

*Fiscal Year 2023*

# 2023 IMPACT REPORT

*Bringing Art to the Community  
and the Community to Art.*

**AGM**

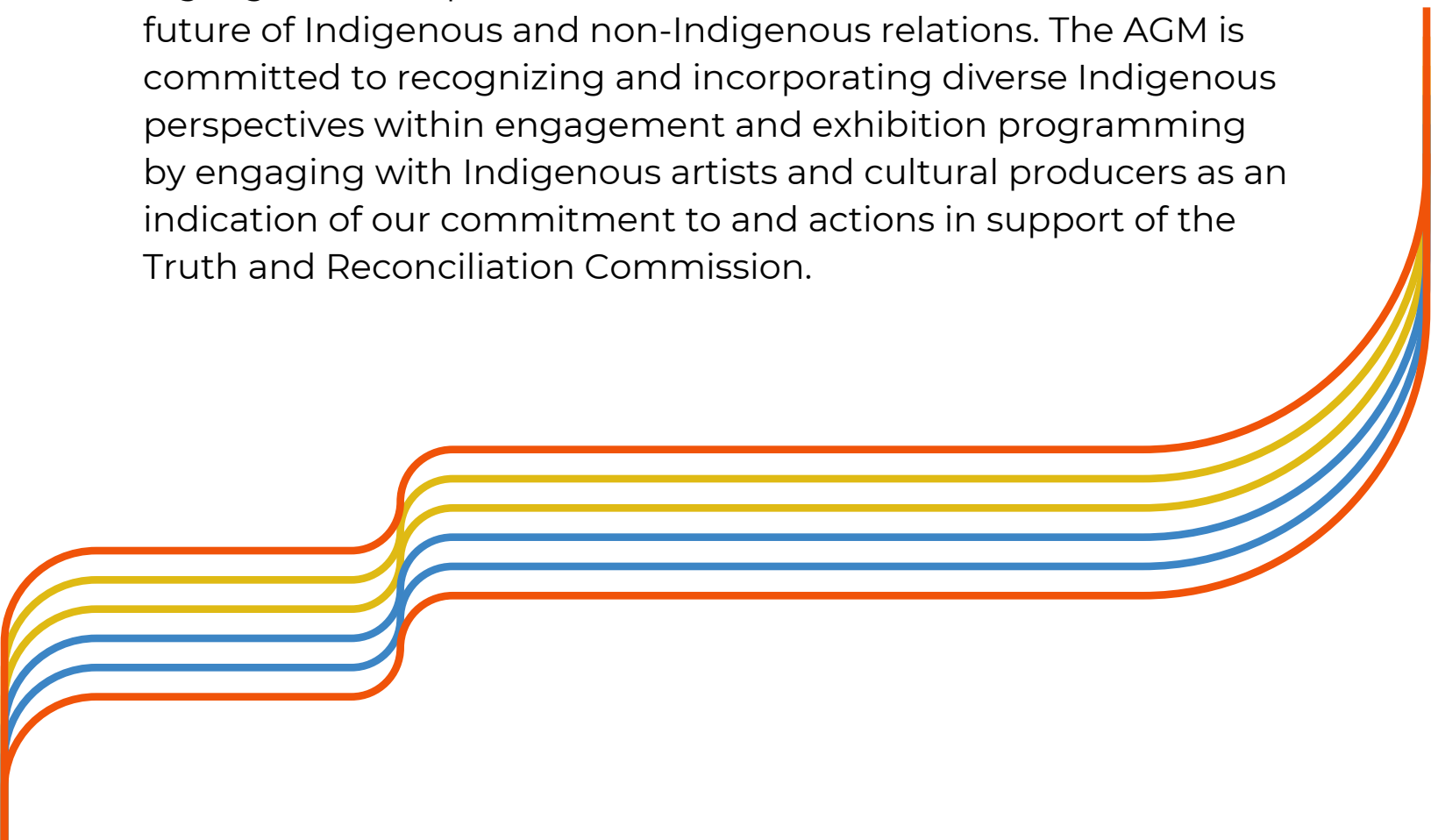
ART GALLERY OF MISSISSAUGA

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Art Gallery of Mississauga acknowledges and gives thanks to the land on which we have the privilege of operating. This land is the present-day territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation and the traditional homeland of the Wendat, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee nations. We are thankful to the many First Nations, Inuit, Métis and global Indigenous peoples who call this region home.

