

We are delighted to share testimonials and images from the Healing Through Art program, a unique initiative that received matching funding from the Wynne Thomas Arts Development Fund through the County Foundation. This program was delivered in Fall 2023 through a partnership between the Prince Edward County Arts Council and Hospice Prince Edward.

In spring-summer 2023, facilitators were recruited and participated in a program design process, including training with an art therapist with grief and bereavement experience. Through recruitment efforts by both organizations, over 20 participants registered for the program's two offerings: one 8-week series of 2-hour visual arts workshops with Visual Artists Kelly Cade and Lucy Sterezylo and one 6-week series of 1-hour drumming workshops with Jazz Drummer Ruth Dwight.

The program provided a soothing, creative outlet, as well as new arts-based coping tools, for Prince Edward County residents moving through their grief and healing journeys, in order to complement the support they are receiving from trained counselors through Hospice Prince Edward. The Wynne Thomas Fund's support was recognized in all promotional material including program posters, in social media, on our Art for Well-Being page, and in a December 2023 Artscene radio show on 99.3 County FM.



“I did both visual arts sessions, and I found the projects easy to follow, and interesting. It was indeed a labour of love. There were items of my late husbands that I honestly did not know what I would do with, and this gave me the opportunity to showcase them.”

“This program allowed me a safe environment to express that my pain is still alive, and that is ok.”



“What an engaging, thought-provoking and uplifting experience. To meet others who are dealing with grief was deeply powerful. This experience quite literally re-energized me in multiple ways. I can't thank Hospice Prince Edward and County Arts enough for this incredible free & incredibly freeing workshop series at exactly the right time of year.”



From L-R: Facilitators Lucy Sterezylo, Kelly Cade, Rugh Dwight with Andrea Dawes from County Arts in the County FM recording booth