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People Profile

CITY SMILES

Story By Lisa Rene-de-Cotret Illustration By Steven Johnson

"Seeing no borders, accepting no boundaries," is the ultimate philosophy to live by – and for Kay Douglas, this phrases describes perfectly how she lives her life. As President of Douglas Marketing Group, she explains,"We connect communities, companies, and people." Douglas Marketing Group is a full-service advertising agency that serves Ontario and Michigan and the international marketplace. The business was formally launched in 2005, however, "It has been a natural progression since 1991," Douglas says. The company (www.experiencedmg.com) has two locations, 350 Devonshire Road, Suite 203, and 10900 Harper Avenue, Suite 100, Detroit, MI. Douglas is a graduate of St. Clair College in Advertising, a 2004 Alumni of Distinction Award winner, and a Nominee for the 2005 Premiers Award. Her most recent business award is the 2009 Gold Aster Award for Excellence in Healthcare Marketing. She is also a local artist and author of "Yours for the Dreaming," a children's book published in 2006. She is honoured to be one of two artists in the Southwest region and the only artist from Windsor-Essex to receive an Arts in Education grant from the Ontario Arts Council. Her first children's book has been a labour of love for over 17 years. "As an artist, I feel it is important to teach children how to hold on to their creative ability," shares Douglas, "When children carry their creativity into adulthood it provides them with the tools to think through difficult challenges, to imagine bigger than they would otherwise, to refuse to settle for what is just because it is." Douglas also sponsors numerous community initiatives, most recently a limited edition print by Jane Barlow to raise funds for the Windsor Symphony Orchestra. And thanks to a grant from the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program, she is also partnering with The Centres for Seniors Windsor to develop a life enrichment program that will train seniors to lead creativity workshops with other seniors. The seniors' project concludes with a February 2010 art exhibit (also in partnership with the Windsor Public Library).

NAME: Kay Douglas,
Owner of Douglas Marketing Group

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT: "A successful life."

SECRET-TO-SUCCESS: "Seeing beyond the lines has opened doors and windows for me."