The AGM firmly believes that the arts have an important role to play in addressing the critical issues of our time, particularly to breaking down social barriers and forging connections.

Recommendation 83 of The Truth and Reconciliation Report highlights the importance of the arts in conversations for the future of Indigenous and non-Indigenous relations. The AGM is committed to recognizing and incorporating diverse Indigenous perspectives within engagement and exhibition programming by engaging with Indigenous artists and cultural producers as an indication of our commitment to and actions in support of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.



# About the AGM



[www.artgalleryofmississauga.com](http://www.artgalleryofmississauga.com)



@AGMengage

## MISSION

The Art Gallery of Mississauga (AGM) is a vibrant and dynamic gallery that showcases the work of local, national and international contemporary artists. It is our mission to bring art to the community and the community to art through compelling exhibitions, interactive workshops and thought-provoking events. Located in the heart of downtown Mississauga, we offer a free and accessible space where all are welcome.

## VISION

Enriching our communities through art.

## VALUES

The board, staff and volunteers of the AGM share a core set of values that guide our behaviours and define our organizational culture:

- We conduct ourselves with the highest professional and ethical standards.
- We respect others and treat them with honesty, dignity and compassion. We will not tolerate harassment or discrimination of any kind.
- We value diversity at our board table, in our workplaces and in our exhibitions and activities.
- We maintain a healthy, productive working environment that promotes work-life balance, employee engagement and innovation.
- We ensure our spaces and activities are accessible to all.
- We build trust through responsible actions and honest relationships. We believe in the power of collaboration, and we seek and sustain meaningful partnerships.
- We are fair and transparent in our practices, and we are accountable for our words, our actions and our results.

# From The President

The heart of the Art Gallery of Mississauga stems from, firstly, our wonderful staff and volunteers who bring you the incredible exhibitions and programming, and secondly, from the community of Mississauga who engage with us. Our mission is to bring art to the community and the community to art. In 2023, we solidified that mission and carried it out with sincere commitment.

The Gallery continues its journey of continuous improvement in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion. I am proud of the progress we've made, through the dedicated collaborative efforts of the Staff and the Board. DEI remains a key focus for the AGM.

The past few years have focused on bringing stability to the AGM. In 2023, the Board and Staff worked together to develop a three year Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan guides us forward toward our vision of enriching our communities through art. The Plan also has a strong focus on our values, supporting an inclusive and professional work environment, with consideration of the communities we serve.

Increased efforts will be made in fundraising for the AGM. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our generous current funders who provide much-needed financial support, and we all look forward to building even closer relationships. The Public Advisory Committee helps the AGM develop in how we connect with the community. And, of course, at the core of our organization is the continued support of our Members as well as the Artist community. One of our major fundraising events is the Annual Auction – mark your calendars for **Thursday October 10, 2024**. It promises to be a good time for all!

I invite you to experience the world-class exhibitions and programming at the AGM, located in the centre of downtown Mississauga. We can share connections and experiences, and work together to grow the heart of this important cultural destination.



**Lisa Browne**

President, Art Gallery of Mississauga



# From the Executive Director

2023 saw the Art Gallery of Mississauga moving onward and upward! Several successful grants enabled the gallery to develop a new strategic plan, which will guide us into the coming years as we transition onto our own IT platform and begin a consultation process to evaluate our fundraising, membership and sponsorship programs.

2023 began with the continued celebration of the AGM's 35th anniversary featuring a permanent collection exhibition – *35 Artists Marking 35 Years*. February saw the opening of *The Further Apart Things Seem* - where 7 artists followed distinct paths toward subtle forms of resistance, while exploring areas of connection between that which feels disconnected or in opposition. Co-curated by Shannon Anderson and Jay Wilson, the exhibition was also co-presented by Contemporary Calgary, University of Waterloo Art Gallery, and Art Gallery of Mississauga.

