



Alberta
Foundation
for the Arts



June 2026

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EDMONTON ART CLUB
edmontonartclub.com

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cover photo by rob guetre



Alyson Davies, our critic

ALYSON DAVIES is a visual artist based in Edmonton, Alberta (*amiskwaciwâskahikan, Treaty 6 Territory*). In the studio Davies studies moments of connection with nature intertwined with personal histories and autobiographic storytelling. Her multidisciplinary studio practice primarily focuses on painting, and ceramics but extends into printmaking, and textiles.

She holds a MFA from Emily Carr University of Art and Design and BFA from the University of Alberta. Her artwork has been shown across Canada and the United States.

adapted from <https://www.alysondavies.com/about>



SERAYA SMIT

This is a beautiful image with gorgeous buttery colours. There's a translucency in many of the transitions, and several smooth moments that transport the viewer through this scene. Suggesting down the highlights (strong blue against the yellow) as they seem a bit intense.



ELAINE TSURUDA

There's a 'wowness' to this acrylic and alcohol ink scene. The textures and dimensionality, through the pointillism technique are well done, and the 'two visual languages' work well together (land and sky). Beautiful colour palette.



ROB GUETRE

This floral done in oils is effectively rendered. There's a lovely sense of atmosphere. Perhaps it could use a few more high and low tones, with deeper tones in the background to ground it more.



KEITH NUNAS

This urban street scene has harmonious and velvety colours and values. The understated rendering of the human figures is effective as they don't distract. Perhaps the white reflections on some of the windows might be too prominent?



MARY FRANCES FITZGERALD

The colours work well together, even with the challenges of metallic paint which draws the eye. The sgraffito is alluring. Try for more collage elements to enhance the piece. The composition could be lightened a bit with less metallic paint.



GAIL FAREWELL

Nice atmospheric quality, confident brushwork and harmonious colours. Work on the sky to match the intensity of the reflections. Perhaps the clouds could be less globular?



JOHANNE SEPTOU

A very fun abstract with a mandala vibe. The metallic paint in all but the black and white is effective. A brush to make marks may be more effective than a pen which is hard to control on canvas. The movement is exciting, and it would be amazing to see a series of these.



MARIA HOLOWINSKY

A playful piece, well done with the variety of materials used. To finish, consider more collage / bubble wrap textures, etc in the background and edges. Confident brushstrokes on the gnome, continue that with a few highlights.



RICHARD ST AMANT

The fluid dynamic brushstrokes and colours bring this watercolour / acrylic landscape to life. Nice colour palette, but you may want to mix your own purples. Consider taking the next painting right to the edges of the canvas. Nice whimsical feel to this piece.



CASSANDRA CHENG

This watercolour works well with its harmonious palette. I like the sense of movement and spontaneity, especially in the water. Suggest enhancing the light / dark contrast.



BARB STACHOW

This chalk pastel / coloured pencil piece is beautifully done. The subtle rendering of the feathers shows confident skill. You might consider enhancing the delicate details here with a few more highlights. Perhaps there is too much background space and it could be cropped to focus more on the bird. .



MEHAR KAUR

This still-life (executed with a palette knife) has a strong confident composition. The yellow highlights work well amidst the layers or 'history' done with the darks. Perhaps there is a bit too much background. Suggest using a brush along with the knife to add more shadow tones.



RUTH BAILEY

This is a beautifully detailed image. Lovely subtle colour choices and an excellent colour choice for the background. Consider working a little more on the 'hairs' of the corn husks, and pushing back the shadows.



DEBRA LONG

This translucent poppy is a calming piece. There are beautiful shifts of light and dark, with the many tints and shades on the petals creating a velvety luminescence. Consider defining the edges of some petals to add even more depth. Very satisfying details / mastery of watercolours.



CHERYL JOHNSON

There is a moody ambience in this rainy day landscape. The trees, puddles and foliage are subtle and soothing. Suggest enhancing the contrast with in general and, in particular, brighter highlights in the puddles. Where is the light coming from? Could consider a series of these.



JANI GALARNEAU

This large epoxy sculpture and painting of a lemur stands out; it's life-like, whimsical and dramatic. The choice in the floral print is effective and works well with the foliage background. Could there be a little more 3-D dimension to the lemur's face?



JAMES TORDIFF

A gorgeous engraving, with an intriguing composition. There's a frenetic energy in the subject and its environment. Perhaps a little more hand-rendering of the texture. This would certainly be successful as a bigger piece.



