

*"I included 22 birds of assorted species, one rabbit, one raccoon, one squirrel, two butterflies and two frogs. There are Garry Oak, Cedars and Fir trees. Young children waiting for a class to begin may have great fun trying to locate the different animals."*

Rick Silas

**Arts Vision:** Saanich as a lively and creative community accessible to artists, to a broad range of artistic expression and to the participation of all its residents.

*The District of Saanich's 1% for Public Art Policy encourages the creation of new works of art to enhance public spaces throughout our community.*



For more information contact the Planning Department at 250-475-5472

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# Saanich Public Art



*Forest Edge*  
by Rick Silas

*"inspire"*

*"touch of nature"*

*"magic"*

*"landscape"*

"Forest Edge" is a work of art by Rick Silas and is installed at the Arts Centre at Cedar Hill. The Arts Centre, constructed in 2011, provides community space for residents to engage in cultural and artistic activities. At the time of construction the District of Saanich committed 1% of the construction budget to the commission the work of art. Rick's proposal was chosen through a juried competition. The Jury was composed of three local artists, a representative from the local neighbourhood, and a Saanich Recreation staff member.

The Arts Centre wing of the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre has large moveable glass wall panels that separate the studio spaces, yet provide views to the activities going on in the studios. Rick's artwork of colourful etchings on the glass panels compliments the concept of separating space, yet providing views to inspire future artists.

The art work is designed to read as a mural reflecting the local flora and fauna when the glass panels are in full length and will read as a multi-dimensional forest when the panels are folded into their stored position.

Rick is a local glass artist who has twenty five years of experience, and many projects installed throughout Canada and the US. Rick has extensive experience working with glass as an art medium and enjoys teaching his glass art techniques. For more information visit [www.coldbentglass.com](http://www.coldbentglass.com).

*"The purpose of this design is to create a magic forest that draws attention to the activities in the studios and inspires visitors to explore their own creativity..." The work adds a "delightful touch of nature and colour to the hallway area and makes the studios even more inviting and memorable to the viewers."*

*Rick Silas*

*The object of the etching is to create the illusion that one is looking through the edge of a forest into the world of the artist.*