In May, the AGM once again participated in the Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival in a solo exhibition featuring Mississauga-based artist/photographer Jorian Charlton. *Between Us* focused on Charlton's intuitive and collaborative approach toward exploring contemporary modes of Black representation through portraiture. The AGM also offered a successful Portfolio Review Day for emerging photographers.

In June the AGM took its ART HIVE workshop to the Streetsville Bread and Honey Festival and conducted numerous Art Hive Workshops in Celebration Square throughout the summer.

Over the summer we celebrated youth by welcoming a travelling exhibition from Montreal. *Tropicana* was produced by VOX, centre de l'image contemporaine, and featured the work of Costa Rica-born artist Juan Ortiz-Apuy. The exhibition playfully explored the language of consumer culture and advertising aimed at children, taking a humorous yet critical perspective on the strategic use of animals, colour, sound and shapes to appeal to youth.

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The AGM's annual fundraising auction took place in September and was a resounding success. Offering a carefully curated selection of pieces that were on display for the week prior to the auction, along with an exciting selection of silent auction items, we were thrilled to welcome guests to the gallery for an evening of wine, hors d'oeuvres and bidding!

Following our auction success the AGM welcomed the Clarkson Society of Artists who were celebrating their 60th Anniversary by displaying the work of their members. In celebration, a 60th Anniversary cake was shared by all at the opening reception.

2023 ended with our Annual Juried Show. Following an open call, the AGM was delighted to receive more than 300 submissions from emerging and established artists from all across Ontario. Jurors Noni Kaur, Sara Mozafari, and Ed Pien carefully assessed the artworks, based purely on the images and anonymous artist statements provided, to determine the final selection. This exhibition included sculpture, textiles, photography, drawing, and painting, as well as interactive, digital, and multi-media works. The artists tackled environmental and political issues; drew inspiration from philosophy, music, and art history; and conveyed the intimate struggles and resilience of their friends and family.

AGM programming included exhibition specific artist talks, workshops and tours in addition to our regularly scheduled Family Sundays, Art Hives, Tot Spots, Poetic Voices and 'Sauga Connections. School field trips returned to the AGM in 2023 and we once again facilitated an Intergenerational Art Project, where groups of seniors and youth connected through a series of online art workshops.

All this amazing work is done by a small but dedicated and hard-working staff. Their commitment to the success of each exhibition, workshop and event is evidenced by the increasing numbers of visitors. I would also like to thank our amazing group of volunteers, and the Board, for their support and confidence in my leadership of the AGM. I look forward to continuing to expand the reach of the AGM into the community and bringing them to the arts.



**Anna Gulbinski**

Executive Director

Art Gallery of Mississauga

# 2023 In Review

**36** Years of operation

Hours in the year the gallery / exhibition space was open to the public **1662**

**5** Exhibitions organized and curated

Artists featured in the gallery **150+**

**2633** Volunteer hours completed thanks to our incredible volunteers, including ambassadors, programming and event staff, and our board of directors

Visitors to the gallery or satellite spaces including programming and special events **7,734**

**85+** Community programming art activities

Providing exhibitions and programming at no cost to the community **FREE**



3,010 Instagram  
Followers



4,138 Facebook  
Followers



6,730 Twitter  
Followers

*\*Based on data collected as of December 31st 2023\**

# 2023 EXHIBITIONS

In 2023, the Art Gallery of Mississauga continued its commitment to supporting a broad range of artistic expressions, serving as a dynamic platform for contemporary art. Our exhibitions this year included: a group exhibition of artists who find fertile spaces of commonality amid seemingly disconnected ideas and mediums; a solo exhibition by a Mississauga-based photographer whose portraits expand the possibilities for Black representation; an exhibition designed specifically for youth that playfully explored the visual language of marketing strategies; a 60th anniversary showcase for the members a local art society; and our annual Juried Show of Visual Arts, featuring the work of more than 40 artists across Ontario.

