

WINTER 2022

Surrey Art Gallery



ENGAGING
CONTEMPORARY
ART

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HOURS (as of January 22)

Tuesday–Thursday: 9am–9pm
Friday: 9am–5pm
Saturday: 10am–5pm
Sunday: Noon–5pm
Closed Mondays and holidays

FREE ADMISSION

FREE PARKING

♿ WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

Surrey Art Gallery is situated on the unceded traditional lands of the Salish Peoples, including the ąiǰǰǰ (Katzie), ąʷɑ:ńłəń (Kwantlen), and Semiahma (Semiahmoo) nations.

CONTACT

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surrey.ca/artgallery
artgallery@surrey.ca

On the cover: A boy makes paper creations in a mixed media art class. Photo by Pardeep Singh.

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THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS



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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

We're so pleased to invite you into our winter season through this guide—our first one produced since the pandemic! The last 22 months have been so unprecedented, requiring us to contract and then expand in wonderfully renewed ways to more deeply serve and respond to communities where we are situated.

During these colder months, join us inside the Gallery for exhibitions sharing diasporic experiences, mass media culture, the land and environment, and a range of practices from the youngest of artists to those locally, regionally, and nationally recognized for their talents.

We'll also be offering talks with artists and curators onsite and virtually, along with artmaking workshops, courses, and camps for all ages. After sunset, we encourage you to venture outdoors to UrbanScreen to see it illuminated with the immersive experience of **Body as Border: Traces and Flows of Connection**.

Through the extraordinary support of SAGA and funders, the Gallery annually acquires works for its permanent collection, held in trust for current and future generations. Several of the works are national treasures, and in this guide, you can learn more about a recent acquisition, Jan Wade's **Memory Jug**.

Beginning in the spring of 2020, the Gallery team collaboratively developed a Commitment to Anti-Racism and Systemic Change considering all areas of our work. As a living statement, we hope you will read it and offer feedback to us as we continue learning and strengthening our responsibilities and implementations.

As we plan for the future in an exponentially growing region, we're thrilled that the Gallery's transition into the Interactive Art Museum—a facility in City Centre at three times its current size—continues to receive support, with 15M preliminary City capital funding and additional being sought provincially, federally, and through private sponsorships and donations.

We look forward to connecting through art with you over the coming months.

Alison Rajah
Director

P. Mansaram: The Medium is the Medium is the Medium
Jan 22–Mar 20

For the late P. Mansaram, repetition was art practice, repetition was meditation, repetition was spirituality, repetition was falling in love, and as he said, repetition was a way to finding god. Yet, for all this interest in repetition, Mansaram's work is never repetitive.

Figures and symbols appear and reappear in different spaces and configurations. Text and image play off each other. **P. Mansaram: The Medium is the Medium is the Medium** shows how the artist used recurrence and reproduction through a variety of mediums. Visitors will see drawings, paintings, collage, texts, sculptures, xerox, silkscreen prints, and films spanning more than five decades of the artist's prolific career.

Mansaram's art invokes unending feelings of travel: through time, dimension, and territory. Having travelled through India, Western Europe, Greece, and Egypt, Mansaram absorbed art from many cultures. The selection of works in this exhibit highlights both material and spiritual elements from his surroundings. Characters, symbols, and spaces convey the artist's meditative and transcendent processes in form and content. In this regard, the ways in which Mansaram assembled different media and created a sense of place give a nuanced narrative of the diasporic experience.

Panchal Mansaram (1934–2020) grew up in Mount Abu, Rajasthan in India. He left his family home to fulfill his dream of becoming an artist. As a young art student, Mansaram was inspired by both the history of art and his everyday surroundings, which included billboards, advertising, posters, and early computer art. He also studied in Amsterdam where he began to make more experimental artwork. In 1966, Mansaram moved with his family to Canada, living in Toronto before settling in Burlington. For many years, he worked as both an artist, as well as a high school art teacher in Hamilton, Ontario. Mansaram had exhibitions at numerous galleries including the Art Gallery of Mississauga, Ed Video Media Arts Centre, Art Gallery of Hamilton, and the South Asian Gallery of Art in Oakville.

