

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

Winter 2016

3 Directors' Message / 4 Exhibitions / 12 Events / 16 Classes / 22 Gift Shop / 24 Kids at the Gallery / 27 Volunteer

Surrey Art Gallery





surrey
art gallery
engaging
contemporary art

HOURS

Tuesday–Thursday: 9am–9pm
Friday: 9am–5pm
Saturday: 10am–5pm
Sunday: 12–5pm
Closed Mondays and holidays

FREE ADMISSION
FREE PARKING

 **WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE**

Surrey Art Gallery recognizes that our building is situated on the unceded traditional lands of the Salish Peoples.

CONTACT

13750 88 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3W 3L1
604.501.5566
www.surrey.ca/artgallery
artgallery@surrey.ca

-  SurreyArtGal
-  Surrey Art Gallery
-  surreyartgal

On the cover: A young visitor engages with Robert Linsley's videos **Vancouver Expeditionary Painters** in the group show **Views from the Southbank III: Information, Objects, Mappings** from 2015.

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 **www.surrey.ca/arts-signup**

While you're there, sign up for e-newsletters!

DIRECTORS' MESSAGE

ENGAGING ART AND ENGAGING PEOPLE—THAT'S WHAT YOU'LL DISCOVER HERE AT THE SURREY ART GALLERY.

Contemporary art isn't isolated from the issues and ideas affecting our lives or the world around us. Whether it's made by a young person or a professional artist, art is a response to and a reflection of being human. We're complicated, curious, and creative beings. Art is a means of expressing what we experience and imagine. How we engage with art is different for each person. Sharing the stories that inspired an artwork or learning what an artwork means to us can be extremely rewarding. The word "picture" is both a noun and a verb and, like an artwork's meaning, it exists separate from as well as inside of us.

The Surrey Art Gallery offers many ways to engage with art and artists. Inside this program guide, you'll find lots of events where you can meet artists and hear directly about their work. Or you can attend a guided tour and learn more about the monumental and miniature **Graeme Patterson: Secret Citadel** exhibit. We invite you to participate in conversations stimulated by art in addition to the exhibition. We also offer over a hundred courses each year where you can experience making art yourself, guided by a skilled artist-educator. There's something for everyone—from children to adults and from beginners to advanced. Read more about how we work with children in our special feature, "Kids at the Gallery." And if you're excited to share your passion for art with others, our volunteer programs are a great way to meet people like yourself.

In many ways, learning is at the centre of the Surrey Art Gallery. Picture yourself in one of our programs, and then participate in the joy of engaging art and engaging you!

Councillor Judy Villeneuve, City of Surrey
Jannette Maedel, President, Surrey Art Gallery Association
Liane Davison, Manager, Visual and Community Art /
Director, Surrey Art Gallery

SECRET CITADEL TELLS A STORY OF FRIENDSHIP THROUGH FOUR LARGE-SCALE SCULPTURAL INSTALLATIONS COMPLEMENTED BY STOP-MOTION ANIMATION.

An anthropomorphized bison and cougar represent the two boys in this visual coming-of-age tale that is as playful as it is poignant. Although based on specific memories of the artist's past, **Secret Citadel** draws you into its captivating worlds by highlighting universal themes of love and loss, play and competition, companionship, and loneliness.

"Mountain" begins the boys' journeys. This wooden and fabric-covered mound connects the artist's and his friend's miniature suburban homes, replicated with 1980s décor. The viewer can peek into the mountain to witness the boys' creative meeting space. Their camaraderie continues into "Camp Wakonda," two life-sized bunk beds with miniature scenes showing the boys playing games, chopping wood, and burning toys. Yet this childlike world is nuanced by the memory of a school bus crash on a highway and an archery match that ends in a fantasized death, hinting at the competitiveness to come in adolescence.

"Grudge Match" overtly shows the competitive nature of teenage boys through a miniature wrestling match, locker room, and gym tucked beneath life-sized bleachers. The last sculptural piece, "Player Piano Waltz," is an upright working piano that plays a haunting melody for the price of a loonie. Through the windows, the viewer glimpses different vignettes of these now estranged friends in adulthood: riding an elevator, sitting in a bar alone, recalling the old days. Devastating yet beautiful, "Player Piano Waltz" mourns the end of two friends and the isolated worlds of adulthood, making us, in D.H. Lawrence's words, "weep like a child for the past."