Our exhibitions strive for a balance of different programming approaches, from expansive solo projects where an artist can be supported in presenting a comprehensive body of work, to different kinds of group exhibitions, including smaller, carefully curated thematic offerings as well as larger group projects that bring many different art practices together. With over 150 artists featured in 2023, the Art Gallery of Mississauga remains a hub of creativity, showcasing the richness and diversity of contemporary art practices within and beyond our community.



# The Further Apart Things Seem

## February 7 to April 6, 2023



### Artists:

Atanas Bozdarov, Anna Binta Diallo, Barbara Hobot, Adriana Kuiper & Ryan Suter, Brendan Lee Satish Tang, Couzyn van Heuvelen

In a social and political moment where opinions are often divisive, breaking into camps at polar ends of the ideological spectrum, the possibility of finding common ground can seem beyond reach. Debates over human rights, climate change, land claims, and even the politicizing of the pandemic often seem at cross-purposes and irresolvable. How do we respond in times of uncertainty—when do we push forward, when do we give up, and when do we try things differently?

In *The Further Apart Things Seem*, artists follow distinct paths that invent strategies of resistance, often pushing against logic to explore areas of connection between things that might initially appear unrelated or in opposition. By testing the unexpected and playing outside the limits of functionality, they embrace material experimentation and provisionality as productive spaces for building resilience, resolution, and understanding.

Co-curated by Shannon Anderson & Jay Wilson

*The Further Apart Things Seem* was co-presented by Contemporary Calgary, University of Waterloo Art Gallery, and the Art Gallery of Mississauga.



## Jorian Charlton: *Between Us* April 25 to June 25, 2023



Straddling the worlds of fashion photography and intimate portraiture, Jorian Charlton's work emphasizes the beauty and style of her subjects while exploring contemporary modes of Black representation. This expansive solo exhibition by the Mississauga-based artist is grounded in interpersonal connections, reflecting varied expressions of cultural and individual identity.

Curated by Shannon Anderson

*Jorian Charlton: Between Us* was a feature exhibition of the Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival.

# Juan Ortiz-Apuy | *Tropicana*

July 8 to September 3, 2023



When confronting the environmental crisis, in which the unbridled production of goods threatens the diversity of the natural world, it's essential that we take an interest in how things are displayed, commercialized, and consumed, whether in brick-and-mortar store windows or online.

*Tropicana* was produced by VOX, centre de l'image contemporaine with financial support from the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec. Funding for the Art Gallery of Mississauga is generously provided by the City of Mississauga, the Ontario Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, Rama Gaming House and Charitable Gaming, Community Good.

# Clarkson Society of Artists: 60th Anniversary Showcase September 26 to November 5, 2023



This exhibition celebrates the work of the Clarkson Society of Artists—one of Mississauga's most longstanding art groups. The community-based, non-profit association consists of approximately 40 local artists working across a broad range of mediums, styles, and techniques.

The membership of the Clarkson Society of Artists has changed and evolved over the years, but their core motivation to support artistic development within a social, closely-knit group has remained constant. This exhibition showcases the work of all the society's current members, who have selected some of their favourite artworks to share with our audiences.

## FEATURED ARTISTS

Fa Andrade	Arlene Gillis	Liz Malicki	Susan Richards
Janet Baker	Elizabeth Gorman	Maureen McConnell	Sarah Root
Eunice Bamber	Erdmute Gottschling	Judith Moore	Louise Scott-Bushell
Anne Brett	Sandy Greer	Cathy Munn	Susan Skol
Jayne Cangemi	Joan Hatten	Louise Musial	Lyla Stockdale
Jane Cassidy	Karen Saunders Hurley	Lil O'Reilly	Gabriela Stubbs
Christine Chapman	Krista Johnston	Stacey Pepper	Dianne Suurtamm
Barbara Clarke	Z'Anne Keele	Lesley Priestley	Christine VanDriel
Nancy Foster	Linda Leask	Silvia Damar Radvansky	Jane Whitehead
Denise Galli	Jane Lockwood	Doreen Renner	Diane Will
			Peggy Winterton



## Third Annual Juried Show of Visual Arts

### November 21, 2023 to January 14, 2024



For this year's *Juried Show of Visual Arts*, we were delighted to receive more than 300 submissions from emerging and established artists across Ontario. Our jurors, Noni Kaur, Sara Mozafari and Ed Pien, carefully assessed the artworks, based purely on the images and anonymous artist statements provided, to determine the final selection. Their choices are particularly reflective of the broad range of subject matter, techniques, and approaches that came forward in this open call.