DONNA CHAMBERLAND

This watercolour is well crafted; you show confidence in your brushwork. Watercolour is a challenging medium, and though the background colour choice is excellent, it might benefit from more textural strokes.



PENNY LAMNEK

A lovely fun piece. One is drawn to the 'ghosts' of some branches and there's good depth in the blues. While it is a harmonious composition, perhaps it is a bit heavy to one side; a thought for next time. The edges integrate with the branches effectively.



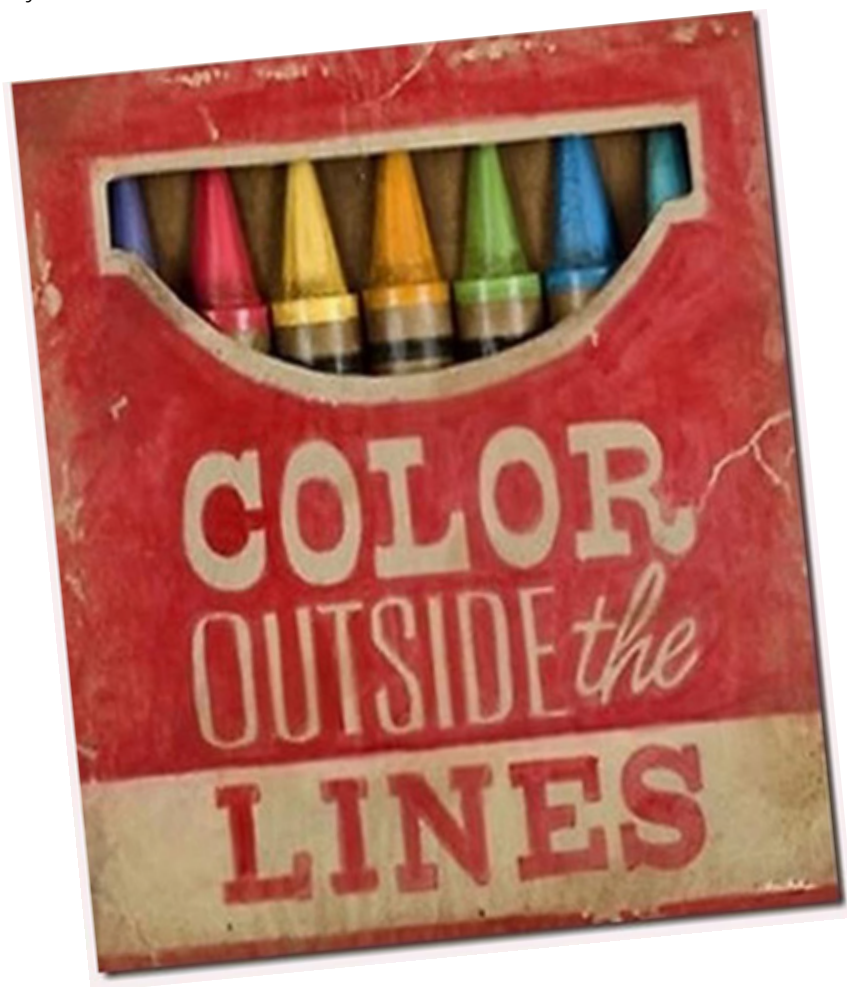
KEVIN BIGELOW

A fun piece with an "urban street art" feel. The viewer is drawn to the abstraction of the background; its texture and pattern. Consider bringing some of that abstraction into the fox, as well. The shadow of the fox could use a little more work.



June Critic

KAREN BISHOP

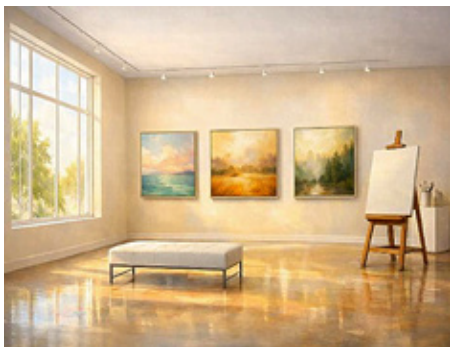


The Privilege of Being Seen: The Importance of Exhibiting Our Work

An overview and perspective

Where Our Work Meets the World

Authored by Seraya Smit



EXHIBITING ARTWORK is one of the most profound privileges we share as artists.

