

Art school marks 30th anniversary

The Gail Adams School of Art will celebrate its 30th anniversary in January with an art show and fundraiser for the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan.

Owner Carrie Lynn Melnychuk said the school thought it would be fitting to give back to the children in conjunction with its 30th year.

"Because we've been working primarily with children since we opened the school in 1980, we thought it was a nice way to give back to the community that has supported us for so many years," she said.

The anniversary festivities include a student art show and open house, registration for second-term classes, studio tours and a silent auction and door prizes. All of auction proceeds will go toward the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan. Prints by Melnychuk and Adams will also be for sale, with half of the proceeds being donated to the foundation.

Melnychuk, who was one of Adams' first students and started teaching at the school in 1993, took over for the school's namesake in 2001 and bought a majority ownership in the business in 2008. Adams now lives in Edmonton, but returns several times a year to conduct workshops.

The art school began in 1980 in Adams' basement and has now grown into a full-time art studio with 200 students. Classes are available for adults and children as young as three.

The celebration will be held at the Off Broadway Arts Centre (639 Main St.). The event will run from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Jan. 8 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Jan. 9, and is open to the public.

"I'm really hoping we get an opportunity to see some of our previous students that we've worked with over the last 30 years. We've seen so many of them grow up from the time that they were kids," said Melnychuk.