

WOODSTOCK ART GALLERY



COMMUNITY REPORT

2025



BIRD SET FREE & FLORENCE CARLYLE PARK

In November 2025, BIRD SET FREE, by Woodstock artists Duane and Urszula Kumala-Thomas, was installed in the Bruce Flowers Sculpture Garden. This project, which was funded by a Legacy Grant from the Government of Canada, commemorates the 100th anniversary of the death of Woodstock artist Florence Carlyle. The title, BIRD SET FREE, is derived from Carlyle's nickname, *Bird*. The Bruce Flowers Sculpture Garden is located at 174 Vansittart Ave, which was named Florence Carlyle Park in 2021.

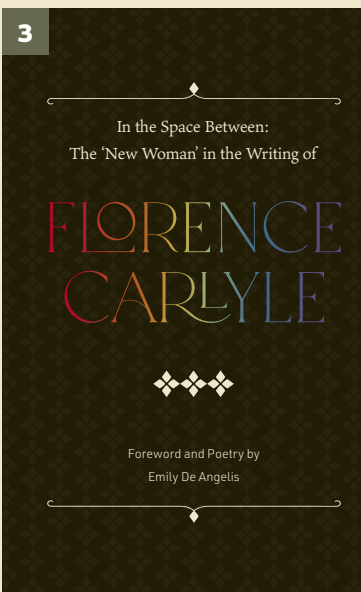
THE DIARY OF ELLA YOUMANS

An exciting collaboration between the Oxford County Archives and the Woodstock Art Gallery began when a local resident brought a diary to Oxford County Archives in hopes that staff could determine the object's history and decipher the text. Staff discovered that the diary belonged to Ella Youmans, the mother of Florence Carlyle. Upon the diary's formal donation to WAG's collection, staff at the Gallery and Archives worked to bring Youman's diary to life in a virtual exhibition which launched in May 2025 at ellayoumans.ca.



IN THE SPACE BETWEEN: THE 'NEW WOMAN' IN THE WRITING OF FLORENCE CARLYLE

In 2024, the Woodstock Art Gallery and poet Emily De Angelis published a small book exploring Florence Carlyle's lesser-known work as a writer. The book includes Carlyle's letters and published writing, illuminated by reproductions of her paintings and a foreword and poetry by Emily De Angelis. The publication of the book was celebrated through a preceding exhibition *The Ekphrasis of Florence: Poetry in Japanese Form Inspired by the Work of Florence Carlyle*, from July 15, 2023 – January 20, 2024, and the subsequent exhibition *In the Space Between* from September 14, 2024 – June 21, 2025, which both included Carlyle's work.



Woodstock Art Gallery: Guiding Principles

MANDATE

Serving our region through our **developing** public collections, exhibitions and education programs, we are a leading resource for **creativity**.

MISSION

As the region's only **public** art gallery, the Woodstock Art Gallery **fosters** the wellbeing of our community by preserving our local artistic heritage and **cultivating** new expressions and experiences of art.

VISION

The Woodstock Art Gallery will be **integral** to our community's **wellness** and **vibrancy** by broadening appreciation of visual art and celebrating our region's **diversity**.

CORE VALUES

At WAG, we believe in...

- **servicing** our whole community,
- **leading** through excellence,
- **inspiring** with creativity and innovation,
- **welcoming** and **engaging** everyone, and
- being **purpose-driven**, **change-ready** and **accountable** in all we do.



Land Acknowledgement

The Woodstock Art Gallery is situated on the traditional territories of the Indigenous Peoples and covered by the Upper Canada Treaties. We acknowledge the history of the traditional territory on which the Woodstock Art Gallery stands. We respect the longstanding relationships of the local Indigenous groups, the Haudenosaunee, Lenape, and Anishinaabek of this land and place in southwestern Ontario. We recognize the Indigenous communities in close proximity to the city of Woodstock: Chippewas of The Thames First Nation; Oneida Nation of The Thames; Munsee-Delaware Nation; Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation; and Six Nations of The Grand (which consists of Mohawk, Cayuga, Seneca, Onondaga, Oneida and Tuscarora Nations).



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Commitment To Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Accessibility



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The Woodstock Art Gallery (WAG), in its five-year Strategic Plan 2021–2026, is committed to prioritizing equity, diversity, inclusivity, and access through all operations by proactively and respectfully engaging and collaborating with a wide array of partners, audiences, Board members, volunteers, and program participants. The WAG acknowledges the complex and deeply embedded systemic barriers that continue to exist and recognizes our responsibility to deliver inclusive and accessible exhibition and education programming, while building and caring for a collection that reflects all facets of our community. The WAG strives to celebrate people of all backgrounds across age, ethnicity, race, colour, culture, language, mental health, disability, learning style, religion, faith, socio-economic status, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity, as well as differences in experiences, ideas, thoughts, values, and beliefs. In line with the Gallery's vision of serving our whole community, the WAG is dedicated to being honest and transparent about where we are in our EDIA journey and encourages feedback to further our commitment. The Woodstock Art Gallery will continue to actively examine, learn, and work towards meaningful and lasting transformation.