It is the moment when our private creative journeys step into the public sphere—when the quiet hours spent shaping colour, form, and intention finally meet the eyes and hearts of others.

For the Edmonton Art Club, this act of showing our work is more than tradition; it is a living expression of who we are as a community.

Each exhibition becomes a bridge between our members and the wider world, strengthening our presence within Alberta's vibrant arts landscape.

There is a quiet moment—just before an exhibition opens—when the gallery lights settle, the room stills, and our paintings seem to breathe on their own.

It is in this moment that the privilege of exhibiting becomes unmistakable.

To place our work on a wall is to offer a piece of our inner landscape to the world, trusting that someone will pause long enough to feel what we felt while creating it.

Showing our work in a respected space such as the Night of Artists (NOA) Gallery deepens that experience.

NOA is more than a venue; it is a

gathering place for creative voices across Alberta, a place where the hum of artistic energy is both familiar and aspirational.

To exhibit there is to step into a lineage of makers who have shaped the cultural rhythm of our province.

And yet, beyond the walls and the lighting and the anticipation, exhibiting together reminds us of something even more essential: that art is a communal act.

Each piece we hang becomes part of a larger constellation—individual visions forming a shared horizon.

In these moments, we are not solitary creators but contributors to a living, evolving narrative of Alberta's artistic spirit.

Our work stands beside the work of our peers, speaking in harmony and contrast, revealing the depth and diversity of our collective voice.

To exhibit is to step forward not only as individual artists, but as a community that believes in the power of creativity to shape culture, spark connection, and leave a meaningful imprint on the world around us.

The Threshold for New Members

For new members, this moment can be transformative. A first exhibition is a threshold—an affirmation that their work belongs not only to their studio walls but to the wider conversation of art in our community.

It is the beginning of being seen, of understanding that their creative voice carries weight and resonance.

Standing in a gallery for the first time, watching viewers lean in toward their work, they begin to recognize themselves as part of something larger than their own practice.

Exhibiting also invites new members into the rhythm of artistic life: deadlines, framing decisions, curatorial considerations, and the emotional vulnerability of public display.

These experiences shape confidence and deepen commitment, helping emerging artists find their footing within the Edmonton Art Club and the broader arts community.

As our members grow, so too does the audience that follows their creative evolution.

The Continuity of Seasoned Artists

For our seasoned members, exhibiting becomes a continuation of a long dialogue.

Each show marks another chapter in a life spent in pursuit of colour, form, and meaning.

Their presence steadies the room, offering continuity, mentorship, and the quiet assurance that the artistic path is one worth walking for decades.

They bring history, perspective, and a lived understanding of how exhibitions shape both the artist and the audience.

These artists also carry the legacy of the Club—its traditions, its evolution, and its enduring commitment to original work.

Their participation signals to the community that the Edmonton Art Club remains vibrant, relevant, and deeply rooted in Alberta's creative landscape.

For the art enthusiasts who return to our exhibitions year after year, this consistency matters. It builds trust.

It builds anticipation. It builds a sense of place—where the Edmonton Art Club is not simply

The Privilege of Being Seen: The Importance of Exhibiting Our Work

An overview and perspective

continued from previous page

a name but a recognizable thread woven through Alberta's artistic fabric.

Visitors come to know our members, follow their creative journeys, and look forward to the unfolding of new work.

In spaces like NOA, where the public encounters art in an environment designed for discovery, our exhibitions become touchpoints—moments where viewers reconnect with the emotional and imaginative worlds that art makes possible. These encounters enrich the cultural life of our city and strengthen the bond between artists and audience.

Our Standing in the Alberta Arts Community

Consistent exhibition presence—especially in respected galleries—reinforces our standing within the Alberta arts community.

It signals professionalism and a shared commitment to artistic excellence.

Each show becomes a testament to the Club's vitality, demonstrating that we are not only active but influential, contributing meaningfully to the cultural dialogue of our region.

This visibility opens doors: collaborations, invitations, partnerships, and opportunities that extend beyond any single exhibition. It positions the Edmonton Art Club as a cornerstone of Alberta's artistic identity, a place where creativity is nurtured, celebrated, and shared.

The Deeper Purpose of Exhibiting

Exhibiting is not merely an act of display; it is an act of connection. It reminds us that art is meant to be shared, that creativity gains strength when it meets the eyes and hearts of others.