*P. Mansaram, Moon Trip,
1966, mixed media, 70 cm
x 70 cm.*



PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE ESTATE OF THE ARTIST

*P. Mansaram,
Maharana Pratap,
1967, mixed media on
paper, 64 cm x 79 cm.*



PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE ESTATE OF THE ARTIST

P. Mansaram: The Medium is the Medium is the Medium is curated by Indu Vashist and Toleen Touq. It was originally presented at the Justina Barnicke Gallery at the University of Toronto Art Museum in 2019 and then the Art Gallery of Burlington in 2020. Surrey Art Galley is the last stop on the tour.

The exhibition is co-organized by the Art Museum at the University of Toronto and South Asian Visual Arts Centre with the financial support of the Ontario Arts Council. Indian Summer Festival is a community partner for this exhibit.

JAN 22–MAR 20

On Air

This exhibition highlights works in Surrey Art Gallery's permanent collection that address the rise of mass media culture within Canadian art. Central to the exhibition is one of our most recent acquisitions, **Machine in the Garden**, by the late Nancy Paterson. This multimedia installation captures the intersection of televised news, entertainment, and culture in the early 1990s. Other artworks complement the theme of media spectacle found within Paterson's work, such as Michael de Courcy's two-sided printwork **TBA-TV Calendar/Sulphur Pile**. This exhibit demonstrates how different artists over time and different geographies explore the ascension of mass media culture in their own practice.



Michael de Courcy, *TBA-TV Calendar/Sulphur Pile (verso)*, 1979, double-sided silk-screen print. Collection of Surrey Art Gallery SAG2010.07.09.



Rendering of Atheana Picha: *Echoes* by Crissy Arseneau.



Kel Brandner, *Linhof*, 2021, silver gelatin print.

UNTIL FEB 13

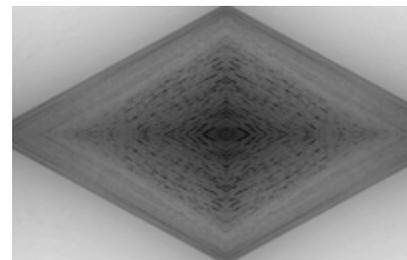
Joy of the Photographic Print

This exhibition celebrates alternative and traditional darkroom processes with techniques and media dating from as far back as the 1860s. Methods on display include cyanotypes, carbon transfer, platinum palladium, silver gelatin, and Vandyke brown inking. The Darkroom Group organizes meetings for amateur photographers practicing analog photographic techniques in the Lower Mainland.

WINTER 2022

Atheana Picha: Echoes

This window mural at the entrance to Surrey Arts Centre celebrates the cultural importance of Coast Salish mountain goat horn bracelets and the significance the animal has to the people from this territory. Think of the materials we use day-to-day: from disposable cups and paper receipts to single-use packages and more, what we use and consume reflects who we are as individuals and as a community. **Echoes** reminds all those who enter the building of our connection to the environment and to this land, as well as the ways we are connected to one another.



Manuel Piña, *Naufragios (still)*, 2015, two-channel video installation (15:38 minutes).

UNTIL MAR 20

Manuel Piña: Naufragios

Manuel Piña is concerned with everyday imagery and the way it appears in modern-day culture. His two-channel video installation for the video wall at the Surrey Arts Centre captures concerns about utopia, migration, and space. By editing imagery of the ocean, Piña's work reflects upon time and image-making. Over the course of the video, footage of the ocean endlessly twists and fragments, creating dizzying geometric patterns. The project extends Piña's ongoing investigation of ephemera and abstraction in lens-based media. His art speaks to force and movement in the form of wakes, ripples, and waves.



Rahwa Yemane, *Fall Sunflower*, marker on paper, Cloverdale Traditional Elementary School shown at Surrey Art Gallery in 2019 exhibition.

FEB 19–MAY 1

Art by Surrey Elementary Students

This biennial exhibit showcases the variety and depth of art education in the Surrey School District. Participating artists range from grades one through seven. Artworks on display highlight a wealth of subjects, both personal and universal. The exhibition provides visitors with a colourful glimpse into the topics many of today's children find most interesting and inspiring.

