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## Artists at HUB community centre hang month-long art auction called Let There Be Light



Jill Thompson and son Oliver Price, 6, with his farm masterpiece hung for sale during The HUB's June window-repair art auction Let There Be Light.

*Peter W. Rusland*

By [Peter Rusland - Cowichan News Leader Pictorial](#)

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Rays of artistic and community hope are shining on the former Cowichan Station School as folks auction artworks for repairing and protecting the HUB centre's windows.

The Let There Be Light project sees dozens of paintings on plywood hung on the building's boarded windows — some broken by vandals — during June as silent bids are accepted toward window repairs.

Volunteers were busy Friday using a high-lift, donated by RONA, to mount the art pieces on the building dubbed The HUB.

Community pride was electric as folks such as Jill Thompson and son Oliver readied the outdoor auction toward July 7 when bids close at noon.

"We have to bring the building up to code so we can open it," she said of the 99-year-old structure whose copper plumbing was also stolen by crooks during the winter.

The idea is to fix structural stuff, including window repairs that will see energy-saving coatings by Dobson's Glass by mid-July.

Dana Wood, a local Girl Guide leader, and grad of the Alberta College of Art & Design, has donated her painting of Cowichan Station's Camp Creina to the Light show.

"I've been involved in Girl Guides in this community since I was nine, and most of girls I lead went to this school," said Wood.

"It's a shame the school has closed, and it would be cool to restore it as a community facility."

Current HUB programs span Kent Ball's 7 p.m. open-mike on first Thursdays monthly (250-748-7433), a men's group in the annex, Capoeira Brazilian Dance, Guides activities, and a summer drama camp at the building owned by the school board, and rented at \$1 a year to HUB honchos.

Light is part of the Cowichan Station Area Society's five-year project ranging from geothermal heat, restoration of the school's historic roof line, kitchen and gym-theatre upgrades, a new roof, and other renos.

Progress will be charted on a thermometer box made by Sara Davies Long.

Lensman Gord Iversen has donated four photos of rural life to the Light display auction.

"I moved to the area three years ago and just wanted to get involved in the community," the HUB board member said.

"It was a brilliant idea putting the art on the outside."

Oliver Price, 6, hefted his wide picture of a rural scene that's part of the Light exhibit-sale.

"I just looked at my own farm and painted it," he said, noting he likes HUB's schoolyard slide and forest.

His mom, Thompson, was also amped about a two-piece team effort called Big Snail & Eyes Inside Eyes, by Laird Campbell and Cohen Ayers, 5.

"It's a genuine collaboration."

Bid online at [cowichanstation.org](http://cowichanstation.org) and see the sale tab, or on site at HUB's bid box where forms are provided.

Let There Be light ends with HUB's Cowichan Station Summer Celebration July 7 in the adjacent playing field.

Your ticket

What: Let There Be Light outdoor art auction

When: Until noon July 7

Where: The HUB, Cowichan Station, 2375 Koksilah Rd.

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