Whether it is a new member standing before their first framed piece or a longtime member unveiling work shaped by years of exploration, each exhibition is a testament to the courage and generosity of showing up.

Stepping Forward Together

In every gallery, in every show, we reaffirm who we are: a community of artists committed to original work, to thoughtful expression, and to contributing to the cultural life of Alberta. Exhibiting is our way of stepping forward—together—into the light.

In every exhibition, we are reminded that art is not only what we create, but how we connect.

Seraya Smit, Artist, Curator, and Past President of the Edmonton Art Club

"It is my belief that we are the custodians of preserving and safeguarding the historical significance of the Edmonton Art Club."

Edmonton Art Club

Established in 1921 – Where Artists Belong

Join a Legacy of Creativity

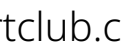
- Exhibit and sell your work in group and juried shows
- Receive monthly critiques from accredited art professionals
- Grow through workshops, mentorship, and annual scholarships
- Enjoy exclusive discounts at select art retailers
- Be featured on our internationally recognized website

More than a club – it's a community.

Whether you're emerging or established, we welcome your voice, your vision, your art.

The Orange Hub, Room 440
10045-156 Street NW, Edmonton AB T5P 2P7

Contact us today!



www.edmontonartclub.com



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CANADIAN OWNED ART SUPPLY BRANDS

ACRYLIC

Demco En Couleurs (Candiac, QC)
Kroma (Vancouver, BC)
Deserres in House Brand (QC)
Gwartzmann Acrylic (Toronto, ON)
Natural Earth Paint (Winnipeg, MB)
Opus House Brand (Vancouver, BC)
Tri-Art (Kingston, ON)

OIL

Kama Pigments (Montreal, QC)
Kama Pigments (Montreal, QC)
Natural Earth Paint (Winnipeg, MB)
Demco En Couleurs (Candiac, QC)
Opus House Brand -- mediums only (Vancouver, BC)

WATERCOLOUR / GOUACHE

BEAM Paints (M'Chigeeng First Nation, ON)
Stoneground Paint Co. (Regina, SK)
Humpbeck Studios (NS)
Natural Earth Paint (Winnipeg, MB)
Opus House Brand (Vancouver, BC)

DRAWING

Nitram Charcoal

MISCELLANEOUS

(canvases, paper, studio supplies, brushes)

Gotrick/Apollon (QC)

St. Armand (QC)

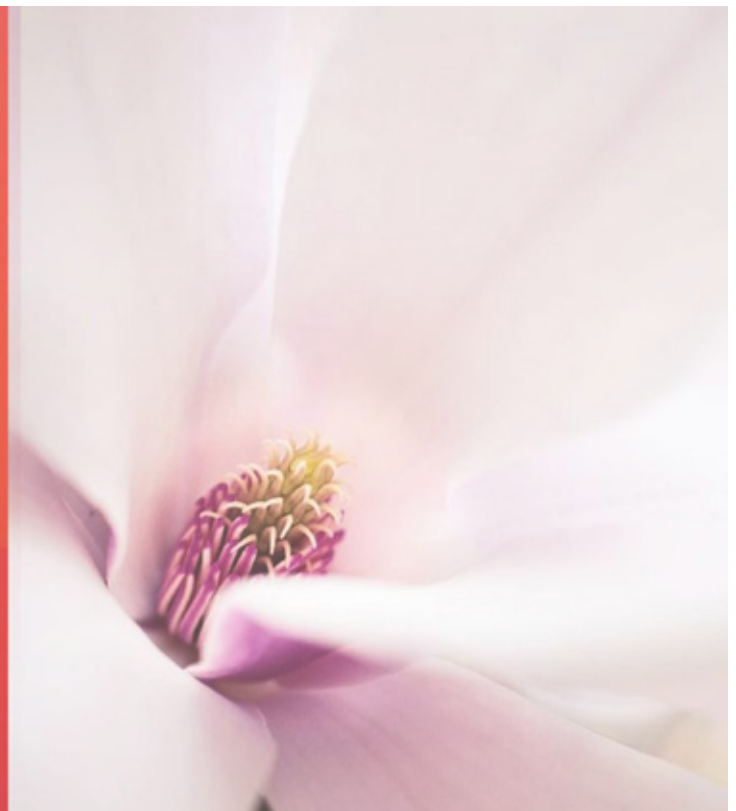
Lots of the paint brands mentioned
also manufacture paint accessories!