FEB 12–MAY 1

Body as Border: Traces and Flows of Connection

In this audiovisual art project for UrbanScreen, prOphecy sun, Freya Zinovieff, Gabriela Aceves-Sepúlveda, and Steve DiPaola—all artists and academic researchers at Simon Fraser University’s School of Interactive Art and Technology—have collaborated on an immersive foray into the world of artificial intelligence (AI)-driven poetry.

Using machine learning algorithms, **Body as Border: Traces and Flows of Connection** expands the human form into digital space and mingles it with fragments of poetry, painting, and sound. Each artist examines the intersection between the body, technology, and the broader ecological world in which we live. Through a randomized, generative digital process, the work draws from bacterial cultures, documentation of the Fraser River, and fragments of poetry to produce a series of composite audiovisual landscapes. The resulting images and sounds chart humanity’s impact upon the environment, as well as our own porous relationship with both artificial and natural entities. Exploring the possibilities of these artist-developed technologies, **Body as Border: Traces and Flows of Connection** invites audiences to see, feel, and sense the world beyond the limits of the ordinary senses.

UrbanScreen is located at 13458 107A Avenue in Surrey (west wall of Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre, 604.598.5898). Exhibitions begin 30 minutes after sunset and end at midnight. See surrey.ca/urbanscreen for more information.

prOphecy sun, Freya Zinovieff, Gabriela Aceves-Sepúlveda, and Steve DiPaola, Body as Border: Traces and Flows of Connection, 2021, still from work in progress.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF ARTISTS

THU, FEB 10 | 6PM

Preview Night

Join the exhibiting artists onsite at UrbanScreen for a preview of **Body as Border: Traces and Flows of Connection** as well as screening of select student films from the community.

SAT, MAR 19 | 1PM

Panel Discussion and Closing Celebration

Gabriela Aceves-Sepúlveda, Steve DiPaola, prOphecy sun, and Freya Zinovieff will convene at Surrey Art Gallery to discuss their exhibition and UrbanScreen’s legacy as the site concludes programming at its present location.

PHOTO: BRIAN GIBBELHAUS



Flavourcel, I Spy a City, 2021.

UNTIL FEB 6

Flavourcel: I Spy a City

Riffing on the children’s game of “I spy,” Flavourcel’s project for UrbanScreen captures different sights from across Whalley and the broader Surrey region in animated form. The collective invites you to “spy” the things that connect with you: nearby shop facades, local ingredients, Surrey wildlife, popular sports, and more. Working with rotating and looping animations, Flavourcel seeks to create pockets of life and connection within the social context of Surrey.



Alexander Erickson, Weegit Discovers the Spirit of Addiction, 2021, yellow and red cedar bentwood box, relief carved with operculum shell.



Photo: Four Eyes Portraits



Kalyani Phadke, Amaranthine, 2021, bristol vellum and ink pens on paper.



Photo: Four Eyes Portraits



Sneha Sansare, Autumn 2020, 2021, acrylic on canvas.



Illustration: Chhaya Naran

THU, JAN 13 | 7:30–9PM

**Thursday Artist Talk:
Alexander Erickson,
“Stories through Formline”**

Finding inspiration in his connection to the land, Alexander Erickson makes paintings and carvings that honour stories from the past, present, and future. He'll share his journey with Northwest Coast formline and how each piece tells a story heard with the heart, mind, and eye. Organized by Surrey Art Gallery Association.

SAT, JAN 22 | 6:30–9PM

**Opening Event &
Curators' Talk**

Celebrate the opening of our winter exhibitions. A conversation with visiting curators Indu Vashist and Toleen Touq starts at 6:30pm followed by a reception with music from Aanam of the Tala Collective at 7:30pm.

THU, FEB 3 | 7:30–9PM

**Thursday Artist Talk:
Kalyani Phadke,
“Mandala—The Art
of Mindfulness”**

Software engineer and passionate mandala artist Kalyani Phadke discusses and demonstrates the progression of mandala art from a small circle to a detailed design, emphasizing its rhythmic and therapeutic aspects. She will also talk briefly about the art form's history and spiritual connections. Organized by Surrey Art Gallery Association.

SAT, FEB 5 | 2–3PM

**Conversation on the Art
of P.Mansaram**

Deepali Dewan (Dan Mishra Curator of South Asian Art & Culture, Royal Ontario Museum) joins co-curator Indu Vashist (Executive Director, South Asian Visual Arts Centre, Toronto) of **P.Mansaram: The Medium is the Medium** to talk about the exhibiting artist's practice and legacy. Co-presented with Indian Summer Festival and moderated by their Artistic Director Sirish Rao.