Co-curated by Melissa Bennett and Sarah Fillmore, **Secret Citadel** is on tour from the Art Gallery of Hamilton and Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. Surrey Art Gallery is the only gallery to present it in British Columbia.

PHOTOS P.5-7: MIKE LALICH



Installation view of Graeme Patterson's Player Piano Waltz at the Art Gallery of Hamilton in 2013. Mixed media installation.

NEXT SPREAD

Installation view of Graeme Patterson's Secret Citadel at the Art Gallery of Hamilton in 2013.





Mystic Moon by John Kalley.

UNTIL FEB 7

Surrey Photography Club

This show of recent work by members of the Surrey Photography Club presents prints that range from landscape imagery focusing on coastal themes to animal, floral, and portrait studies. The artists have experimented with digital processes and types of paper. The Surrey Photography Club was formed in 2006 and currently has 43 active members—professional and amateur—from Surrey and Delta who have successfully participated in local, national, and international competitions.



Beauty of the Tusk by Apaar Chahal, a graphite drawing exhibited in the 2014 exhibition.

FEB 13–MAY 1

Art by Surrey Secondary School Students

Figurative studies, social commentary, and symbolism are some of the ways secondary school students explore the ideas and issues important to them. This exhibition will present paintings, drawings, collages, and photographs that demonstrate the integral role of art in education. Artworks will be accompanied by teachers' lesson plans and artists' statements. This bi-annual exhibition is developed in cooperation with the Surrey School District and the Surrey Art Teachers Association.

FEB 27–OCT 30

Keith Rice-Jones: Monumental Sculptures

Sculptor Keith Rice-Jones uses clay to explore abstract three-dimensional forms that draw from the early history of world art and architecture. His practice includes the creation of large-scale assembled ceramic pieces that combine his interests in geometry, organic shapes, and the human figure. The artist will present a selection of these monumental sculptures, including new works, in the reflecting pool of the Surrey Arts Centre courtyard.



Detail of Becoming Surrey, courtesy of the artist.



Keith Rice-Jones, Directional Perspective, 183 cm high.

UNTIL MAY 15

Becoming Surrey—Journey Through the Invisible City

Tony Westman explores the transformation of Surrey's suburban landscape into a built urban environment where a sense of place is defined by unique historical legacies, ideas, feelings, and memories that establish a setting for the human imagination. This digital photographic mural featuring over 75 photos invite the viewer to journey with Surrey through its various manifestations as it searches for identity, direction, and ultimately, a sense of place.

UNTIL JAN 31

Salmon People

Julie Andreyev and Simon Lysander Overstall's **Salmon People** considers the shared ecologies of humans and other animals through videos of the survivors of the salmon cycle of life, combined with videos of the Surrey landscape taken from the surrounding waters of the Fraser River. The salmon shown in the project swam for three to four years, making a counter-clockwise circular migration around the northern Pacific Ocean. They returned to the mouth of the Fraser River and travelled 40 to 90 miles a day to their spawning grounds.

Immerse yourself in a salmon world through this video-sound installation. Nonhuman, human, recorded, and synthesized sounds make up the sonic field that suggests a strange yet familiar land-sea-scape.

Production Team: Julie Andreyev (concept and editing), Simon Lysander Overstall (custom software and sound design), Paolo Pennutti in collaboration with Elisa Ferrari (salmon cinematography), Jonathan Nunes (Surrey cinematography)

Salmon People was made possible through the GRAND AD-NODE Project Fund, Emily Carr University of Art + Design.

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 www.surrey.ca/urbanscreen for more information.

UrbanScreen's equipment renewal was made possible by the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage / Government of Canada and the City of Surrey.



PHOTO: JASON MORENO

Julie Andreyev and Simon Lysander Overstall's Salmon People (2015), courtesy of the artists.

PHOTO: DAYNA DANGER



Sonny Assu's Emanating Dialogue (2015), courtesy of the artist and Equinox Gallery.

