



Artists for Kids and
Gordon Smith Gallery

ANNUAL REPORT | 2022-2023



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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Allison Kerr
Director of Artists for Kids

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 relationships are 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 inter-cultural 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allison Kerr". The signature is fluid and cursive.



AFK TEAM



Daylen Luchsinger
Vice Principal, Arts Education



Amelia Epp
District Visual Arts Teacher



Emily Neufeld
Studio Technician



Marilyn Ramen
Registrar



Chantal Pinard
Administrative Assistant



**Artists for Kids and
Gordon Smith Gallery**

AFK PROGRAM STATISTICS

Summer Day Camps

July & August 2022

Campers aged 6-12 enjoyed 3 weeks of summer day camps, both in the Gordon Smith Gallery and the Shadbolt Studio.

Eighteen secondary students participated in the Sr. Summer Intensive working closely alongside artist Janet Wang.

Number of camps: 4

Number of campers: 72

Number of bursaries: 4



Proud summer day campers showing their work

Spring Break Day Camps

March 2022

Eighty campers participated in our Spring break Day Camps held in both the Shadbolt Studio and the Gordon Smith Gallery.

Number of camps: 4

Number of campers: 80

Number of bursaries: 5



Spring break day campers brought home portfolios full of incredible artwork!



A summer day camper explores Wagg Creek during recreation break.

After School Art

October 2022 - June 2023

AFK After School Art classes were held at a number of school sites in North Vancouver throughout the fall, winter and spring terms.

Number of classes offered: 33

Number of students enrolled: 518

Number of bursaries: 27



Messy hands, full heart! A young artist is all smiles at day camp.

AFK PROGRAM STATISTICS

Gallery Program

September 2022 - March 2023

The highly sought-after full-day AFK Grade 5 Gallery Program was a success once again this year.

The program consisted of a gallery tour of the *Paths* exhibition and an art-making activity in the studio.

- 42 grade 5 classes participated in the program, including 3 out-of-district classes.
- A total of 1064 grade 5 students from 23 different elementary schools visited the gallery



Grade 5 students visiting the Gordon Smith Gallery and experiencing the *Paths* Exhibition

Students were asked to consider:

What path brought you here today?
How do paths connect us to one another?
How might we support the well-being of our lands and communities through paths of learning and action?

Number of classes visiting the gallery: 42
Number of educators mentored: 47
Number of elementary schools visiting: 23



Students inspired by the work of artist Charlene Vickers.

Spring Gallery Program

September 2022 - March 2023

K-12 classes were invited to visit the Gallery where AFK art educators led classes in a half-day interactive tour of the spring exhibition, *Endless Summer*, and a hands-on artmaking activity. Through the artmaking activity, students created 2D collaged mobiles inspired by artworks in the exhibition.

Students were asked:

- What examples of discarded materials did you see in the Gallery and how were they used by the artist?
- What creative choices did you make with your chosen materials in your artworks?
- How do the discarded materials used by the artists in the exhibition connect to place?

Number of primary classes: 20
Number of intermediate classes: 19
Educators supported and mentored: 46



Students in grades K-12 visited the *Endless Summer* exhibition during the Spring Gallery Program

AFK PROGRAM STATISTICS

Professional Development

Amelia Butcher – Bringing Clay into your Classroom (Launch of AFK Clay Kit) - October 21 & November 4th, 2022

Educators from across the district learned strategies and techniques to successfully incorporate clay into their teaching practice.

The Dream of the Salmon: Teaching with the Art of Charlene Vickers - February 20th, 2023

Elementary and secondary educators learned how to use the new print release, *Fish in Astral Projection under Moons* as a teaching tool in their classrooms.

Pro-D Lesson Sharing - May 20th, 2023
Secondary art teachers from 7 different secondary schools in North Vancouver and West Vancouver came together to share successful teaching practices and lessons.



The Clay Kit was launched providing educators with the tools to bring clay into their classrooms.



Young Artist of the Week

November 2022 - June 2023

Young artists in dance, drama, music and art, were profiled and acknowledged by AFK and the North Vancouver School District via social media, a personal letter and certificate.

Number of Students: 24



Educators being inspired by the artwork of Charlene Vickers and the newest AFK Limited Edition Print.

AFK Academy

September 2022 to June 2023

Twenty-five grade 10-12 students from North Vancouver secondary schools were enrolled in the AFK Studio Art Academy hosted at Sutherland Secondary School and taught by Daylen Luchsinger. In-person field trips to art galleries and artists' studios, master classes with local artists were held throughout the term.