This exhibition includes sculpture, textiles, photography, drawing, and painting, as well as interactive, digital, and multi-media works. The artists tackle environmental and political issues; draw inspiration from philosophy, music, and art history; and convey the intimate struggles and resilience of their friends and family. From delicately rendered formal explorations to assertive calls for social justice, this exhibition speaks to the incredible breadth of investigation that contemporary art embraces.



Carlos Fentanes, *Self Isolaio or the Unsung Story of How Dreams Unconsciously Interfered with my Daily Life*, 2022



Anita Van Zeumeren, *The Tower of Bible*, 2022



Yan Zhang, *Land of Silence*, 2022



Joon Hee Kim, *I am*, 2023



Honourable  
Mention

Michele Guevara, *Water - Oil Spill*, 2023



Curators  
Choice



## 2023 NEW ACQUISITIONS TO THE PERMANENT COLLECTION



Jorian Charlton

*Kifaaya II*, 2020

Edition of 3, 2AP

Baryta Fine Art Print mounted to Dibond  
25 x 21 x 1.5 inches, framed  
Purchase, Cooper Cole Gallery, Toronto



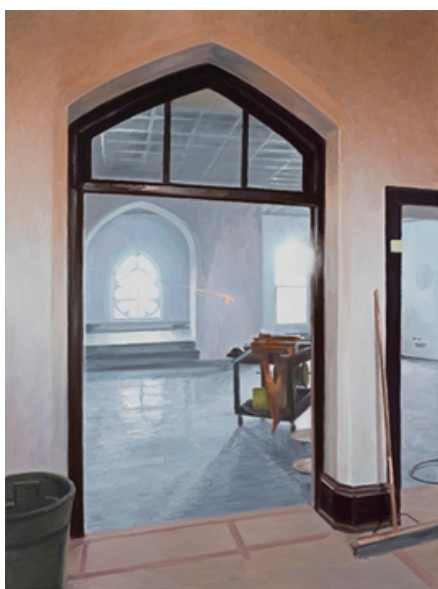
Gordon Rayner

*500 Years in Chiapas*, 1994

Acrylic on canvas

75 x 65 inches

Donated by Hunter Thompson, Toronto



Joanne Tod

*Denude*, 2015

Oil on linen

40 X 30 inches

Donated by Ron Charach, Toronto



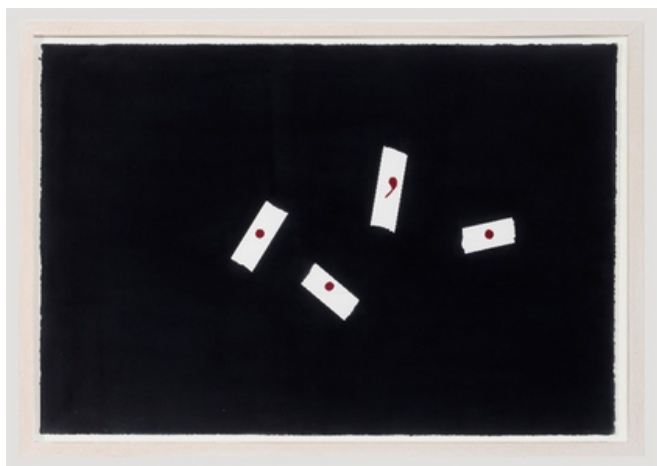
Jeffrey Chong Wang

*Truth*, 2011

Oil on canvas

2-canvases, total size: 47" X 75" X 2"