THU, MAR 3 | 7:30–9PM

**Thursday Artist Talk:
Sneha Sansare,
“Connecting with Nature”**

Sneha Sansare is a self-taught artist whose landscape paintings draw attention to the beauty of nature and the importance of preserving it. She will talk about her practice and experimentation with different forms and mediums. Organized by Surrey Art Gallery Association.

SAT, MAR 12 | NOON–4PM

**Art and Feminism
Wikipedia Edit-a-thon**

Join us as **Rungh Magazine** pops up in the Gallery to support increasing the representation of women and non-binary artists on one of the internet's largest sites. Presented in partnership with Rungh Cultural Society, this event will be in-person and online. No prior knowledge or practice of editing Wikipedia is required.

Intergenerational Collage Workshops

Join mentoring artist Raghavendra Rao for intergenerational collage workshops inspired by P.Mansaram's exhibition.

Saturday, February 19 | 1–4pm

Saturday, February 26 | 1–4pm

Art Together at Home

Art Together is a series of online programs that explore art and artists in the community, spark the imagination, and celebrate the ways that art can impact our lives.

Be inspired by artists and educators South of the Fraser and beyond to create art at home! Try out our video-based lessons in a range of mediums with **Art in Motion**.

Learn more through live event discussions and talks, interviews with local and nationally based artists, virtual tours of art exhibitions, and other behind-the-scenes features on the artworks that move us with **Art in Conversation**.

Explore the wealth of stories, artworks, and ideas that have shaped the Gallery—from essays about works in the permanent collection to teacher guides and recordings of past events and performances with **Art from the Archives**.

Visit our social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube) to see all our videos. Look forward to new Art Together videos released in 2022, such as Eco Plant Printmaking with Karen Cancino and an exhibition tour of **Ying-Yueh Chuang and Don Hutchinson: Passages**.

Josh Neu from the artist collective Flavourel gives an introduction to hand-drawn animation in "Art in Motion: 1-Page Animation Loops."



Printmaking in response to Susan Point: Spindle Whorl.

Welcome Tour and Workshop

This free tour and workshop introduces individuals and groups new to Canada to the Gallery as a place of learning. We start with a tour of the current exhibitions, followed by hands-on artmaking. For more information, contact Interpretive Programmer Cecily Nicholson at gallery.schools@surrey.ca.

Post-Secondary Tours

Want to bring your post-secondary class to the Gallery? We'll work with you to plan and book a learning opportunity through a tour and activities that connect with your course content. Contact Interpretive Programmer Cecily Nicholson at gallery.schools@surrey.ca.

School Programs

The Gallery's School Programs cultivate understanding and excitement about contemporary art for K–12 students and teachers through tours and workshops at the Gallery, as well as through online resources. To learn more, visit surrey.ca/galleryeducation

Surrey Art Gallery isn't confined to our location at Bear Creek Park. We strive to provide access to art elsewhere: through publications, Art Together at Home programs, pop-up art booths, and in-school art education programming, among other ventures. But our most visible public offsite effort is seen by thousands of commuters and passersby every day in the form of UrbanScreen, located on the west façade of Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre.



PHOTO: GALLERY STAFF



PHOTO: COURTESY OF ARTISTS

Like many of the Gallery's initiatives, UrbanScreen was conceived of by artists. The project was initiated in 2009 by a group of artists-in-residence working out of our TechLab: Sylvia Grace Borda, M. Simon Levin, Dennis Rosenfeld, and Jer Thorp. They envisioned a large-scale, outdoor exhibition site to show works such as their **Glocal** project, which invited participants all over the world to submit their own images to a collaborative global database. Stewarded by them and other artists, along with technicians, planners, and engineers, UrbanScreen was funded as a legacy project of the 2010 Cultural Olympiad. When it opened, UrbanScreen was among the largest outdoor art project of its kind in Canada, and it has been recognized as a nationally award-winning venue by the Canadian Museums Association for its innovation. Since then, many other institutions have been inspired by UrbanScreen's programming model: non-commercial, site-specific, artist-led media visible to a mass audience.