FEB 11–MAY 8

Sonny Assu

Recently relocated to South Surrey, Sonny Assu will create a new site-specific work for UrbanScreen related to his longhouse and chilkat series, which investigates his theories of abstracting abstraction. Recognizing art from the Northwest Coast is a form of abstraction that inspired artists from the Surreal and Cubist movements, he witnesses this gaze and influence by making work in response.

Assu merges the aesthetics of Northwest Coast iconography with a pop art sensibility in an effort to address contemporary, political, and ideological issues. His work often focuses on Indigenous issues and rights, consumerism, branding, new technologies, and the ways in which the past has come to inform contemporary ideas and identities. Within this, his work deals with the loss of language, loss of cultural resources, and the effects of colonization upon the Indigenous people of North America.

Related Events

THU, MAR 10 | 6:45PM

Triple Screening of Youth Digital Art Projects

Starting at 6:45pm, Chuck Bailey skate park youth and youth participants in the gym programs will present new videos they have made.

Join the youth artists to celebrate their accomplishments! Refreshments will be served.

At 7:15pm, these two screenings will be followed by youth from Surrey-based Baobab Inclusive Empowerment Society premiering their digital art project developed with mentoring artists during a partnership project with the Surrey Art Gallery.

The production and presentation phases of this project are funded by the Vancouver Foundation, BC Arts Council's Youth Engagement Program, and Canada Council for the Arts' Artists and Community Collaboration Program. Partnerships include Surrey Art Gallery Association, Baobab Inclusive Empowerment Society, Surrey Libraries, and Simon Fraser University Surrey Continuing Studies.



The Boy Dare Dreams of Tomorrow by Tracie Stewart.



Yellow Vibration by Bill Stewart.



THU, JAN 7 | 7:30–9PM

**Thursday Artist Talk:
Tracie Stewart, “Science
and Magic Inspire
Great Art”**

Science and technology may take the magic out of art for some, but for Tracie Stewart, these fields inspire great leaps of the imagination in her creative practice. As an artist for the environment, Tracie’s work is informed by nature, Zen philosophy, and the magical rainforest of the Pacific Northwest.

SAT, JAN 16 | 6:30–9:30PM

**Artist Tour & Opening
Reception**

Begin the New Year with a party where you’ll be introduced to an engaging pair of unusual and truly animated childhood friends in Graeme Patterson’s **Secret Citadel**. Art, snacks, DJ beats, and interesting people are on the menu. Join the artist for a guided tour at 6:30pm before the reception starts at 7:30pm.

THU, FEB 4 | 7:30–9PM

**Thursday Artist Talk:
Bill Stewart, “Art Sculpture
from Trees and Rock”**

Gardening and reforestation work have inspired this Abbotsford artist to use trees and their roots as an art medium. Learn what goes into the years-long process of finishing a piece, including manipulating a tree’s roots and using both fire and water.

FRI, FEB 5 | 8–11PM

inFlux—Open Studio

This special edition of inFlux invites you to get creative at this evening of performances and interactive art activities with local makers and artisans. Come with friends or make some new ones as you hang out in the studio together.

FRI, FEB 19 | 9:30AM–1:30PM

**Teacher Pro-D Day
Workshop**

Create art and gain valuable teaching tools when you join us for your next Pro-D Day! Take part in a hands-on workshop introducing classroom-friendly activities and a guided tour of the current exhibitions focusing on strategies to help students understand and respond to contemporary art. To register, call 604.501.5566.

SAT, FEB 20 | 3–4:30PM

**Panel Discussion:
Responding to
Secret Citadel**

Join author Lee Henderson, multimedia artist Marina Roy, and writer Dr. Jerald Zaslove as they explore major themes in the exhibition **Secret Citadel**, including dream, memory, allegory, boyhood, friendship, and the use of animation in contemporary art. The panel will be moderated by Gallery Curator Jordan Strom.

Call to Artists for ARTS 2016

Arts Council of Surrey invites submissions for ARTS 2016, an annual juried art exhibition taking place at the Surrey Art Gallery June 25 to August 27.

Download the call and entry form from www.surrey.ca/artgallery (see Opportunities). Submission deadline for entry forms: May 25, 4pm

Questions? Contact Arts Council of Surrey at 604.594.2700 or info@artscouncilofsurrey.ca.