Donated by Ron Charach, Toronto



**Janice Gurney**  
*Punctuation in Translation*  
 (Marcus Aurelius meditation 10.17,  
 translation by Gregory Hays, 2002), 2006  
 Acrylic on watercolour paper, 15 x 22 inches

Donated by Ron Charach, Toronto



**Janice Gurney**  
*Reflection: (B.F.'s office, U. of T., 2006)*, 2011  
 Giclee Print, 15 x 22 inches  
 Edition 1 of 3

Donated by Ron Charach, Toronto



**Janice Gurney**  
*Reflection: Walter (M.J.'s office, 2014)*, 2014  
 Giclee Print, 15 x 22 inches  
 Edition 1 of 3

Donated by Ron Charach, Toronto



**Greg Murdock**  
*Reconstruction I*, 1989  
 Mixed media  
 72 x 96 inches

Donated by Gary Harris, Toronto



**Barbara Astman**

*Near So Far #2 Major Impatiens*, 2000, A/P, signed

Archival inks black and white print

Paper: 13" x 26"; Image: 10" x 25 ½"

Donated by Nick and Tanya Selemba



**Barbara Astman**

*Near So Far #4 Lily pads*, 2000, A/P, signed

Archival inks black and white print

Paper: 13" x 26" ; Image: 12" x 25"

Donated by Nick and Tanya Selemba



**Barbara Astman**

*Near So Far #5 Hibiscus*, 2000, A/P, signed

Archival inks black and white print

Paper: 13" x 23" ; Image: 10" x 17"

Donated by Nick and Tanya Selemba



**Barbara Astman**

*Near So Far #10 Double Hibiscus Twig*, 2000, A/P, signed

Archival inks black and white print

Paper: 13" x 23" ; Image: 10" x 22"

Donated by Nick and Tanya Selemba



# PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

In 2023, the AGM continued to expand and solidify its public programmes. We added some new programmes, such as Tot Spot and Poetic Voices, and continued with gusto the highly popular Family Day and Art Hive programs.



Tot Spot is a monthly initiative with the local daycare that welcomes young children (ages 4 and 5) to story time and art making in the gallery. The stories we tell focus on aspects of art such as shapes and colours—The Shape of My Heart, for example, was a favourite—and the children also explored drawing and mark-making afterwards.

Poetic Voices has also brought a new energy into the gallery. These are events that provide opportunities for local poets and poet laureates to share their work and engage with themes related to artworks in the gallery.

In February, the incomparable poet Nadine Williams stood in front of a beautiful photograph by artist Barbara Hobot to share her poems and teach a brief poetry writing workshop. We also partnered with 'Sauga Poetry to have an open-mic afternoon that included a recycled sketchbook-making workshop. When these poets arrived, the gallery was full of energetic young folks who were so excited to share their work.

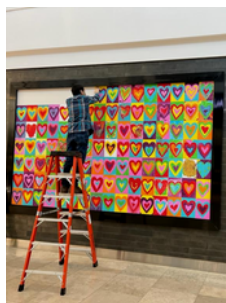
In 2023, we received another New Horizons Seniors Program Grant (NHSP) and were able to offer several programmes to the public. One explored communication - Communicate & Connect (Online) and Artful Reflections (In person) explored memory. These programs were both intergenerational initiatives that brought together Seniors and Youth. Both groups enjoyed sharing their ideas, gently encouraging one another as they explored their creative process.





One of the biggest changes this year has been our capacity to welcome schools back to the gallery. One project delivered by artist Stephanie Schirm, engaged a large class to explore landscape with drawing and collage. The class filled the Main Gallery, and the students excitedly created their own landscape by tearing paper to collage it onto a board and then use drawing materials to fine tune their image. The class, comprised of newcomers to Canada, was encouraged to include landscape elements from their home country to make their landscapes more personal.

In conjunction with these programs, we continue to deliver engaging curator and artist talks to engage the public with our exhibitions. We also continued to deliver workshops to support our local artists, such as Portfolio Review Day and our Juried Show Preparation Seminar.



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**BRINGING ART  
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