PREVIOUS PAGE, LEFT
Test projection of UrbanScreen during construction of Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre, 2009.

PREVIOUS PAGE, RIGHT
Scenocosme technician Christophe Thollet interacts with Rencontres Imaginaires (2016) at UrbanScreen.

Visitors watch Marianne Nicolson's digital animation The Way In Which It Was Given To Us (2017).



PHOTO: BRIAN GIEBELHAUS

Over the decade of its existence, UrbanScreen has hosted dozens of artworks, all responding to the site in unique ways. Some, such as Alex McLeod's **PHANTASMAGORIA** (2018) or Matthew Gingold's, Thecla Schiphorst's, and Philippe Pasquier's **Longing and Forgetting** (2014) interfaced with the architecture of the recreation centre. Other works speak to the site's geosocial context, such as Marianne Nicholson's **The Way In Which It Was Given to Us** (2017) or most recently, Flavourcel's **I Spy a City** (2021). Some artworks have even responded to audience input via social media, radio waves, or hand gestures (in 2016, the site was upgraded with an interactive kiosk, allowing visitors to further interact with certain artworks). Essays by different writers of nearly every UrbanScreen exhibition are published in the companion book **Art after Dark: 10 Years of UrbanScreen** (2019), available on the Gallery website's publications page as a free PDF or as a hardcover onsite (\$35 CDN).

With upcoming architectural upgrades to Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre, UrbanScreen programming in its current format will finish at the end of winter 2022. However, in conjunction with long-term development plans, the spirit of UrbanScreen will live on in other forms. Whether in ongoing commissioned digital art projects or in the possibility of a new site-specific art venue for the Gallery, we will always strive to stimulate, challenge, and delight our audiences both within our building and further afield.

Rhys Edwards
Assistant Curator

Not much grows in wintertime, but your creativity could be one thing. Try one of our many art courses taught by professional artist-educators in a safe environment.

PARENTS & PRESCHOOL

Art Explosion (3–5yrs)
Wed, Jan 26, 4pm [7]
118268 \$92.05

PRESCHOOL

Art Explosion (4–6yrs)
Thu, Jan 27, 4pm [7]
118274 \$84.00
Instructor:
Noelle Horrocks

ONLINE CLASSES

Handbuilding with Clay (3+yrs)
120338 \$31.50

Drawing in the Field (13+ yrs)
120339 \$13.50



SCHOOL'S OUT CAMP

Into the Blue Art MashUp (6–10yrs)
Fri, Feb 25, 9am–3pm [1]
118278 \$49.20
Instructors:
Orsy Szabo & Lyn Lay

HOW TO READ CLASSES

INFORMATION &
REGISTRATION
604.501.5100
surrey.ca/register

CLASS NAME	DATE & TIME
Art Explosion	Sat, Sep 26 3:30pm
[8] 4416372	COURSE ID
# OF SESSIONS	

YOUTH

Youth Pottery (11–16yrs)
Sat, Jan 22, 2:30pm [7]
116694 \$158.20
Instructor:
Jinsil Haveliwalla

Tue, Jan 25, 5:45pm [7]
128112 \$65.10

Focus on Drawing (12–17yrs)
Thu, Jan 27, 4:45pm [7]
118236 \$77.70
Instructor:
Kirsten Williamson

CHILDREN

Afterschool Clay (5–7yrs)
Tue, Jan 25, 4pm [7]
118234 \$70.35

Art Express (5–7yrs)
Wed, Jan 26, 5:45pm [7]
118269 \$94.85

Art Express (7–10yrs)
Wed, Jan 26, 4:45pm [7]
121544 \$94.85
Instructor: Kat Wadel

Clay Sculpture and Pottery (7–10yrs)
Sat, Jan 22, 10am [7]
118235 \$105.70
Instructor: Jinsil Haveliwalla

Draw, Paint, Create! (7–10yrs)
Thu, Jan 27, 5:45pm [7]
120332 \$94.85
Instructor: Noelle Horrocks

Draw, Paint, Create! (9–12yrs)
Sat, Jan 22, 2:45pm [7]
118276 \$94.85
Instructor: Polly Faminow

Drawing Fundamentals (5–7yrs)
Sat, Jan 22, 12:45pm [7]
118241 \$65.10
Instructor: Jinsil Haveliwalla