*note: some art retailers may source their in-house supplies from other countries. While these brands are Canadian owned, they may source paint from other countries.



ART SHOW

PROPAGANDA SALON
MAY 2026



PERSPECTIVE & COMPOSITION

M.Salayi

THERE ARE MANY CRUCIAL ELEMENTS that an artist should consider in any painting, and composition is one of the most important. Composition includes the viewing angle and perspective. Choosing a strong angle attracts the viewer into the depth of the painting and adds extra power to the subject.



Personally, I give a great deal of attention to this aspect. I always try to avoid flat, wide scenes, and instead strive to guide the viewer's eyes through the depth of the painting.

This is important no matter what medium you use, and it has always been recommended by the masters as a key to creating a masterpiece. A strong composition adds vitality and movement to a painting, allowing the viewer's



eyes to travel throughout the entire piece without losing the focal points. Most importantly, it creates a more engaging and enjoyable experience that keeps the viewer from getting bored.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING

Edmonton Art Club

Beyond the Frame

A Fine Art Exhibition

May 1 to August 28, 2026

presented at Misericordia Hospital
16940 87 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T5R 4H5



The Art of Possibility

Presented in a 12 x 12 Format

June 6 - July 2, 2026

presented at Night of Artists
8330 82 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T6C 0Y6



www.edmontonartclub.com

www.nightofartists.com



 President Jani Galarneau The President of the Edmonton Art Club plays a pivotal role, offering insight and guidance to both the executive board and various committees. As the primary public liaison, they represent the club's interests and values in the broader community. The President is instrumental in shaping the club's strategic direction, often spearheading new projects that drive the club's vision forward.	 Past President Seraya Smit Provides insight and guidance to the executive and other committees. Serves on committees as required. Has a working knowledge of all events, exhibits, initiatives. Is an ex officio member of all committees. Responds to the needs, inquiries, and various issues related to the executive and committee volunteers and facilitates ongoing communication to ensure the well-being and sustained operation of each committee.	 Treasurer Penny Lamnek Provides insight and guidance to the executive and other committees. Supervises the preparation of budgets, financial statements and related reports, ensuring that the Executive Committee receives the financial information necessary for sound decision making. Supports the establishment of key strategic initiatives.	 Recording Secretary Debra Long Provides insight and guidance to the executive committee on an as needed basis. This role is supportive rather than decision making. Records minutes at the monthly meetings and annual membership meetings. Additional support is provided for outbound communications for members, events, and initiatives of the organization.
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Meet Our Executive Team

Stay Informed: Where Can I Find Updates I Missed?

The Members-Only section of our website provides the most comprehensive archive of information, including documents, updates, and resources.

Our monthly newsletter delivers a curated summary of upcoming events, deadlines, and highlights directly to your inbox.

And for those who want to follow the formal record of our activities, the Minutes of Meeting offer a clear overview of decisions, discussions, and actions taken each month.

Together, these channels ensure that members never miss important updates and can stay connected with everything happening in the Edmonton Art Club.

AUTHORED BY SERAYA SMIT

COME FOR COFFEE STAY TO PAINT!

Edmonton Art Club Open Studio

YOU NEVER KNOW WHO WILL BE AT OPEN STUDIO

Meet artists, make new friends, learn from one another, and of course chat about art!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS ► *for the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month*

the next Open Studio is Tuesday, June 2nd, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

email Betty at marydean@telus.net for more information and location



Discover the art of drawing directly with oil using R&F Pigment Sticks® and the innovative R&F Drawing Oils™. The new R&F Drawing Oils offer a smooth, portable drawing experience with a harder formulation—less oil, more wax—providing a unique alternative to traditional oil pastels or crayons. Unlike these, oil paint sticks dry to form a permanent, protective oil film, eliminating the need for fixatives.

In this session, you'll see the immediacy, fluidity, and vibrant colour of these tools, perfect for both traditional and alternative oil painting methods. Led by R&F Core Artist Instructor, Megan MacDonald, will cover:

- The compatibility of Pigment Sticks® and Drawing Oils™ with various supports and tools
- Health and safety considerations
- Techniques for achieving stunning results

Through live demonstrations, Megan will highlight the similarities, differences, and benefits of these two product lines, showcasing their versatility for play, practice, and professional work.

