

It's starting to look a lot like Christmas in Caledon

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Alton Mills is opening their doors to the public for their annual Christmas Open House this weekend.

Alton Mills is a beautifully restored 19th century knitting mill, that sat abandoned until 10 years ago. It was turned into an industrial, modern studio for local artists and crafts people. The mill was acquired by an entrepreneur named Jack Grant, whose sons Jeremy and Jordan later took over. Construction began in 2006 and continued until 2009 to restore the old mill into a modernized space with several studios.

Christmas time is extra special at Alton Mills, as the area gets extravagantly decorated for the holiday season.

The Christmas Open House is a vital time for local artists, explains Pearl Schachter, Marketing and Communications Coordinator.

"A lot of people don't get the chance to meet the artists, especially when they're buying gifts when they're looking for something creative and artistic, it's really a unique opportunity for them to connect with the artists,"

Each artist expresses a different and unique style. There are portrait artists, abstract artists, water painters and jewelry artists.

If you're looking for something creative on your Christmas list, you're looking for something a little different, something that was made locally, handmade, maybe something one of a kind, then you can kind find something like that on our main floor gallery," says Schachter.

The event will take place from Nov 17 and 18 at the Alton Mills Arts Centre in the Village of Alton on Queen St. Special guest, the Grinch, also will be attending for Photos with the Grinch which will go on this week as well as Nov 24 and 25, and Dec 8 and 9.