their love of music brings them together to form one kick-ass garage band. The documentary follows them through their journey of song writing to their first show.

Details on tickets, screenings and other related events will come soon. If you'd like to join posAbilities at this film, please send us an email to [info@posAbilities.ca](mailto:info@posAbilities.ca) with your name, contact number, email, any accessibility needs and subject "VIFF me". We'll keep you posted!

VIFF 2022 ticket sales will open September 7th for films screening across Vancouver.

For details, visit [www.viff.org](http://www.viff.org)



# Our Annual Picnic Returns

For the first time since 2019, our *posAbilities* crew gathered once again in Burnaby's Central Park for our annual picnic! We enjoyed face painting, button making, connecting with Curiko, putting on temporary tattoos, and eating the delicious hot dogs and burgers! It was so nice to see everyone's faces after such a long time apart.

We owe a great big thank you to the many volunteers who donated their time to cook, serve food, set-up, clean-up and entertained our guests.





## Laughter is the Best Medicine

Contributed by Rosemont House

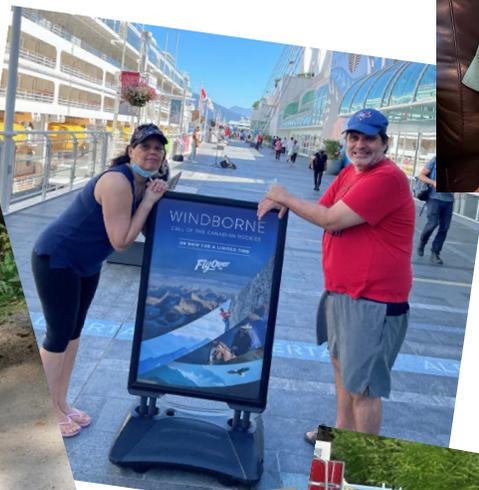
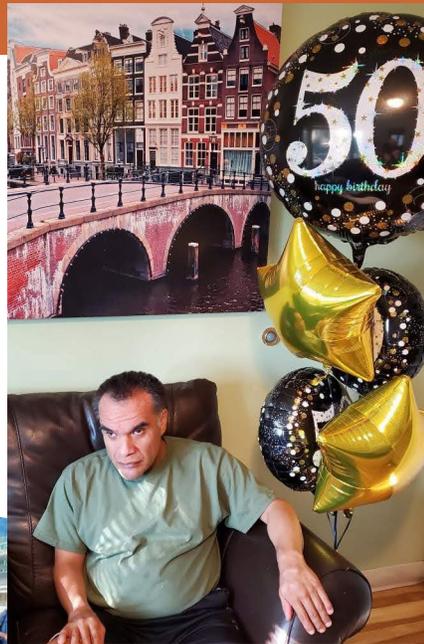
Rosemont is on the hunt for a missing necklace and this is the length that *posAbilities* will go to help their staff find it! While we started with just a shovel, we got carried away and brought in some excavators to help us on our search. We may have accidentally dug up the entire yard around the house – whoops! We’re still on the hunt for the necklace – do you think we’ll find it?

## Summer Fun

Our folks have been thoroughly enjoying the beautiful Summer months!

Supported Living Network (SLN) has been out and about, enjoying the sites and new hobbies like painting, bike riding, listening to live music and going to Stanley Park and Canada Place!

Lakeside House also celebrated some milestone birthdays – Jason Grant turned 50 and Janet Mathews turned 65!





## All Shook Up!

Contributed by Como Lake

Como Lake had an awesome Elvis backyard party! Catherine, Buckingham, Como Lake and New Britton friends came to join in on the fun. Brownie is a huge Elvis fan and this Elvis put on a great show for him and his friends!



## Setting Sail to Victoria

Contributed by Helena, Broadway House

We started our day trip on August 2nd at 7am and hit up all the popular spots! We started at the Inner Harbour, visited the Parliament Building, strolled through Chinatown, and checked out the gift shop at the Royal BC Museum. We made a quick stop at the Beacon Hill Park where Dale jogged for a few minutes, then went to The Butchart Gardens after a late lunch. We stayed at the Gardens for almost three hours before taking the ferry back to Vancouver. Both Marty and Dale enjoyed the trip so much that they are already planning to return for a 2-day trip next summer!



# IN MEMORIAM

Contributed by  
Supported Living Network

We are sad to announce that on July 21st, Gerald S. passed away. Gerald had a fabulous sense of humour and loved to see a person's response to his pranks. If you took him out for lunch and asked him what he would like to eat, he would ask for "five burgers" just to see your reaction. If you turned to look at him in astonishment you would find him grinning from ear to ear.



