

## **Welcome to the Father/Son Exhibition**

A walk through this gallery provides an unusual opportunity to study the creativity and the sociology of the father-son relationship. One can compare and contrast the creative expression and processes of the children with that of the adults. The show also represents aspects of the adult male that are not often emphasized – that of creativity, and family/relationship building.

The Father/Son Art Exhibition features work by four local artists and their young sons. The fathers are all professional artists and as such have refined their artistic themes and technical skills for decades. The children's art is not to be seen as "refrigerator art", but on an equal footing with that of the fathers. While the sons' art may lack some of the adults' technical mastery it has something else: the raw, human drive for expression is more discernable here. The images of the children clearly show the natural human, intuitive attempt to make sense of the objects, characters, and life-themes that surround us all. As such, the sons' contributions are given equal weight in this exhibition, since both aspects of the creative process – intuitive, creative expression and technical mastery – are crucial. However, the aim is not to push the kids into becoming the next generation of professional artists. This endeavor has primarily been aimed at relationship building – through the process of making quality art.