

Art slam being held this week in Happy Valley-Goose Bay



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Members of the planning team are excited for the upcoming Art Slam on Aug. 17. They hope young people in Lake Melville will join them in an evening of fun, music and art. From left, Denise Cole, Michaela Cabot, Amy Norman, Jade Rachwal, Janice White (kneeling) and Peter Best. Team members missing from photo are Hunter Best, Caroline Patterson, Nancy Gear and Sam Brown. - Contributed photo

Event for youth hosted by SHIELD project

Young people in the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area are invited to the Labrador Friendship Centre on Aug. 17 for an evening of arts and entertainment that will include everything from a graffiti wall to open mic performances.

Those who take to the stage during Art Slam for Youth will share their talents by singing, dancing, storytelling, playing a musical instrument, reciting poetry and performing comedy.

“We’ll have paper and arts supplies on each of our art tables and people can create and design art right where they are. We’ll have giveaways and some fun games,” said Denise Cole.

Cole coordinates the Sexual Health Information Exchange Labrador District (SHIELD) project. Art Slam for Youth is hosted by the SHIELD and sponsored by the Labrador Friendship Centre. Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, SHIELD is a three-year youth led and adult supported initiative encouraging positive sexual health, personal wellness and healthy relationships through Art, Culture and Technology (ACT) empowerment opportunities and life experiences.

“(Art Smart for Youth) is about building relationships with youth in the community. About giving them an opportunity to come and get to know us (members of the SHIELD team) – and about providing them with a social space to get hang out get to know each other,” Cole said.

Cole said having youth involved in the planning process for the event is a way to help identify talented youth in the community. The evening – which is likely to attract pre-teens, teens and young adults — is all about giving youth an opportunity to express themselves to share their thoughts and ideas, Cole said.

“This will be a really relaxed night,” she noted.

Cole is a storyteller and short story writer.

“I’ll share a story that night and we have a couple of young adults on our planning team who are going to do some poetry,” she said. “We have musicians involved, and a tattoo artist.” There’ll be food and refreshments as well. Information will also be available to youth about the SHIELD project.

Art Slam for Youth runs from 8-11 p.m. Admission is free.

Link:

<http://www.thelabradorian.ca/community/art-slam-being-held-this-week-in-happy-valley-goose-bay-233430/>