Group Tours for Newcomers

The Surrey Art Gallery hosts a workshop and tour program for newcomer groups designed to provide a welcoming introduction to the Gallery and Surrey Arts Centre. You can find out more about the program and how to book a group tour on our website.

February

EVENTS



Contemporary Art Gallery in downtown Vancouver.

WED, FEB 24 | 9AM–3PM

Contemporary Art Bus Tour

Discover new art and make new friends! Gather at the Gallery for an orientation over coffee before you head to Vancouver for an exclusive tour of leading contemporary art galleries with Director Liane Davison and Jordan Strom. Check the Events section of our website for more details and to register.

March



WED, MAR 2 | 7:30–9PM

Exhibition Tour

Explore the fascinating worlds of Graeme Patterson's large-scale sculptures containing detailed miniature scenes in an exhibition tour of **Secret Citadel**. Jordan Strom, Curator of Exhibitions and Collections, will provide behind-the-scenes stories about the artworks in the exhibition, and how they relate to the artist's earlier work and to the art of his contemporaries.



Rose by Laura Wee Láy Láy.

THU, MAR 3 | 7:30–9PM

Thursday Artist Talk:

Laura Wee Láy Láy, "Geometry of Space"

Ceramic artist Laura Wee Láy Láy sees her practice of working with clay as not only taking from, but giving back to the earth a personal expression that deeply connects her with nature. She'll show examples of her unique hand-built pots made without glazes or a potter's wheel.



SUN, MAR 13 | NOON–4PM

Family Sunday

Drop in to explore, enjoy, and create art together. Engage in family-friendly activities that respond to the winter exhibitions, including hands-on art-making workshops in a range of mediums, an art explorer game in the Gallery, and an interactive performance in the Studio Theatre.

FIGHT THE WINTER BLUES BY TAPPING INTO YOUR CREATIVE SIDE!

Our art classes are for all ages and skill levels. This is the season to stay inside and take up that pottery or watercolour class you've been meaning to try. We've got week-long spring break camps for kids, too!

PRESCHOOL



Art Explosion
Sat, Jan 23, 3:30pm
[6] 4435572
Instructor: Claire Cilliers

Mud Buddies
Sun, Jan 24, 3pm
[6] 4455337
Instructor:
Noelle Horrocks

CHILDREN

**School's Out
Art Adventure**
Fri, Feb 19, 9am
[1] 4435587
Instructor: Lay Lyn

Art Express
Tue, Jan 19, 5pm
[8] 4435575
Instructor: Claire Cilliers
Sat, Jan 23, 10:30am
[6] 4435573
Sat, Jan 32, 1pm
[6] 4435574

Cartooning & Comics
Thu, Jan 21, 5:45pm
[8] 4435578
Instructor: Sarah Leigh

Cartoons & Animation
Thu, Jan 21, 4pm
[8] 4435579
Instructor: Sarah Leigh

Coloured Pencil Pro
Sun, Jan 24, 12:30pm
[6] 4435581

Creative Clay
Sat, Jan 23, 3pm
[6] 4435580

Drawing Techniques
Tue, Jan 19, 7pm
[8] 4435583
Sat, Jan 23, 10:30am
[6] 4435582
Instructor: Claire Cilliers

Mixed Media Sculpture
Fri, Feb 19, 4:30pm
[4] 4435671
Instructor:
Noelle Horrocks

Preteen Art Extreme
Sat, Jan 23, 1pm
[6] 4435586
Instructor: Claire Cilliers

Watercolour Painting
Tue, Jan 19, 4:45pm
[6] 4435589
Instructor:
Nicoletta Baumeister