Message

From the Advisory Board Chair and Director/Curator

As we reflect on an incredible year at Woodstock Art Gallery, we begin by expressing our heartfelt gratitude to Mary Reid, our outgoing Director/Curator, for her remarkable tenure and unwavering dedication. Mary's leadership has left an indelible mark on the Gallery, shaping its vision and fostering impactful work that continues to resonate throughout our community. We thank her for her passion and commitment to advancing the arts in Woodstock.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to Stephanie Porter, who stepped in as Interim Director/Curator at an integral time. Her steady leadership, professionalism, and care ensured continuity and stability during a period of transition. Stephanie's commitment to the Gallery and its mission have been invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for her contributions.

In August, I was thrilled to join this dynamic team and vibrant city as the new Director/Curator. It is an honour to work alongside such talented colleagues and an engaged community to build on the Gallery's strong foundation. Together, we are committed to creating inclusive, inspiring, and innovative experiences for all who walk through our doors.

This past year has been a testament to the strength and creativity of our team. The Culture Department participated in the Oxford County Career Expo 2025, joining over 150 organizations to promote opportunities to more than 5,000 students and community members. In the spring, we launched Certified Sensory Support Kits from Autism Canada, proudly funded by the Oxford Community Foundation, during National AccessAbility Week. This initiative removes barriers and reduces stressors so that visitors, especially Neurodivergent individuals, can experience the Gallery in the most accessible and inclusive way possible.

We also celebrated the 10th anniversary of Taste of Art, our signature fundraiser, welcoming over 120 guests for an evening of food, drinks, and entertainment. In addition, the Gallery was thrilled to receive the Elizabeth L. Gordon Acquisition Grant toward the purchase of *Borders* by Shelley Niro for our Permanent Collection.

These achievements reflect the dedication and collaborative spirit of our staff, volunteers, and community partners. As we look ahead, we remain committed to fostering creativity, accessibility, and connection through art.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us. We invite you to continue engaging with the Gallery as we shape an exciting future together.



Angie Poirier,
Chair, Advisory Board

Alexandra Hartstone,
Director/Curator

2025 Highlights & Milestones



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FEBRUARY:

This year the Woodstock Art Gallery celebrated **Family Day** by welcoming over 230 attendees to an Open Studio Drop-in and a Family Storytime generously provided by the Woodstock Public Library. Healthy snacks sponsored by CAS.



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MARCH:

Oxford County Career Expo 2025 – Culture Department, along with over 150 other organizations, promoted opportunities to 5,000+ students and community members.



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APRIL:

The Education Department introduced **Offsite School Programs**, visiting schools across the County, to alleviate the rising cost of transportation and support accessibility.

MAY:

Certified Sensory Support Kits from Autism Canada (proudly funded by Oxford Community Foundation) were launched for public use during National AccessAbility Week, May 25-31. This initiative aims to remove barriers and diminish stressors so that visitors, specifically Neurodivergent individuals, can experience the Gallery in the most accessible, inclusive, and accommodating way possible.



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JUNE:

Collections Committee approves new **Collection Mandate and Priorities**.

The **2025 Friends of the Woodstock Art Gallery Legacy Scholarship** was awarded to Finn McCallum.

JULY:
The Gallery hosted an intimate **Opening Reception & Artist Talk** for Lyn Carter's exhibition, *The Pinks*.



AUGUST:
The Woodstock Art Gallery welcomes **Alexandra Hartstone as the new Director/Curator**.

SEPTEMBER:



Annual **Taste of Art Fundraiser** – WAG celebrated the 10-year anniversary of the Gallery's signature fundraiser, Taste of Art, welcoming over 120 guests to an evening of food, drinks, and entertainment. Sponsored by Maglin Site Furniture, Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada, and Stag Shop.

Danielle Hoevenaars, Head of Collections, presents Permanent Collection works *Nanabush and the Thunderbird Family* by Mel Madahbee and *Spiritual Visions* by Norval Morrisseau at Oxford County Council in acknowledgement of the **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**.

OCTOBER:

Doors Open Woodstock 2025 – highlighted the building's history and offered exclusive tours of the vault space to the community.

Team Building Event – the Culture Department staff got their hands dirty at The Kiln Room and Transitions Encompassing Wellness' Ponies & Pottery class.

The Gallery hosted an intimate **Opening Reception & Artist Talk** for Jaquie Poole's exhibition, *Jaquie Poole: Present in the Moment*.



NOVEMBER:

The Gallery recognized outgoing Advisory Board member Carol McWilliam and awarded the 2025 Outstanding Volunteer Award to Aaron Dawson at the annual **Donor & Volunteer Appreciation Event**.

Fall Open House – Exhibiting Artists Aidan Urquhart, Lyn Carter, Reva Stone, and Diana Thorneycroft gave Artist Talks on their opening exhibitions

WAG awarded **Elizabeth L. Gordon Acquisition Grant** towards the purchase of *Borders* by Shelley Niro for the Permanent Collection.