Young Artists Cole from Cove Cliff Elementary (above) and Nuala from Larson Elementary (below)

AFK PROGRAM STATISTICS



Over 400 students exhibited their work at the Art from 44 District Art Show

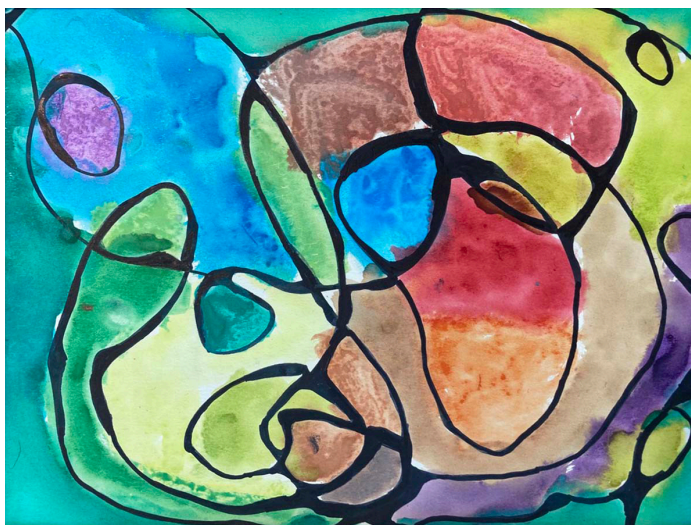
Art from 44 District Art Show

April 2023

Students K-12 at the North Vancouver School District, participated in the annual Art from 44 School Art Exhibit! This student exhibition provided a window into student voice and creativity.

Schools participating: 25

Number of students exhibiting their work: over 400



Artwork by grade 1 student Jasper H. from Cove Cliff Elementary



Artwork created by Scholarship recipient Asha Calaminus

Scholarships

April 2023

Three of the School District's visual and performing arts graduates were honored with a \$1,000 scholarship to support them in their post-secondary pursuits.

Number of students receiving scholarships: 3

Reid Cultural Grant

June 2023

This grant provides schools an opportunity to enhance Indigenous Education at their school site. This \$1000 grant was awarded to Lynnmour Elementary.

Volunteers

September 2022 – June 2023

Artists for Kids depends on our volunteers for so many of the little tasks that create pressure points at various times of the year. From gathering data, following up with donors, preparing mail outs, supporting set-up, take down and hosting of exhibitions and special events and being extra hands during inventory time, we couldn't do it without them.

This year, 41 volunteers contributed 758 volunteer hours.

Paradise Valley Summer School of Visual Arts



Artist-in-Residence: Annie Canto

ARTIST BIO

Annie Canto is an artist and educator currently working with performance, text, comics, and food. She facilitates participation in communal spaces to acknowledge the complexities of the other and question the overarching systems that govern our relationships. In her current work, Annie is exploring collaborative writing and hosting practices as strategies for community organizing. She graduated with her MFA from Emily Carr in 2020 and is privileged to work on these unceded territories of the Squamish, Tsleil Waututh and Musqueam peoples.

July 11-15, 2022

Ages 8-14

Number of campers: 72

Number of educators mentored: 5

Number of bursaries: 6

Number of scholarships: 1

Seventy-two young artists enjoyed outdoor studio adventures with teams of experienced art teachers and one of Canada's finest artists. Campers received in-depth instruction in collage, drawing, painting and printmaking, and took part in canoeing, hiking, cave exploration, campfire singalongs and a variety of fun filled outdoor games.



Bringing the studio outdoors at Paradise Valley Camp!



Art break! Campers enjoying the beautiful outdoors!



Creating art and memories at camp.

AFK Artists-in-Residence



Karen Zalamea

Fall 2022

Over the course of 3 days, senior students considered how photography impacts our relationship to place. With the North Vancouver waterfront as the central location of inquiry, students engaged with the rich resources at the Museum of North Vancouver Archives to inform their approaches to the site. Students created original artworks combining location-based photography; scans of historical photographs, maps, and plans; and analogue processes for altering images.

Students learned:

- Photographing in natural light
- Researching within the archives
- Rephotographing images
- Photoshop skills including converting RAW images and levels
- Thinking through concepts of place
- Reworking images and combining them in Photoshop
- Printing photographs
- Crafting artist statements
- Exhibiting artwork

Number of students in attendance: 18
Number of secondary schools: 7

ARTIST BIO

Karen Zalamea (she/her) is a Filipino-Canadian artist, educator, and cultural worker based in Burnaby, Canada, the unceded territories of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətał/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

Zalamea's interdisciplinary practice is rooted in photography and critically considers methodologies, materiality, and modes of presentation. Her research centres on the camera-mediated relationship between body and space, as well as the material and representational potential of the photographic surface. Her work has expanded to use photography as a means to think through and encounter broader issues of identity, memory, and inheritance.