HOW TO READ CLASSES

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

INFORMATION

& REGISTRATION
604.501.5100
www.surrey.ca/register



HOME SCHOOL

Art & Inspiration
Tue, Jan 19, 1:15pm
[4] 4435686
Instructor: April Davis

Mediums & Masters
Tue, Feb 16, 1:15pm
[4] 4435676
Instructor: April Davis

SPRING BREAK CAMPS

**Mon–Fri, Mar 14–18
Clay Days (ages 6–9)**
9am–3pm [5] 4435639

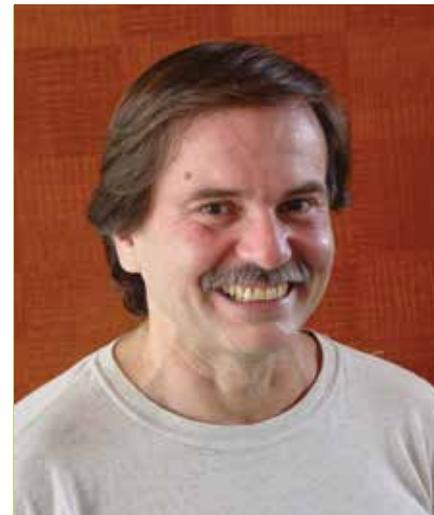
**The Art of the Theatre
(ages 8–12)**
9am–3pm [5] 4435691

Pottery Camp (ages 12–17)
1–4pm [5] 4435652
Instructor: Murray Sanders

**Mon–Thu, Mar 21–24
Animals in Art (ages 6–9)**
9am–3pm [4] 4435638

**Preteen Art Extreme
(ages 10–13)**
9am–3pm [4] 4435641

**BYTE Camp—2D Video
Game Design (ages 11–14)**
9am–3pm [4] 4455335
Instructor: BYTE Camp staff



INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Murray Sanders

Murray has been a full-time potter for over 25 years and has taught children, youth, and adult pottery courses at the Surrey Art Gallery since 1992. He holds a Fine Arts diploma and a diploma in Adult Education. Murray creates mostly functional work—bowls, teapots, mugs—and enjoys exploring the relationship between form, design, and surface decoration. This winter, he will be teaching a selection of adult and youth pottery courses and camps.



FEATURED CLASS

Youth Pottery**Course**

Sat, Jan 23, 2:30pm [6] 4435585

Camp

Mon–Fri, Mar 14–18, 1–4pm [5] 4435652

Instructor: Murray Sanders

Learn how to create mugs, vases, and bowls in clay using the potter's wheel and hand-building techniques. You'll be able to express your own personal style by exploring glazing and other decorative flourishes. Surrey Art Gallery instructors are practicing artists and experienced art educators.

NEXT SPREAD

Kids collaborate on a massive chalk mural of their neighbourhood at a Family Sunday.

YOUTH

Art of the Graphic Novel & Manga

Thu, Jan 21, 7:30pm

[8] 4435577

Instructor: Sarah Leigh

Focus on Drawing

Wed, Jan 21, 5pm

[8] 4435584

Instructor: Luc Charchuk

Youth Pottery

Sat, Jan 23, 2:30pm

[6] 4435585

Instructor: Murray Sanders

ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS

Coloured Pencil for Absolute Beginners

Wed, Feb 17, 7pm

[4] 4435667

Drawing for**Absolute Beginners**

Wed, Jan 20, 7pm

[4] 4435658

Instructor: Luc Charchuk

Mixed Media Collage for Absolute Beginners

Sun, Feb 14, 12:30pm

[4] 4435657

Instructor: Noelle Horrocks

Mixed Media Sculpture for Absolute Beginners

Fri, Feb 19, 6:30pm

[4] 4435672

Instructor: Noelle Horrocks

Pottery for Absolute Beginners

Tue, Feb 2, 7pm

[6] 4435637

Instructor: Murray Sanders

Soft Pastels for Absolute Beginners

Sun, Feb 14, 2:30pm

[4] 44356

ADULT

Contemporary Art Bus Tour

Wed, Feb 24, 9am

[1] 4455336

Guide: Jordan Strom

Painting—**Landscapes in Oil**

Thu, Jan 21, 7pm

[8] 4435673

Instructor: Inoka Manori

Palette Knife Painting

Wed, Jan 20, 7pm

[8] 4435815

Instructor: Ali Sepahi

Continuing Pottery

Wed, Jan 20, 7pm

[8] 4435591

Thu, Jan 21, 9:30am

[8] 4435592

Thu, Jan 21, 7pm

[8] 4435593

Instructor:

Murray Sanders

Pottery—Registered Open Studio

Sat, Jan 23, 10am

[8] 4435611

Non-instructional time

Pysanky—Ukrainian Easter Eggs

Sat, Mar 19, 12pm

[1] 4435642

Instructor:

Amber Kostuchenko

Watercolour: Expressions in Transparency

Tue, Jan 19, 6:45pm

[6] 4435590

Instructor:

Nicoletta Baumeister



A One-Stop Shop
for your Heart's Content!