In his younger days, Gerald was a superstar bowler. He received numerous trophies and was very proud to display them at his home and tell you all about each and every one of them. "Gerry" was a sweet man liked by many in his community. He was a special kind of person – we'll think of him often.

Contributed by  
Buckingham House

It's with great sadness that we announce the passing of Bill Bakas of Buckingham House on August 12th. Bill lived at Buckingham House for 31 years. He was a quiet individual who enjoyed the outdoors. He had a recent visit to the Tulip Festival where he had a big smile on his face. Bill also had a love for music. He had a CD collection of classical music, Greek music, and was also an ABBA fan! Over the past couple of years, staff explored book podcasts with Bill. He just finished the Harry Potter series and listened attentively and smiled from time to time. He will be missed by all.



It's Fall! Time for adjusting ourselves to Back to School and Back to Work routines and rhythms. This time of year, we share information about workshops, programs, support groups and celebrations that will assist and inspire you!



## Sharing Our Stories and Celebrating Disability Employment Awareness Month in September

Over the past year, *posAbilities* Employment Service (PES) has successfully assisted 96 career seekers in finding meaningful employment, many of them are youth. Meet two of them – Natanya, a Coach for Jump Gymnastics, and Ranvir, a Cineplex Guest Services Representative. Be inspired by their stories of overcoming personal challenges, learning new skills, and working on teams for their ideal employer! Watch their stories here: <https://bit.ly/3qgPffh>



To learn more about PES' services, visit them online at [www.PESWorks.ca](http://www.PESWorks.ca), email [employment@posAbilities.ca](mailto:employment@posAbilities.ca) or call 236-471-0444.



## UnTapped BC Workplace Inclusion Awards – September 28, Vancouver

Tapping into new talent pools is a top priority for BC businesses, with our province poised to be among Canada's leaders in economic growth in the coming decade. The most successful companies have started developing strategies for engaging non-traditional skilled talent pools including aboriginal communities, candidates with disabilities, recent immigrants, women, youth and older workers, and more.

The UnTapped Gala celebrates BC businesses and individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to fostering diverse and inclusive workplaces. All nominees will be in attendance and award recipients will be announced at the event. Meet these amazing diversity and inclusion champions over lunch, keynote speakers, and entertainment at the beautiful PARQ Vancouver venue. More info: [www.untappedseries.ca/](http://www.untappedseries.ca/)



## COMPASS

### Back to School – Learning Life Skills Compass Program for Transitioning Youth

Easter Seals is running its next Compass Program from September to December! This program is designed for older teens/young adults with disabilities. Topics covered include options in education, learning about employment, taking care of your health and wellness, finding housing, and arranging your personal life. The cost is only \$10/participant and you can take the course online or in-person!

To learn more and register, please visit:  
[www.eastersealsbcy.ca/compass/](http://www.eastersealsbcy.ca/compass/)



## Vancouver Parents of Youth in Transition Group – Learning about Services

On September 28th at 6:30pm, come join other parents and caregivers at 3455 Kaslo Street in Vancouver and learn about the services *posAbilities* and peers provide (CLBC and privately funded). We will discuss community inclusion, employment, housing options, journey exploration, behaviour support and sexual health education. Parking is available on site and refreshments will be served. Bring your questions, or email in advance to [transitionparents@gmail.com](mailto:transitionparents@gmail.com)



# BCEdAccess

## Advocacy for Inclusive Education

BCEdAccess Society is an entirely volunteer-run organization serving families of students with disabilities and complex learners all over BC. Their parent support group has over 4,000 members and stories are shared daily on their private discussion board. Check out their video, sign-up, look for resources and consider attending AdvoCon, their 8th Annual Virtual Advocacy Conference, October 20-23. More info: [www.bcedaccess.com/](http://www.bcedaccess.com/)



## Family Support Institute of BC – Dad’s need support too!

FSI’s mission is to strengthen, connect and build communities and resources with families of people with disabilities in BC. Their main website is a gateway to workshops, support groups for various challenges and identities, resources and advocacy tools. Whether you have a young child with a rare disease, a relative that is newly diagnosed, or are facing complex challenges with an adult with disabilities, FSI is there for you.

### Check them out:

[FSI’s main site](#)

[findSupport BC](#) - comprehensive and searchable online disability resource database

[myBooklet BC](#) - create a beautiful and personalized information booklet to store and share their strengths, gifts, goals and more

[myCommunity BC](#) - discover inclusive and welcoming places in your community

[Support Worker Central](#) - online database that matches individuals, families and agencies with support workers/caregivers in their communities

[WayFinders](#) - personalized conversations and resources to encourage Person Centred Planning through one-on-one Visioning and Path finding