Zalamea's projects have received support from the Canada Council for the Arts, British Columbia Arts Council, and Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec and she has carried out artist residencies in the Philippines, Iceland, and Canada. Her work has been presented in solo and group exhibitions and as public art projects across Canada and internationally. Zalamea holds an MFA from Concordia University, Montreal, and a BFA from Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Vancouver.



Senior students exploring the relationship between photography and place at The Shipyards in North Vancouver.

AFK Artists-in-Residence



Number of students: 45

Number of elementary schools: 23

ARTIST BIO

Amelia Butcher is a visual artist based in British Columbia with a sculptural and drawing practice centered in clay. She graduated from Emily Carr University in 2013 and is a founding member of the Dusty Babes Collective. From 2015-2021 she lived and worked out of their communal studio, built by the late great Don Hutchinson, in Surrey, BC. She has exhibited widely and instructs classes and workshops in ceramics, sculpture and comic-making for all ages. She is a board member of the BC Potters Guild and currently works out of a studio in Vancouver, the unceded, ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.



Amelia Butcher

Winter 2023

During two school days, grade 7 students got the opportunity to work with a professional artist Amelia Butcher. Students created their own ceramic relief tiles exploring the natural world and the theme of pathways. They learned ceramics techniques including hand building and glazing.

Students learned:

- Botanical drawing
- Observational drawings of natural objects
- Hand building techniques
- Use of the slab roller
- Sculpting with clay
- Joining clay
- Glazing objects
- Press molds
- Planning and design process
- Color theory
- Principles of design



Student artwork from the grade 7 Artist-in-Residence program with Amelia Butcher.

AFK Artists-in-Residence



Emily Hermant Spring 2023

During two school days, senior art students worked with professional artist, Emily Hermant. Students created three dimensional sculptures in plaster using mold making techniques. Inspired by Emily Hermant's artistic practice, students made use of found everyday materials and explored patterning and abstraction.

Number of students: 15

Number of secondary schools: 4

ARTIST BIO

Emily Hermant is an interdisciplinary artist whose sculptures, material drawings, and installations explore themes of communication, gendered labor, technology, and craft. She received her BFA in Studio Arts from Concordia University in Montréal, QC, Canada, and her MFA as a Trustee Merit Scholar in Fiber & Material Studies from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Hermant is based in Vancouver, BC, Canada, where she is Associate Professor of Sculpture + Expanded Practices in the Audain Faculty of Art at Emily Carr University of Art + Design.

Students learned:

- image development strategies
- planning and design process
- colour theory
- principles of design and elements of art
- mold-making techniques
- casting techniques
- drawing exercises
- pattern-making



Student artwork from the senior Artist-in-Residence workshop with Emily Hermant.

AFK Artists-in-Residence



Angela George & Caitlin Aleck

Spring 2023

In spring, AFK offered an Artist-in-Residence program for grade 3 students, providing an opportunity to work at the AFK studios with fiber artist Angela George. Students learned beginner level twining and twilling techniques in a Coast Salish style of wool weaving. Participating students created a woven headband or wristlet.

Number of students: 42

Number of secondary schools: 21

ARTIST BIO

Angela George carries two ancestral names, sits'sáts'tenat and qwənat. Her late mother is slatwx, Cookie Thomas (Cole/Discon/Billy family) from Słwxwú7mesh and her father is from the Baker family from Słwxwú7mesh and the Jones and Peter family on Vancouver Island. This Coast Salish mother of 4 has dedicated her career to the betterment of First Nations people and communities. Traditionally groomed, she has a strong understanding of her culture and spiritual teachings and the impacts of colonization and barriers that plague First Nations communities. She has a strong passion in traditional canoe racing, weaving and cultural singing and dancing and believes that practicing traditions and having a strong sense of identity and connection to our ancestors is vital to community wellness, development and sustainability.



Grade 3 students learned twining and twilling weaving techniques.



Angela George, Rivers Have Mouths, 2019. Traditional Coast Salish Weaving. 56" x 56"



Student artwork from the Grade 3 Artist-in-Residence workshop with Angela George & Caitlin Aleck.

