



Artists for Kids and Gordon Smith Gallery

2023/2024 Notebook



Artists for Kids is a program like no other in Canada. It offers an immersive, interactive, hands-on introduction to the magical world of art.

- Michelle Didier, Teacher, École Cleveland Elementary

The power to allow our dreams into being, truly reflects the essence of Artists for Kids.

After 34 years of learning, growing and sharing with each other, we are so proud to be where we are today.

We have become storytellers for the arts. Beginning with the smallest of gestures of connection, to the dream of bringing a community together through our gallery, Artists for Kids places positive and supportive relationships in the center of what we do. Our gallery and programs offer time and space through the visual arts, to nurture belonging and to share and learn from the stories that each of us hold.

Artists for Kids has learned that relationship is essential in all that we do. We are intentional to design welcoming places of learning that place connection at the center of our practice through an ethic of care. We are also committed to building capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy and mutual respect within our programming, with a specific highlight on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Call to Action #63.

Artists for Kids would like to acknowledge the continued support of the NVSD Board of Education, our donors, our outstanding volunteers and the commitment of the Gordon and Marion Smith Foundation and its staff. Truly, Artists for Kids exists because of the commitment and support of our community; we are grateful.

We hope, that the Artists for Kids' Notebook will become for you, your child or your classroom, a resource of possibility, to dream ourselves into being, by allowing each other to learn, relearn, share and grow together.

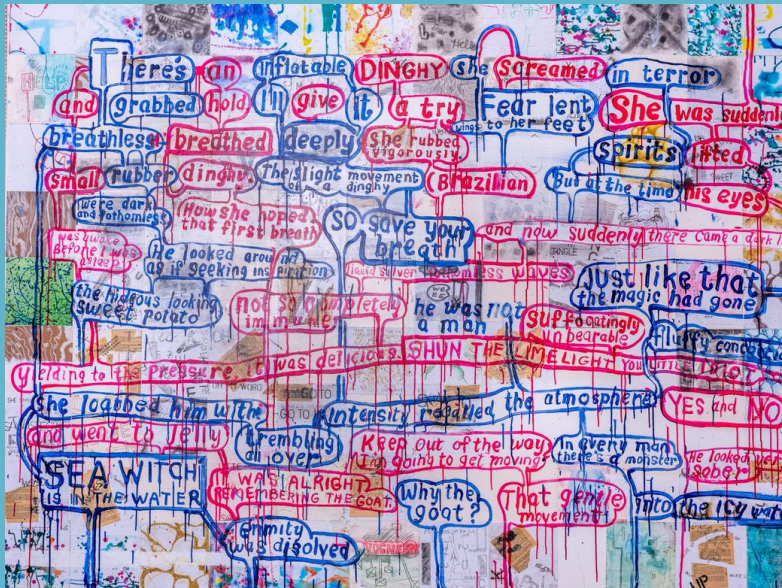


Allison Kerr

Director

Artists for Kids and the Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art

Curated by Janet Wang and Ameilia Epp
September 23, 2023 - February 29, 2024
Opening Reception September 23, 2 - 4 pm



Graham Gillmore
Harlequin, 2003
mixed media
72" x 96"

The Art of Conversation features artwork by over 20 Canadian artists, exploring the role of art as a platform for communication. The Art of Conversation draws conversational threads between the works in the gallery, highlighting art's potential to facilitate and provoke dialogue. The perspectives and artistic conversations of elementary and secondary school students will be featured through original writing and art.

Contemporary Canadian artists Clare Yow, Manuel Axel Strain, Parvin Peivandi, Lexy Ho-Tai, and Karin Jones have been invited to show their work alongside artists from the Artists for Kids' Permanent Collection, which includes from Graham Gillmore, Angela Grossman, Bill Reid, Kenojuak Ashevak, and Attila Richard Lukacs.

***Prevailing Landscapes,
the Importance of Place***

Curated by Jackie Wong

April 13, 2024 - June 14, 2024

Opening Reception April 13, 2 - 4 pm



Cameron Kerr
Grid and Nature, 2020
inkjet on cotton paper
40" x 50"

Prevailing Landscapes is an exploration into the iconic Canadian Landscape; it has been the central theme to our country's visual artworks since the 19th century, and it remains a critical theme in countless works today. The landscape is one element in our country's framework that holds few social, ethnic, cultural, gender specific boundaries. It is physically vast and offers a visual backdrop for art throughout different periods and genres. Historically we have engaged with the Canadian landscape through the male gaze - a romanticized colonial perspective of the great Canadian wilderness, but how has that perspective changed in contemporary conceptual art works and how have the landscapes added to the narratives of these works?