NOW YOU HAVE EVEN MORE REASONS TO VISIT US.

When you come here to take in an exhibition or event, you can shop for that special one-of-a-kind item for yourself or someone else! The Surrey Art Gallery Association's beautiful Gift Shop is located in the upper floor of the Surrey Arts Centre. The Gift Shop has a long tradition of showcasing work from local artists and crafters. Currently, more than 40 artists and artisans are represented from the Lower Mainland and Gulf Islands. Some of the pieces available include drawings and paintings, ceramics, glass works, jewellery, art cards, wood carving, fibre art, and small sculptures.

Items for sale in the shop are predominantly handcrafted artwork rotated seasonally so that there is always something new to see. SAGA member Barbie Warwick runs the shop with a group of dedicated volunteers. Most of them are artists who have their own work displayed inside. Artwork currently available includes Bob Gonzales's wood turning and carving, Gunilla Kay's glass works, Gabriella Kardosi's ceramics, Karen Bosanac's pewter jewellery, Eileen Fong's watercolour paintings, and Deanna Welters's fibre art.

The Gift Shop is open Tuesday from 10am to 2pm, and Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 12 to 4pm. The shop is also open during Theatre performances at the Surrey Arts Centre.

To find out more about the Surrey Art Gallery Association, visit www.surreyartgalleryassociation.org

RIGHT *Say something special with these handmade cards by various artists.*

BELOW *Tea for two? Drink in style with this elegant set by Gallery ceramics instructor Murray Sanders.*



ABOVE *These cat sculptures by Margo Harrison are purrfect on the floor, shelf, or anywhere else you want to display your feline love.*

LEFT *This decorative vase and plate by Bob Gonzales will look great in any home.*

SURREY ART GALLERY IS A PLACE FOR EVERYONE—INCLUDING CHILDREN.

Since its opening in 1975, the Gallery has made a commitment to engage with children through school programs, exhibits, and events like Family Sundays. If kids are introduced to art at a young age, we believe this can lead to life-long learning.

Surrey has the largest school district in BC, made of up incredibly diverse populations. Our school programs aim to give students an understanding of and excitement about contemporary art, no matter their background. Programs involve an exhibition tour led by a docent (tour guide) to inspire critical, creative, and reflective thinking, followed by art-making workshops.

We incorporate diverse ways of learning into our programs, but the sense of touch is especially important as everyone can learn concretely with their hands. That's why we often use clay—you don't have to have fine motor skills and it bridges gaps in languages, cultures, and learning styles. On tours, our docents ask inquiry-based questions to help students move beyond the "like it/ don't like it" response and stimulate deeper engagement with contemporary art.

Our Family Sundays provide opportunities for parents and children to explore exhibitions, meet artists, and make art together. More important than what they make is how they make it. We emphasize process over product in our children's programs because it encourages an attitude of open-minded inquiry, exploration, and creative response that can be applied to any of life's challenges.

Ingrid Kolt led our award-winning education programs for the majority of the Gallery's history. She was hired in 1978 as Coordinator of Events and Volunteers and recently retired as Curator, Education



and Public Programs. Ingrid's early work involved initiating and sustaining the docent training program, the Gallery's school programs, and in organizing artist talks, symposia, workshops, and other outreach events.

Ingrid Kolt with a young artist.

Her experience with children set the Gallery apart in its use of inquiry-led tours, rather than didactic tours, and in its decision to work with children interactively and to formally recognize them as artists. One of her achievements in the 1980s was creating a mini gallery that celebrated art by children and showed parents and teachers the critical role that art-making plays in child development.

She has a passion for helping educators teach art, which resulted in Pro-D day workshops for teachers and portable "art education kits" introducing Surrey schools to ceramic artist Sally Michener and contemporary First Nations artists such as George Littlechild and Doreen Jensen. As a leader, visionary, teacher, and learner, Ingrid played an invaluable role at the Gallery and will be greatly missed.



A girl and her mother have fun with clay at a Family Sunday.

We asked Ingrid some parting questions before her retirement.

What is the ethos behind the programs?

