

## Empty Bowls -- creating hope

Empty Bowls events take place annually across North America and around the world in an effort to relieve homelessness and hunger. There is no Canadian city or town immune from the effects of homelessness and sadly this is not going to change any time soon. These events are a great example of the vibrant communities such as ours in action. This year, Pine Tree Potters' Guild hosted their 5th annual Empty Bowls event at the Aurora Cultural Centre to help raise funds to aid those in York Region.

We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who participated in the 2014 Empty Bowls Event held on December 4, 2014. Volunteers from our Guild, the community, Welcoming Arms and Inn from the Cold did a wonderful job with the many tasks relevant to our fundraiser. Particularly, we would like to thank the chefs, restaurants and caterers who donated and served their signature soups and the bakers who donated the delicious variety of breads for both the lunch and dinner servings; Meridian Credit Union for a generous grant; Tucker's Pottery Supplies for donating clay to make the bowls and David Schembri Design.

We would also like to thank our musicians, Jude Wood, Dave Parsons and Sam Carrothers. Last, but not least, we would like to thank the members of Pine Tree Potters' Guild who made and donated over 500 soup bowls.

As a lasting reminder about the poverty and hunger individuals face daily, each patron took home a keepsake of a beautiful hand crafted bowl which will serve to inspire guests to direct their efforts to help fill the empty bowls in our community and around the world.

Overall, the event was an overwhelming success, raising over \$18,000 this year to be shared by Welcoming Arms and Inn from the Cold.

Each year we have been able to increase the amount donated partially due to the generosity of those who donated to our Silent Auction and Charity Table as well as those attending the event. We are looking forward to the 2015 Empty Bowls Fundraiser, November 19th.

The following generous restaurants, caterers and bakeries were instrumental in the success of our event and we can not thank you enough:

Bijoy's Restaurant, Catharina's Kitchen, Catherin Devo Holistic Nutrition, Cookery Catering, Dorio's Kettleby Italian Bakery, Eat Inn Catering, Fred's Breads, Gabriel's Café, Graystones Restaurant, Joia Restaurant, Jonathan's Fine Foods, King Richard's English Pub, King's Riding Golf Club, Lifestyle Cooking, Maunder's Food Shop, Pickle Barrel, Taste It Catering, and Shiraz Grill and Café.

Empty Bowls Committee

Pine Tree Potters' Guild

Aurora