Community Programs

Explore and Create

Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to the gallery on select Saturdays from 1 to 3 pm for drop-in art activities inspired by works in the current exhibition. Parent or guardian supervision is required. Admission is by donation.

For more information visit **smithfoundation.ca**



Music at the Smith

Join us for a Tuesday evening series of intimate performances, accompanied by an informal exhibition tour and wine service at the Gordon Smith Gallery. Guests will enjoy the unique talent of world class musicians, including but not limited to Shruti Ramani, François Houle, and the Two Much Guitar jazz group, against the stunning backdrop of the Gordon Smith Gallery.

This year's music series is guest-curated by Sarah Ballantyne.

Tickets are \$20 at the door.

For more information visit **smithfoundation.ca**

AFK is a dynamic place that seems to draw a diverse group of people, both students and professionals, that are passionate about the arts and about personal expression. AFK is the place to find your inspiration and enjoy the process while doing it.

- Gamelle Fitzgibbon, PVSSVA Camp and After School Art Teacher

AFK After School Art Program

Led by BC certified art specialist teachers and assisted by secondary art students, our classes provide the opportunity to build skills and foster creative growth within the visual arts.

Students will have the opportunity to expand their artistic abilities in a multitude of different mediums, including painting, felting, printmaking, and sculpting. Classes vary in duration, price, and medium. Visit the AFK website for more details on registration and class pricing. All art materials are included in the price of the program.

Registration

Registration opens on September 19 for fall classes in October to December, 2023

Registration opens on November 29 for winter classes in January to March, 2024

Registration opens February 15 for spring classes in April to June, 2024

Book online at **artistsforkids.ca**



Community Programs

Camps

Paradise Valley Summer School of Visual Art

Young artists have the opportunity to learn from experienced, professional artists against the beautiful backdrop of Paradise Valley. Campers experiment with a wide range of artistic concepts and materials inspired by the beauty of the natural world around them.

Activities include significant time in the studio and lessons with experienced BC certified art teachers balanced with outdoor recreation activities led by a team of camp counsellors. Outdoor activities include canoeing, archery, hiking, and more!

Registration

Registration opens on February 1, 2024

Book online artistsforkids.ca

Spring and Summer Art Day Camps

Students enjoy a week full of studio art activities including drawing, painting and printmaking taught by BC certified art specialist teachers. Each week is unique and campers learn in small cohorts. Campers experiment with many art materials and techniques while having opportunity to explore outdoor art making and recreation time.

Registration Dates

Spring Break Camp

Registration opens on December 1, 2023

Summer Day Camps

Registration opens on February 15, 2024

Book online at **artistsforkids.ca**







Gallery Program

Our Gallery Program offers students a deep, engaged dive into reading and making art. Classes spend half of the day in the gallery and half of the day in the studio making work that responds to the current exhibition. All sessions are co-taught by the classroom teacher and an AFK art specialist teacher.

Registration

Registration opens September 12, 2023 for Fall Gallery Program, Grade 5 (full day)

Registration opens October 1, 2023 for Out of District Grade 5 classes

Registration opens March 4, 2024 for Spring Gallery Program (half day)

Book online at **artistsforkids.ca**

Self Guided Tours

AFK invites K-12 teachers to use the Gordon Smith Gallery as their classroom, by booking time to bring a class for a half day self-guided tour. This is a unique opportunity for students to engage directly with diverse works by Canadian artists and to learn through the lens of the arts.

All bookings are supported by online resources to assist teachers with their tour.
Book online at **artistsforkids.ca**

Outreach

Each year, AFK staff bring visual art experiences to schools to engage students and educators to learn through the lens of the visual arts. Inspired by the work of Canadian artists and extending upon AFK learning resources, educators work and learn together in the classroom. An interdisciplinary approach is used to facilitate learning through story.

The AFK Outreach Program is offered to North Vancouver schools on a rotating basis. AFK will connect with schools during the school year to provide information about dates and workshop themes available.

Please contact us to inquire about out of district workshop themes, fees, and availability:
afkinfo@sd44.ca



School Programs



Young Artist of the Week

The Young Artist of the Week program provides valuable recognition to our student artists and raises public awareness of the importance of arts education in our schools. Nominated students will be celebrated on the AFK website and social media. The program includes visual arts, music, dance and drama.

Nomination Deadline Dates

November 1, 2023

February 1, 2024

April 1, 2024

For more information visit **artistsforkids.ca**



The gift of being able to express yourself beyond words and emotion, is truly liberating!