Tue, Jan 25, 5:45pm [7]
128112 \$65.10

Drawing Techniques (7–10yrs)
Sat, Jan 22, 10:15am [7]
125315 \$89.60
Instructor: Erin Mulcahy

Drawing Techniques (10–12yrs)
Sat, Jan 22, 12:30pm [7]
118240 \$89.60
Instructor: Erin Mulcahy

SPRING BREAK CAMPS

Mon–Fri, Mar 14–18
9am–3pm [5]
unless otherwise listed

Clay Days Camp (9–12yrs)
120335 \$229.25
Instructor: Claire Cilliers

BYTE Camp: Introduction to Coding (9–12yrs)
120337 \$370
Instructor: Byte Camp staff

Youth Pottery Camp (12–17yrs)
1–4pm
120336 \$171
Instructor: Bev Ellis

FEATURED CLASS



From drawing and painting to collage and clay, the Gallery's mixed media classes are a sampler of different types of art projects. This winter, we have several on offer including **Art Explosion** for parents and preschoolers, **Art Explosion** for preschoolers, **Art Express**, and **Draw, Paint, Create!** for kids in a range of ages. In these courses, kids express themselves and experiment with different techniques and ideas. Projects explore the elements of colour, line, texture, and shape using all sorts of materials.



INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Jinsil Haveliwalla has a master's degree in Fine Arts, specializing in ceramics and textiles. She loves making functional pottery with simple forms and illustrates contemporary female characters with textile narratives. Jinsil enjoys teaching students to help them understand the beauty of art while enabling their self-expression so they can grow as artists and creative thinkers. This winter, Jinsil is teaching **Drawing Fundamentals**, **Youth Pottery**, and **Clay Sculpture & Pottery**.

ADULT POTTERY

Continuing Pottery

Wed, Jan 26, 6:45pm [7]
116692 \$165.55

Pottery for Beginners

Tue, Jan 25, 6:45pm [7]
116682 \$165.55

Wed, Jan 26, 3:15pm [7]
116689 \$165.55

Thu, Jan 27, 3:15pm [7]
116690 \$165.55

Thu, Jan 27, 6:45pm [7]
116691 \$165.55



ADULT

**Coloured Pencils for Beginners
Drawing for Beginners**

Wed, Jan 26, 7pm [7]
121540 \$85.40

Instructor: Kat Wadel

Oil Painting—Intermediate

Tue, Jan 25, 7pm [7]
120333 \$85.40

Instructor: Ali Sepahi

**Watercolour Painting for
Beginners**

Thu, Jan 27, 7pm [7]
118237 \$85.40

Instructor: Kirsten Williamson

Adult classes usually have a supply list—please make sure you get yours upon registration.

Memory Jug

We are thrilled to have recently acquired *Memory Jug* by Jan Wade for our permanent collection. This sculpture was part of our fall 2020 group exhibition *Where We Have Been*.

Commissioned by Granville Island Cultural Society in 2016, **Memory Jug** was a part of their International Day of the Dead Tour and Exhibit. This celebratory festival originates in Mexico and involves gathering to pay respects to deceased family members and friends, often leaving gifts by their graves.

Wade painted and placed the calavera (skull) she was given to work with at the mouth of a memory jug—a vessel or container decorated with objects connected to a loved one and placed on their grave, ushering their passage into the afterlife with joy. This practice was particularly common amongst Black Americans in the southern United States at the start of the 20th century, likely originating with the Bakongo people in Africa.

Buttons, Scrabble letters, an Afro comb, Coke bottle caps, dice, a Bible, and coins are among the many found objects that Wade assembles into a personal and public monument that both celebrates the vitality of Black experience while also grieving centuries-old oppression. The Scrabble letters spell out the artist’s family members as well as Black men and women who have died from police violence: Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Eric Garner, and Sandra Bland, to name a few.

Wade dedicates her jug to “BLACK LIVES MATTER . . . and all those through the ages who have suffered and died at the hands of injustice . . . only the cameras are new . . .”

Jan Wade is a Vancouver-based artist whose practice focuses on the sociopolitical symbols and practices of diasporic and African slave cultures. She combines pop culture, new world imagery, and found materials and objects in her mixed media sculptures and assemblages.