IK: The spirit underlying our programs is about learning together through art. Everyone who enters our doors is invited to learn—public and staff alike. When I started, I did a lot of thinking about the gallery and our communities—who do we want to connect with? How do we make it a safe and enjoyable place for people who have never been to an art gallery or seen contemporary art? You have to provide a certain level of comfort before you challenge someone with deeply looking at or making art. Contemporary art poses important questions about what it means to be human in today's world. Our programs invite visitors to reflect on these questions with us in constructive and meaningful ways.

What's your favourite part about working with kids?

IK: I love witnessing their absolute absorption in making or looking at artwork—it happens with adults too. I am lucky to have been in the Gallery long enough to have heard people say, "This experience changed my life." I won't forget a Grade 6 boy who came on a school tour and clearly wasn't impressed to be at an art gallery. He came bursting out of the art studio as I was going in and said, "I didn't know art could be all this!" It's our hope that the Gallery will inspire people of all ages to embrace art as an exciting and enriching part of their lives.



Sculptural art captivates students on a school tour with a docent.

Are you a people person who's passionate about art? Do you enjoy learning new things? Join our dynamic team of volunteers to enrich visitors' experiences of contemporary art and your own as well!

Here are the programs you can participate in.

Docents (Tour Guides)

Explore contemporary art and lead compelling, interactive exhibition tours for school and community groups.

Gallery Event Volunteers

Are you a people person? Special Event volunteers help at exhibition openings, artist talks, Family Sundays, and other events.



A youth docent leads an exhibition tour in the Gallery.

Youth Docent Program

Discover contemporary art and ideas, develop public speaking skills, and gain leadership experience. Join our Youth Docents—enhance exhibitions through activities that are equal parts fun and educational. Opportunities to inspire and be inspired abound.

Children's Art Program Assistants

Share your passion for art with eager young minds! Volunteer at our art day camps or classes where you'll get to lead games, organize studios, and assist the artists.

Interested? Applications are being accepted now. Get in touch with our Volunteer Program Coordinator, Chris Dawson-Murphy, at artsvolunteer@surrey.ca



A Children's Art Program Assistant helps a young artist with her creation.

Youth and Young Adult Art Advisory Committees

Join in and share your voice. The Surrey Art Gallery is currently seeking youth and young adults to help direct upcoming projects, programs, and events. This is a unique opportunity where you can partner with Gallery staff to design the type of art activities you envision. This opportunity is open to youth and young adults ages 15–30. Come enjoy some pizza, meet new friends, and make a difference in your community.

Contact our Youth Engagement Agent, Edward Westerhuis, at artsyouth@surrey.ca

Volunteer Spotlight: Ev Zaklan (Docent)

EV ZAKLAN IS A LONG-TIME SURREY RESIDENT WITH DEEP ROOTS IN THE COMMUNITY WORKING AS AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER.

She resides on the family farm, the Zaklan Heritage Farm, where she lives with her husband George. Ev has been supporting school programs as a docent (tour educator) at the Surrey Art Gallery for seventeen years. We asked her a few questions about what it's like to volunteer here.

PHOTO: GLEN CHUA



Ev Zaklan stands in front of Mother Tongue by Debbie Westergaard Tuepah in Views from the Southbank III: Information, Objects, Mappings on display last fall.

I want to do that when I retire!

—EV ZAKLAN

What drew you to the docent program?

EZ: When I was teaching, I always brought my kindergarten kids to the Surrey Art Gallery. Marjorie (a docent) really impressed me. She was so great with the children and I thought, I want to do that when I retire!

What has kept you in the program for so long?

EZ: There is always something new and exciting happening. You're meeting artists and getting to spend time with the other docents, who are diverse but have similar ideas. My art knowledge has improved immensely. There is the social aspect as well—I've made a lot of friendships.

What's your favourite thing about being a docent?

EZ: Doing a tour and seeing the art inspire the children, like when a little one says, "Wow, this is the best field trip I've ever been on!" The comments kids make about art are so interesting. They really energize you. It's an inspiration to have a tour with kids.

How do visiting students benefit from this program?

EZ: They get exposed to art. I ask them what kind of art they make in school and they sometimes say, "We don't do art." I hope this program inspires teachers so that they try some new things in their classrooms.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

