

“On November 24th the Terrace & District Arts Council hosted a Dinner and Art Auction at the Skeena Valley Golf Club. As the umbrella organization of more than a dozen arts and cultural groups in Terrace, we have a mandate to promote all the arts and to provide opportunities for the greater community to enjoy what our very talented performing and visual artists have to offer.

Our mission for the evening was to raise much-needed monies to allow our arts organizations to continue and grow, while promoting a range of local artisans. This year, the beneficiary of the fundraiser was the Terrace Art Association which operates our local Art Gallery in the basement of the Terrace Public Library.

The evening began with the MC, George Clark, being piped in by the *Terrace Pipes & Drums Band* followed by a relaxing meal served by the Golf Course staff. During our meal, *Classic Act* treated us to a selection of classical music pieces. At intermission, we were presented with readings from the recently published poetry anthology “The Language of Trees” featuring local writers.

Throughout the night, there opportunities for guests to win terrific hand crafted items and gift packages from local businesses. The highlight was the auctioning of several pieces of art provided by local artists, as well as gift packages for day trips to neighbouring towns. Due to the exceptional efforts of auctioneer, Sarah Zimmerman, and her assistant, Peggy Gilliard representing the Terrace Little Theatre, the Council was successful in raising a significant amount of money for the Gallery and its own upcoming projects.

To wrap up the evening, a door prize was drawn and the recipient of next year’s fundraising dinner was announced. We are looking forward to working with the Terrace Community Band who will be celebrating their 30th anniversary in 2012. Many thanks to all the artists, businesses, guests and volunteers who brought their support to the event and helped make it a success.

The Arts Council plans on making the Dinner & Art Auction an annual event with a variety of local community groups receiving the proceeds in the future. They are currently planning the 2nd Annual Spring Studio Tour and a Summer Arts Festival. If anyone wishes to participate or help out with the organizing of any of these events we welcome you to our next meeting.”