Charlene Back
Communications Coordinator



PHOTO: DENNIS HA

Jan Wade, Memory Jug, 2016, mixed media assemblage. Collection of Surrey Art Gallery SAG 2020.01.01.

Do you find art captivating? Why not try something new? Volunteering at Surrey Art Gallery is a great way to have fun, learn about art, and make friends in the process.

Here are some ways you can get involved:

Docents (Tour Guides)

Join a dynamic community of volunteers dedicated to enriching art education for children! Surrey Art Gallery Docents lead engaging tours of contemporary art exhibitions from September to June. Participants take part in ongoing training with curators, artist-educators, and artists.

Gallery Event Volunteers

Interact with artists and engage Gallery visitors with contemporary art and ideas. Support vibrant events like exhibition openings, artist talks, and panels.

Children’s Art Program Assistants (CAPA)

Share your passion for art with eager young minds! Support art classes and camps for young artists. As a CAPA, you’ll develop leadership skills, organize studios, work with children, and assist the artist-educators.

Youth Docent Program

Explore contemporary art, hone your presentation skills, develop education programs, and learn to lead. As a Youth Docent, you’ll enhance exhibitions through activities that are both fun and educational.

Applications are being accepted now for upcoming programs. To learn more, get in touch with our Volunteer Program Coordinator, Chris Dawson-Murphy, at artsvolunteer@surrey.ca or 604.501.5198.

For 38 years, Surrey Art Gallery Association (SAGA) has been hosting programs at Surrey Art Gallery. SAGA's longest running program is the popular Thursday Artists Talk Series, hosting ten events per year.

SAGA promotes, supports, and encourages local artists from all backgrounds to share their work and connect with others (for some, this is their first talk). Each month (except in summer), a local artist is invited to present a free public talk that enhances art knowledge, encourages appreciation, and promotes participation in the arts. The presenting artist benefits from sharing their art with a supportive community while listeners have remarked that they come away feeling inspired or challenged to think through new ideas.

Thursday Artist Talks are typically held at Surrey Art Gallery from 7:30–9pm on the first Thursday of each month from January to June and September to December. However, during the pandemic, SAGA began hosting these events online as a live video on their Facebook page (@surreyartgalleryassociation) with excellent results. The series drew over 1500 viewers between January to December 2021.

In 2021, we welcomed artists Dizz McGruber, Deb Chaney, Broderick Wong, Lalita Hamill, Susan Jessop, Barbie Warwick, Joseph Ghabi, Olive Chan, Amy Dyck, and Manuel Piña. Replays of past talks are available for viewing anytime at sagabc.com/past-talks. We start 2022 off with carver/painter Alexander Erickson in January, mandala artist Kalyani Phadke in February, and painter Sneha Sansare in March. Read more about their talks in our Events section. SAGA volunteers and Gallery staff work together to bring you these Thursday Artist Talks.

SAGA advocates for the Gallery by enabling learning about contemporary art, increasing community awareness of the Gallery and its programs, and initiating special programs and projects that complement and support existing programs at the Gallery.

By Nalini Bhui
SAGA Board Trustee



TOP
Nalini Bhui introduces Olive Chan via Facebook Live for her Thursday Artist Talk in 2021.

BOTTOM
Chito Maravilla gives a Thursday Artist Talk at the Gallery in 2018.

surrey
art gallery
engaging
contemporary art

13750 88 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3W 3L1



- SURREY ART GALLERY / SURREY ARTS CENTRE**
13750 88 AVE IN BEAR CREEK PARK
- URBANSREEN / CHUCK BAILEY REC CENTRE**
13458 107A AVE (FACING UNIVERSITY DR.)
- SKYTRAIN STATIONS**
- 1 GATEWAY FOR URBANSREEN
 - 2 SURREY CENTRAL (FOR CITY HALL, LIBRARY, & 96 B-LINE OR 321 BUS TO SURREY ARTS CENTRE)
 - 3 KING GEORGE (TO CATCH 96 B-LINE OR 321 BUS TO SURREY ARTS CENTRE)

STAY INFORMED

If you picked up the Program Guide and would like it mailed directly to you next time, sign up for our print mailing list at surrey.ca/arts-signup.

While you're there, sign up for News & Updates!