About the Instructor:

Megan MacDonald is a multidisciplinary visual artist specializing in encaustic art. Her work is deeply inspired by natural forms, intuitive mark-making, and the transformative alchemy of natural elements. An award-winning artist, Megan's creations have been exhibited nationally and internationally and are held in private collections worldwide. She teaches and creates from her studio, The Crow's Nest Art Studio, on the West Coast of British Columbia, Canada.

Pigment Sticks & Drawing Oils

R&F

FREE ZOOM: Art Talk

Artist: Megan MacDonald

Wednesday June 17, 2026

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

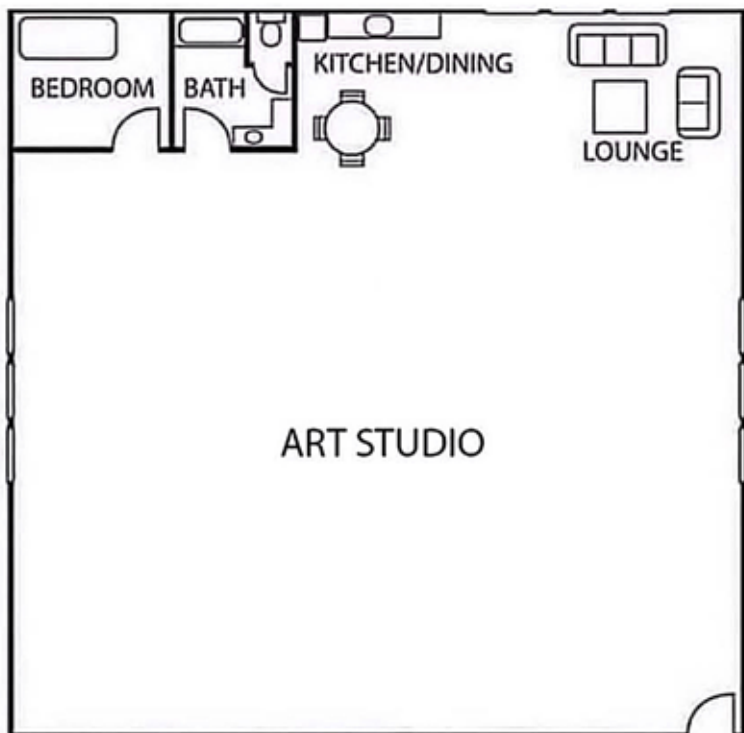
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Sharing your art will help inspire others!
When they see the art you create and your process, many will want to pursue their own creative/art journey.

It's amazing how one's creative actions can encourage others to create and make art!

Setting up for the Art Show at the Misericordia



Volunteers showed up to hang art works at the Misericordia Hospital on May 1st. The show (and sale!) continues to the end of August, lots of time to check it out!



Setting up the Propaganda Salon Art Show

Volunteers showed up to hang art at the Propaganda Salon early on the morning of May 3rd!

Show and Sale continued to the end of the month.



Creating Pathways for Artists



Alberta Community
Art Clubs Association

Did you know that the Edmonton Art Club is a member of Alberta's wider art community and is part of the Alberta Community Art Clubs Association?

The Alberta Community Art Clubs Association (ACACA) hosts three Regional Zone Shows (Northern, Central, and Southern) each spring. For 2026, the registration deadline for all entries was April 15, 2026.

The confirmed dates and locations for the 2026 ACACA Zone Shows include:

Northern Zone Show - June 4 – 6, 2026

Location: Hinton Municipal Library

Host: Hinton Art Club

Central & Southern Zone Shows

Dates & Locations: Spring dates vary depending on local community art clubs.

For confirmed regional venues and host conditions, check the full ACACA 2026 Zone Shows Schedule or review the updates in the ACACA Facebook Group.

Zone shows are followed by the **Alberta Wide Show**. The levels of entry (Youth, Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, Master, and Signature) are offered in each of the five art categories: Two-Dimensional, Sculpture, Digital Illustration, Digital Manipulation, and Fiber Art.

Each show has three adjudicators, and awards are given, followed by a group critique.

PERK: Any club that joins the ACACA is able to post advertisements or an article in our Newsletter, Facebook and Instagram.

Please check out our website:

<https://acaca.ab.ca/>

Feel free to contact the ACACA vice president at

maryfrances.fitzgerald@gmail.com
for further information.