- Dr. Pius Ryan, Superintendent, NVSD



AFK Art Academy

Students in the Lower Mainland are invited to apply to AFK's Studio Art Academy. Students enrolled in the North Vancouver School District's AFK Studio Art Academy develop advanced skills and critical attitudes in the visual arts. The Art Academy's curriculum provides mentorship opportunities, supports portfolio development for post-secondary art applications and opens doors to careers in the arts.

Students in the Academy are encouraged to:

- Create personally relevant imagery
- Explore identity, sense of belonging and express a personal philosophy of art
- Reflect critically and respond to their own art and the artworks of others
- Enhance their understanding of contemporary Canadian art
- Develop a portfolio of quality artwork
- Participate in a year-end exhibition

AFK's Studio Art Academy is located at Sutherland Secondary School, and runs every day of the 1st semester from 1:50 to 3:00 pm.

For more information visit **artistsforkids.ca**

Art from 44

Each spring the Gordon Smith Gallery lobby is transformed into a gallery showcasing art from across the North Vancouver School District. Each school within the district submits 15 outstanding pieces of visual art for this collaborative exhibit.

All art must be brought to AFK (and matted) by May 8, 2024

The exhibit opens on May 14, 2024,

Closing reception on May 30, 2024 at 6 - 6:30 pm.

Gordon Smith Gallery Lobby Exhibitions

Each school year NVSD schools are encouraged to exhibit their students' artworks in the Gordon Smith Gallery lobby. This opportunity allows teachers to showcase works in a gallery setting and raise the viewership of their students' work. Educators can book through *Teams* in our Elementary and Secondary Visual Art Educator Team.





AFK Artists in Residence Enrichment Program

The AFK Artists in Residence Enrichment Program brings together artists, teachers, and students. From ceramics and painting to collage and photography, this vital program provides full-day, skill-specific training that gives young artists the rare opportunity to immerse themselves in creativity and art making. Students who are nominated by their teachers have the opportunity to step outside the regular classroom stream to work closely with a professional artist at the AFK studios. Past artists in residence include Gordon Smith, Kenojuak Ashevak, Rodney Graham, Gu Xiong, George Littlechild, Russna Kaur, Karen Zalamea, and Angela George.

Artists in Residence Enrichment Programs

November 2023 - Senior Secondary Photography

February 2024 - Senior Secondary Visual Art

April 2024 - Grade 7

May 2024 - Grade 3

For more information visit **artistsforkids.ca**



Resources

AFK offers a wide range of resources and learning guides for teachers across all grade levels. Visit the LEARN section of the AFK website to access visual arts lesson plans featuring activities inspired by diverse Canadian artists that use a range of classroom-friendly art medium, and provide connections to the BC curriculum. We encourage you to check out the collection of AFK ArtReach videos featuring arts specialists who deliver engaging step-by-step instructions for art activities that can be carried out in K-12 classrooms.

For more information visit **artistsforkids.ca**

Learning Kits

Teachers in the North Vancouver School District can book the AFK Printmaking Kit and Clay Kit for a two-week period. These kits contain all of the tools and the step-by-step instructions needed to bring dynamic arts lessons into classrooms.

Contact AFK (afkinfo@sd44.ca) to request an art specialist teacher to visit a NVSD school or a school based professional development day to lead a workshop introducing the kits.

For more information visit **artistsforkids.ca**



Professional Development

Each year AFK hosts professional development opportunities for K-12 educators to enhance learning through the lens of the visual arts. **Mark your calendars!**

2023/2024 Workshops

- Curator's Tour for Educators - *The Art of Conversation*
September 28, 3:30 - 4:30pm
- Introduction to AFK Printmaking Kit for Elementary Educators, with Art Specialist Teacher Paul Best
October 20, 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Artist Talk and Sculpture Workshop for Secondary Art Teachers, with Artist Parvin Peivandi
October 20, 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Introduction to the AFK Clay Kit for Elementary Teachers (2-part workshop), with Artist Amelia Butcher
October 21, 3:30 - 5pm (part 1)
November 1, 3:30 - 5pm (part 2)
- Artist Talk and Sculpture Workshop ,with Artist Lexy Ho-Tai for Elementary Educators
February 16, 9:00am - 3:00pm
- *In Conversation* - a series of talks with exhibiting artists.
Dates and details to be announced in the fall, watch the AFK website
- Curator's Tour for Educators: *Prevailing Landscapes, the Importance of Place*
April 11, 3:30 - 4:30pm
- Secondary Art Teachers' Lesson Swap and Gallery Hop
May 3, 9:00am - 3:00pm

I think the people who go through Artists for Kids become adults who make our communities more interesting and creative, and that's super important.