CURATORIAL ACTIVITIES

Fall Exhibition: Paths

September 24, 2022 - February 23, 2023

Paths, the 2022-2023 teaching exhibition at the Gordon Smith Gallery featured artwork by over 20 Canadian artists exploring paths, both real and imagined, through the mediums of painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, collage, and printmaking. Featured artists included Russna Kaur, Charlene Vickers, Angela George, Gu Xiong, Emily Hermant, Gordon Smith, Ross Penhall, Bill Reid, and Anne Meredith Barry.

The works in the exhibition invited us to consider that a path can be used to communicate a direction, a line of thought, or a plan for action. Paths can also be seen in representations of the natural world, taking the form of forest trails, migratory patterns, maps, and water ways. *Paths* offered opportunities for cross-curricular, place-based inquiry as well as rich connections to social and emotional learning.

Curated by Amelia Epp



Fall Teaching Exhibition, *Paths*



Katie Kozak and Lucien Durey, *Candelabra*, 2020, video still

Spring Exhibition: Endless Summer

April 15, 2022 - June 17, 2023

Katie Kozak + Lucien Durey

The *Endless Summer* exhibition and series of public programs featured the collaborative works of artists Katie Kozak and Lucien Durey. Since 2012, Kozak and Durey have worked together on durational projects that enact care for one another and gratitude toward the places and spaces in which the artworks are realized and exhibited. The resulting artworks and programs contemplate lineage, ancestry, queerness, sustainability, and healing within a context of re-imagining place-based relations that serve the social and cultural landscape of their shared communities. *Endless Summer* conveys a dedicated period of trust and exchange between artists. The program engaged with a longstanding collaborative practice of collecting discarded materials to be reassembled in unexpected ways. This drawing together of collaborative social networks and reciprocal exchange is a continuation of Kozak and Durey's ongoing practice of collectivity and care. The project included new and recent sculptural, photographic, and video works that consider lineages of reciprocity that grow from friendship and familiarity. The public programs extended to include additional artists, musicians, and creative collaborators through workshops, events, and presentations.

Curated by Jenn Jackson with the support of The Gordon and Marion Smith Foundation.

Artists for Kids Collection

Acquisitions

Angela George - *Rivers have Mouths*, 2020, handwoven contemporary Salish Blanket, wool

Print Sales

The total gross print sales during 2022-2023: \$ 25, 005

Print Publications

Charlene Vickers, *Fish in Astral Projection under Moons*, 2022. Seven colour, six plate, intaglio, chine colle, hand coloured, mixed media print, BFK Rives 100% rag paper, colour tissue paper tie, 27cm x 34 cm

Sponsorship & Donations

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

The Gordon and Marion Smith Foundation
The Tuey Family Foundation
The Christopher Foundation
The Edwina and Paul Heller Memorial Foundation
The Beech Foundation
The Idea Partner Group
North Vancouver Recreation Commission
The Quan Family
The Thornton Family in Memory of Vaughan Thornton
Donald Steel
Ian Wallace
CUPE 389
ArtStarts
Heffel Fine Art Auction
Opus Art Supplies

Total financial donations: \$134,047

Promotion and Advertising

AFK and the Smith Foundation provided a social media calendar via Instagram, Facebook and Twitter that strategically shared programming, events and fundraising.

The [AFK Notebook](#) was published to support the 2023-2024 calendar year.

Now and Then: The Shipyards through the lens of secondary students

By Amelia Epp, Artists for Kids Program Coordinator, District Visual Arts Teacher



Completed artwork by Gillian Forde inspired by an archival photograph from the Archives of North Vancouver. Photo: Artists For Kids

How does photography impact our relationship to place? This is a question that senior secondary students from the North Vancouver and West Vancouver school districts explored in November 2022 through a workshop with photo-based artist Karen Zalamea.

The workshop, hosted by Artists for Kids, took place over three school days and offered secondary students unique opportunities to develop technical photography skills, to explore digital and analogue processes for altering photographs, to carry out research at MONOVA: Archives of North Vancouver (3203 Institute Road), and to publicly exhibit their artwork.



Reference Historian Daien Ide workshoping with students at the Archives of North Vancouver in November 2022. Photo: Artists For Kids

With the North Vancouver waterfront as the central location of inquiry, students began this three-day workshop by engaging with the rich resources at the Archives of North Vancouver to inform their approaches to the site.

Students worked with historical photographs, maps, and plans from the archive, combining these with their own location-based photographs. The resulting artworks took on diverse forms, incorporating weaving, paper folding, hand stitching, and digital collage.