ART CANADA INSTITUTE INSTITUT DE L'ART CANADIEN

A key mission of the Art Canada Institute is the creation of our open-access digital art library, the **Canadian Online Art Book Project**. The project is available in English and French and is free of charge. Recognizing that we live in a multi-platform world where readers seek content in different formats, there remains passionate support for printed books. In 2019, we created the Canadian Art Library that publishes four books annually. As well, numerous books are online, which you can download. Some of the artists are Robert Houle, Emily Carr, Lionel LeMoine FitzGerald, Jock Macdonald, Helen McNicoll, Molly Lamb Bobak, Betty Goodwin, and many more.

You can download these books for free.

<https://www.aci-iac.ca/art-books/>

The AFA believes in the full and equal participation of all citizens in the economy, polity, and society. The AFA manifests this belief through its policies and programs that promote inclusive citizenship in two distinct ways: in the arts and through the arts.

<https://www.affta.ab.ca/EDIA>

In the arts means encouraging a diversity of artists, arts



Alberta
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organizations, and audiences to participate through inclusive access to opportunities and resources in the arts sector

Through the arts refers to the use of art as a vehicle to help Albertans learn how to respond to differences in ways that enable dialogue, promote a sense of trust and belonging, and pave the way for innovation, vibrancy, and meaningful structural changes.

The objectives of the AFA's Pluralism Policy are to:

- Advance equity, diversity, inclusion, and access by committing to pluralism in the arts.
- Promote dialogue, understanding, AFA pluralism, and vibrancy by committing to a pluralist Alberta through the arts.
- Guide the implementation of the Pluralism Policy by the AFA.

See this short explainer video to learn more:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W60KcQ_gaYQ



"This painting will make you so famous that you won't be able to walk down the street without being recognized."

THANK YOU!

Thanks to Delta Art and Drafting Supplies, The Paint Spot, and the Strathcona Art Society for their ongoing support in helping to distribute the EAC newsletters! And thanks to the following businesses who give generous discounts to EAC members!



CARFAC
ALBERTA

CARFAC Alberta works to promote and advocate for the visual arts in Alberta and help Alberta artists become more professional in their practice.

It is funded provincially and municipally and provides a communications hub between members of the visual arts community and the general public.

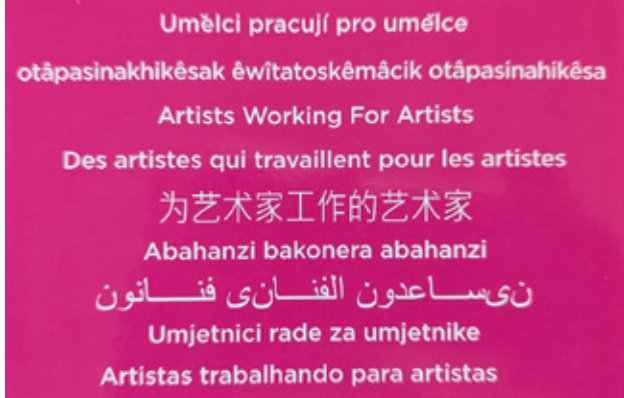
Visual Arts Alberta – CARFAC is the affiliate for the national arts organization Canadian Artists Representation/le front des artistes canadiens.

Member Benefits:

- Professional advice about best practices and rights of artists
- Advocacy on issues affecting the arts sector
- Information about intellectual property (copyright)
- Professional development opportunities
- And much more!

While we cannot speak all languages, it is our job to help all Alberta visual artists become more professional in their practice.

CARFAC Alberta Office & Project Space:
3rd Fl., 10215-112 St., Edmonton, AB



Hours: Wednesday to Friday, 10–4pm and Saturday 12–4pm
t 780.421.1731 tf 1.866.421.1731

carfacalberta.com

general@carfacalberta.com



We're grateful to the Alberta Foundation of the Arts for their continuing support.

As the primary arts resource and grant-funding body in Alberta, the Alberta Foundation for the Arts helps to unleash the potential of every artist through funding, arts promotion, and capacity-building. We provide behind-the-scenes support to artists and arts organizations, giving them the power to inspire minds, encourage expression, foster creativity, and contribute to Alberta's economy. From story time at local libraries to annual festivals on neighbourhood streets, the arts are active in your community. Albertans celebrate and support the arts as artists, volunteers, donors, and attendees at local arts events and activities. Experience, celebrate, and take pride in the arts—they're all around you!

Read more at afhta.ab.ca/home.