

Friends United exhibit includes island artists

HALIFAX — Two Cape Bretoners are part of a new exhibit showcasing original paintings from First Nations artists.

Darren Julian and his wife Amanda Julian from Wagmatcook First Nation are among eight artists being featured in the exhibit, located at Halifax City Hall on Argyle Street. The exhibit is designed to further showcase the work of Aboriginal artists profiled in a recently published book, "Friends United."

The book and the exhibit are initiatives of First Nations art enthusiast and businessman Rolf Bouman of the Canada Cultural Centre, located in Aulds Cove, N.S. He worked with former premier Rodney MacDonald and First Nations artist Raven Davis on the book and exhibit.

The book, and the current exhibit, are both designed to honour First Nations people and to increase understanding of Aboriginal culture through art.

The other artists featured in the book and exhibit are David Brooks and Chelsea Brooks from Indian Brook,

Norman Peterpaul and Fancy Peterpaul from Big Cove, Sandra Simon from Afton, Lorne Julien from Millbrook, and Raven Davis from Manitoba.

The Friends United art exhibit opened for viewing Jan. 27 and will remain on display until April 16.

"I am extremely grateful to Mayor Peter Kelly and Halifax Regional Municipality Council for providing the Friends United artists with such a wonderful venue to share their incredible talent with the public," said Bouman.

For more information on the featured artists and Friends United initiative go to www.friends-united.ca.