- Asha Calaminus, AFK Art Academy

Support

Scholarships

Each year grade twelve visual arts students have the opportunity to apply for scholarships offered through Artists for Kids and the Gordon and Marion Smith Foundation: Jack Shadbolt Multiple Arts Excellence Award, the Robert Bateman Future Teacher Award, the North Shore Community Foundation - Gordon Smith Outstanding Visual Artist Award, and the the Gordon and Marion Smith Foundation Young Artist Scholarship.

Application Deadline

April 30, 2024

For more information visit **artistsforkids.ca**



Artworks by Luca Jacoe, 2021 Scholarship recipient

Limited Edition Prints

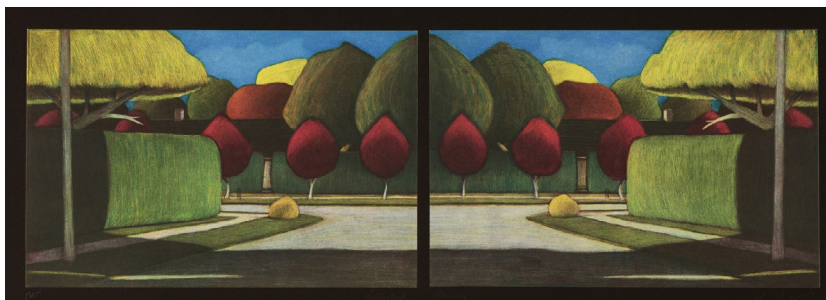
Artists for Kids was founded by educators in 1989, with the singular intent to support Arts Education. Fast forward over three decades, it is extraordinary what can be possible when together, we have a collective vision and we don't give up!

Guided by the AFK Acquisition Committee, the funding model begins by supporting Canadian artists with an acquisition of their work. This acquisition becomes part of the AFK Permanent Collection at The Gordon Smith Gallery of Art and is used in our acclaimed Gallery Program. In turn, the artist donates their expertise to create an original print, photograph or sculpture. As publishers, AFK uses the limited edition of this multiple to sell, with proceeds funding educational programs, art camps for teachers and students, scholarships, and future acquisitions.

Thanks to the exceptional inspiration of our founding patron artists Gordon Smith, Jack Shadbolt and Bill Reid, AFK's educational programs offers some of Canada's most significant art curriculums. Bill Reid created the first print over 30 years ago and, with some of Canada's most renowned artists following his example, the collection has steadily grown into a significant art portfolio offering collectors a unique opportunity to support cultural growth in Vancouver's communities.

Please consider acquiring a print for your home, a family member or friend, or your work space (including a purchase on behalf of your school!). The work is a timeless article, held and passed through generations. Acquiring work is also an investment in the arts, supporting artists and arts programming, and building community and understanding, through the story of the arts.

For more information visit **artistsforkids.ca**



Ross Penhall
Reflected Corner, 2011
 four-plate etching, ed. 145
 image: 10" x 30"
 paper: 15.25" x 36"



Volunteer

As a nonprofit organization, the Gordon and Marion Smith Foundation for Young Artists relies on the generous support of our wonderful volunteers. Volunteer roles include the following:

- Our gallery attendants, who supervise the attendees of the gallery during open hours.
- Gallery docents interpret the art presented in the gallery and lead tours to encourage dialogue about our exhibitions.
- Event assistants assist the AFK and Smith Foundation teams set up and take down special events, greet guests, and manage ticket sales.

Please contact us if you are interested at gsvolunteer@gmail.com or coordinator@smithfoundation.ca or call (604) 998-8563.



Donate

Artists for Kids is a unique, not-for-profit, art education program supported by our community. In addition to receiving support through the North Vancouver School District, AFK relies on the generosity of our donors to offer a range of artist and educator led in-school and community programs through extensive Gallery Programs, as well as scholarships for post-secondary arts education.

Your donations help make quality art education accessible to all and ensure that we can continue creating life changing opportunities to children and youth.

If you are interested in becoming a donor please email us at afkinfo@sd44.ca

Notebook

The thing I like about art, is that it gives me new ideas while I am making something.

- Raiden Takahashi Stokes, grade 2

Primary Donors

The Gordon and Marion Smith Foundation for Young Artists

The Tuey Charitable Foundation

The Christopher Foundation for the Arts

The Idea Partner Marketing Inc.

The Edwina and Paul Heller Memorial Fund

The North Vancouver School District

The Beech Foundation

OPUS

ArtStarts

CUPE 389

Heffel Fine Art

***Artists for Kids is grateful for the
individual donors who have supported us
over thirty-forty years.***

***Young artists are able to grow,
shine, and follow their dreams
from your generosity.***

Artists for Kids

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Artists for Kids and
Gordon Smith Gallery

