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Collingwood, ON. October 23, 2011 - The Collingwood Public Library's

November art exhibit combines both vibrant aesthetics and political discourse. Paint, plywood and poetry intermingle in an insightful narrative

about the women of the First Peoples and the environment they have

Artist LauraLee K. Harris has been exhibiting her artwork since the early

1980s. Her most recent collection, nibi anishinabe kwewag: Water and the Women of the First Peoples combines Harris' own poems with her paintings

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Artist LauraLee K. Harris exhibit



on wood.

"I work on wood using the grains to bring out imagery, and from this intuitive work I find meaning from the symbols that present themselves from an anishinabe cultural perspective, and these works are put into words," says Harris.

The exhibit shares how the anishinabe kwewag made a promise to their Creator, in the beginning of Creation, to care for the water connected to the orb of life within them. Now the water is being poisoned and over 580 anishinabe women in

Canada are missing or murdered.

"It is through the trees I paint on that I hope to educate and raise awareness to the life forces we were given, that the anishinabe have been protecting for over thirty years, striving to keep the life from being destroyed."

Water and the Women of the First Peoples runs from Wednesday, November 2, 2011 to Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at the Collingwood Public Library. The public is invited to an Artist Talk and Poetry Reading on Friday, November 4, 2011 in the Williams/Westcott Art Walk from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

In addition to Harris' paintings, a variety of coffee table books about her artistic process will be available for purchase.

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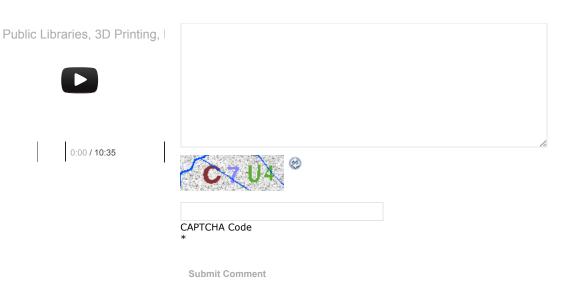
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Welcome to the Collingwood Public Library.

Providing exemplary service since 1903, the Collingwood Public Library offers valuable opportunities for adults, children and teens. With comfortable reading spaces, public computer stations, wireless internet access and

meeting rooms equipped with presentation equipment, the Library is an inclusive gathering place for the community.

MISSION STATEMENT: We guide our community in the pursuit of information, the wonder of lifelong learning, and the enrichment of social and cultural experiences.

Collingwood Public Library 2012								
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