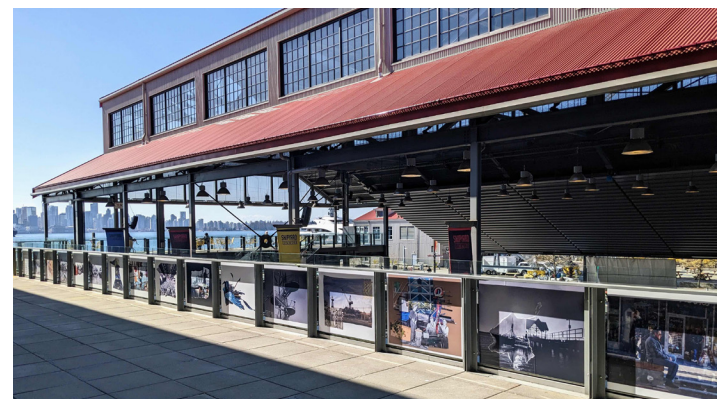
The finished student artworks were exhibited at the Gordon Smith Gallery lobby at 2121 Lonsdale Ave in December 2022, with a large closing reception attended by the proud student artists as well as friends, families, and educators.



In March 2023, with the generous support of the City of North Vancouver, the student artworks were then printed on vinyl and mounted publicly on the mezzanine over-looking The Shipyards Commons.

Artist Karen Zalamea and several student artists led a walking tour of the public exhibition in April 2023, an event that was featured on the Capture Photography Festival website.

The Artists For Kids student project, supported by the City of North Vancouver, will be on view in The Shipyards during the summer of 2023.



The student artworks were printed and mounted in the Shipyards Commons in March 2023. Photo: Artists For Kids

FORWARD VISION, OUR GOALS

As a District resource, Artists for Kids will be examining and **acting upon** the following goals, supporting the overarching North Vancouver School District 2021-31 Strategic Plan for the 2021-22 school year.



Student Centered Education

Provide supports to art educators and students to build courage to teach and learn from diverse perspectives.



Innovative Instruction

Implement and model adaptable teaching strategies that embrace diverse personal journeys.



Welcoming and Inclusive Culture

Address systemic inequalities by designing welcoming, engaging and accessible learning systems and practices.



Mental Health and Well-Being

Place connection with self, others and environment at the center of our practice.



Truth, Healing and Reconciliation

“Build student capacity for inter-cultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect. Identify teacher training needs in relation to above.”

Truth & Reconciliation Call to Action: #63



Environmental Stewardship

Place connection with self, others and environment at the center of our practice through an ethic of care.

Submitted to the Artists for Kids Management Committee October 11th, 2023.

Chair

Chris Atkinson

Director

Allison Kerr

Secretary

Jacqui Stewart / Helena Drury

Management Committee Members

Gamelle Fitzgibbon

Rick Chan

Daylen Luchsinger / Jackie Wong

Kulvir Mann / Cyndi Gerlach

John Crowley

Ian Wallace

Deb Wanner

Madelyn Hambly

Michelle Dider

Appendix A

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44 (NORTH VANCOUVER) - ARTISTS FOR KIDS PROGRAM

Statement of Operations - Unrestricted

Year ended June 30, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Actual
Revenue:			
Sale of prints	\$ 24,500	\$ 25,005	\$ 40,735
Less:			
Sales discounts	2,500	3,230	6,854
Sales commissions	1,500	565	445
	20,500	21,210	38,436
Cost of sales	9,500	6,879	7,358
	11,000	14,331	26,078
Donations	125,000	134,047	121,827
After school program fees	70,000	80,240	73,768
Summer program fees	80,000	59,303	-
Daycamp	54,400	71,883	47,927
Gallery rentals	500	500	-
Miscellaneous	13,550	17,953	12,001
	354,450	378,257	281,601
Expenses:			
Salaries and benefits	248,428	241,889	273,262
After school program	61,048	72,125	60,803
Enrichment program:			
Pullout	10,000	10,152	9,760
Exhibition	1,000	1,067	2,019
Gallery program	23,143	18,910	20,113
Day Camp	28,643	26,472	22,142
Art Academy	9,000	7,783	9,309
Summer program	47,233	53,846	245
Outreach	1,500	277	1007
Scholarships	4,000	4,000	4,000
Professional fees	4,000	6,227	7,635
Promotion	5,000	5,560	3,470
Insurance	12,000	11,962	11,416
Credit card fees	1,500	1,160	1,952
Travel	3,250	2,830	3,043
Furniture and equipment	2,000	1,574	1,815
Supplies	3,500	3,428	3,850
Meals and Entertainment	-	-	106
Miscellaneous	1,200	1,684	1,956
	466,445	470,946	437,903
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	\$ (111,995)	\$ (92,689)	\$ (156,302)