

# Coast *MAGIC*

Multicultural Arts Group In Collaboration Inc

## MAGIC is Here

info@gcmagic.org.au  
Box 10288  
Southport BC 4215  
Phone/fax 5534 7062  
www.gcmagic.org.au



**MAGIC** is certainly here and we were letting the Mayor know all about us on March 25th at Evandale. See Juri's report of this meeting page 3.

*Above from left: Treasurer of MAGIC, Dr Paul Kenins, Secretary Nasrin Vaziri, the Mayor Ron Clarke MBE and President of MAGIC Juri Strante.*

On April 20th Juri and Nasrin met Destry Puia, general manager of the Arts Centre and the curator, Virginia, to check the possibility of MAGIC's art work being exhibited at the Arts Centre. The works of the Artists in Paradise with the theme, People and Places, are to be displayed at the Gold Coast Arts Centre.

Additional projects this year include collecting and publishing a book and CD on lullabies from culturally diverse communities.

Also ceramic classes in July – August conducted by Midge Johansen in her workshop studio.



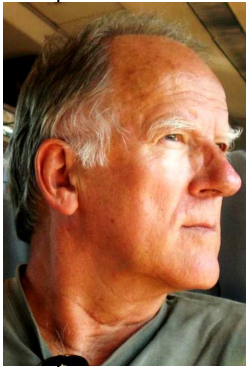
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*"Whatever the mind of man can conceive, it can achieve."*

W. Clement Stone

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT -

*Juri Strante*

It is with trepidation I write my first report for MAGIC.

I feel like a vision-impaired individual with a white stick, groping around in a mysterious dark room, endeavouring to enlighten you with

the fixtures, layout, and dimensions of my current situation.

With my first Board Meeting for 2011 on 3 February, it was gratifying to meet our Committee.

Carol Collins has vast knowledge of the Arts culture here on the Gold Coast and has many connections with like-minded people. I am most confident in her abilities and her assistance will be very valuable.

Nikki Archer is likewise art orientated, and together with her business skills will be most valuable in guiding our fiscal direction.

Paul Kenins with experience in business, consultancy and statistics, I am confident will make a formidable impact as our treasurer.

Nasrin Vaziri, who has been the guiding light of MAGIC since Day-One, is the inspirational part of this formidable team that will lead our Art Group to new and higher goals in days ahead.

As part of my initiation to chair our group, I have delved into past activities and have been greatly impressed by the many publications and exhibitions created by the team. It has brought multiculturalism not only to the forefront in our Gold Coast community, but has also shown how well our different cultures have integrated with the long established population here, who, once not so many

generations ago, were also the new Australians.

We have currently on our drawing board plans for reproducing lullabies, on CD-music format, bringing back childhood memories of sleep inducing songs our mothers' sang to us.

I wholeheartedly endorse this imaginative mission, and am confident all who learn about it, and later hear the completed project, will realise and appreciate how fortunate we all are to embrace, encourage and support multicultural exchanges in our environment.

When one sees the problems elsewhere on our planet, ethnic unrest, violence and hatred, surely we must do all we can to nourish this beautiful gift Australia has created that is the envy of other countries.

*~Juri Strante*

*About Juri*

Juri Strante was born in Germany of Latvian parents in a time of violence and uncertainty. The first few years of his life were spent in refugee camps, before sailing to Australia in 1950 with his mother.

He excelled at school and became an Air Traffic Controller. For ten years, he volunteered for the blind in Melbourne, helping to set up the radio station, RPH, and producing regular programs.

Besides being President of MAGIC, he is also Chairman of the Baltic Society.

*The editor*

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*"Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep."*

Scott Adams

### G.C. Mayor Learns About Magic



On Friday 25 March 2011, Nasrin, Paul and Juri had the honour of meeting with Gold Coast Mayor Mr. Ron Clarke at his chambers office.

After a brief introduction by Juri to enlighten the Mayor about the objectives of M.A.G.I.C., Nasrin spoke about our group and its achievements.

We found Mr. Clarke to be very understanding, and generous with his time to hear us out. Several of our publications of short stories were presented to the Mayor, who in accepting them remarked he enjoyed such literature for bedside reading.

Together with the Mayor was Mr. Andrew Trump who listened in. Afterwards in the foyer Mr. Trump spent a short time personally encouraging our efforts and advised us that our contributions over the past ten years have been well received and that our group was held in high regard. It was a very positive response from a spokesperson that is closely associated with funding.

J.S.

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*"Quick, march!" the corporal is hurrying his soldiers to a symphony concert in town.*

*As they arrive, Beethoven's 5th Symphony is announced.*

*"You idiots!" the corporal yells in exasperation. "We've missed the first four."*

*"Every animal leaves traces of what it was; man alone leaves traces of what he created."*

Jacob Bronowski

*"The more I think, the more I feel there is nothing more truly artistic than to love people."*

Vincent van Gough



### Objectives of MAGIC:

- To promote and foster diversity through arts.
- To enhance public awareness and appreciation of cross-cultural arts and artistic productions.
- To integrate artists from diverse cultural backgrounds, promoting their interests and encouraging development.
- To create networking opportunities among artists from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- To exchange experiences and recognize newly arrived artists.

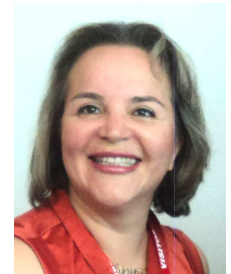
GC MAGIC is an open window to new ideas for harmony in the community through arts.

**You are invited** to join MAGIC and be part of the multicultural arts scene in 2010. Membership is only \$11 a year (or \$25 group membership).



### Report from Nasrin - *Art Party*

**What it is:** The Art Party offers a program of 10 workshops, run by professional artists and using a variety of materials, including watercolour, oils, acrylic, glass & fabric paintings, pastel, pencil, charcoal, crayon and ink.



**When and where:** From 11th May, every Wednesday for 10 weeks at 6 to 9 p.m. At the Southport Community Centre in Lawson Street.

**Who could come:** Everyone is welcome to attend, as long as they become a member of MAGIC first. And membership is only \$11 a year. Class size is limited to ten participants for each workshop.

**Cost of the Art Party:** Participants pay \$10 for each session they attend. GC MAGIC would be covering the cost of the venue, facilitators and materials.

#### **Aims of the Art Party:**

- To facilitate local artists to experience a variety of media.
- To network with the local arts industry.
- To share artistic experiences.

**To Book:** Please contact Nasrin as soon as possible at [vazirinasrin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:vazirinasrin@yahoo.com.au).

**Funding:** Many thanks to Councillor Robbins – Division 14 of the GCCC – for helping with GC MAGIC's operational costs.

**Invitation:** All artists and creative workers are invited to share and be assisted by MAGIC to develop ideas for publication, workshops, exhibitions, cultural fiestas and any other cultural endeavour.