2025 Exhibitions



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DR. LEONARD REEVES PERMANENT COLLECTION GALLERY

- *Betty McArthur: Present in the Moment*,
Curator: Danielle Hoevenaars,
September 14th, 2024 – July 5th, 2025
- *Jaquie Poole: Present in the Moment*,
Curator: Danielle Hoevenaars,
July 26th, 2025 – January 24th, 2026

1ST FLOOR LOBBY

- *Alice Amelia Innes*,
Exhibition Coordinator: Hollie Stoneman,
September 14th, 2024 – January 25th, 2025
- *John Harvey: Recent Acquisitions*,
Curator: Danielle Hoevenaars,
February 15th, 2025 – April 5th, 2025
- *Carl Beam: Selections from the Columbus Suite*,
Curator: Danielle Hoevenaars,
April 22nd – October 11th, 2025
- *Shelley Niro: Borders*,
Curator: Danielle Hoevenaars,
September 20, 2025 - January 24, 2026

MAIN GALLERY

- *Grand National Fibre Art Exhibition: Delights*,
October 12, 2024 – January 25, 2025
- *Gathering Fictions: A Dialogue on Painting*,
Curator: Anik Glaude,
February 15, 2025 – June 22, 2025
- *Visual Elements 67: Annual Juried Exhibition*,
Jurors: Nicholas Crombach, Michel Daigneault,
Matthew Ryan Smith, Exhibition Coordinator:
Lily Lebinger,
July 12, 2025 – October 11, 2025
- *Together Apart | Under One Roof*,
Curator: Denise Lawson and Angela Somerset,
November 1, 2025 – March 7, 2026

COMMUNITY GALLERY

- *Kodansha Manga Gallery*,
courtesy of Kodansha Advanced Media,
October 12, 2024 – April 5, 2025
- *Natural Connections: Student Photography
Exhibition*, Curator: Deanna Logan,
April 22, 2025 – June 21, 2025,
sponsored by DJ Design
- *Oxford County Archives: Celebration*,
175+ years, July 12, 2025 – March 7, 2026

2ND FLOOR WINDOW VITRINES

- *Tri-County Wood Carvers*,
October 12, 2024 – May 27, 2025
- *Friends of the Woodstock Art Gallery Legacy Scholarship*, June 29, 2025 – August 2, 2025
- *Aidan Urquhart: Taking a Walk*,
Exhibition Coordinator: Lily Lebinger,
August 12, 2025 – January 24, 2026

VIRTUAL EXHIBITIONS

- *The Diary of Ella Youmans*,
organized by Woodstock Art Gallery
and Oxford County Archives,
launched May 2025, ellayoumans.ca

*“I’m happy to support
our excellent art gallery!”*

HELEN MCKENZIE,
WAG MEMBER



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MARK ROTHKO (1903-1970)
 Untitled (Yellow and Red), 1950
 Oil on canvas
 100 1/2 x 60 1/2 in. (256.8 x 153.3 cm)
 The Rothko Foundation, New York, NY

2025 Collection

FEATURED 2025 ACQUISITION

Betty McArthur, Canadian (b. 1923)
Still Life (with Brown Jug)
1960
oil on masonite
91.5cm x 61cm
Framed: 115cm x 85cm x 7cm
Gift of Jaquie Poole

The Woodstock Art Gallery cares for a large collection of works by notable Woodstock artist Betty McArthur (1923-1994).

In 2025, WAG acquired two key works by McArthur's that speak to significant moments in her career. Both were included in a retrospective of McArthur's work that was on display from September 2024 – July 2025.

Still Life (with Brown Jug), sometimes titled *Abstract Still Life*, was first exhibited in 1960 with the *Canadian Group of Painters* in their annual exhibition which travelled to Vancouver, BC and London, ON. In 1961, McArthur exhibited another work with the Royal Canadian Academy (RCA). Both exhibitions were significant achievements, and the acquisition of *Still Life (with Brown Jug)*, commemorates this key period of growth in McArthur's early career.

Betty McArthur (1923-1994) moved to Woodstock in 1957. During her career, McArthur exhibited regularly in the region and taught art from her home and studio, at the WAG and at multiple regional schools.

ACQUISITIONS

Works on Paper (Prints, Drawings, Photographs):

- Mel Madahbee, Canadian
Nanabush and the Thunderbird Family
1981
Acrylic on rag paper
40.64 cm x 50.80 cm
2025.001.001
Gift of Ed Bernacki

"Very nice modern regional gallery. Excellent facilities. Knowledgeable staff. Interesting exhibits."

ANTHONY BARANYI, GOOGLE REVIEW

- Devona Paquette, Canadian, 1930-1993
Green's Grocery
1990
watercolour on paper
74.00 cm x 87.00 cm
2025.004.001
Gift of Karen Leroux, in memory of Gerald A. Jenkins

- Devona Paquette, Canadian, 1930-1993
Brick Barn
1987
watercolour on paper
61.00 cm x 74.00 cm
2025.004.002
Gift of Karen Leroux, in memory of Gerald A. Jenkins



Paintings:

- Betty McArthur, Canadian, 1923 - 1994
Betty
1961
oil on board
57.00 cm x 46.50 cm
2025.003.001
Gift of Jaquie Poole
- Betty McArthur, Canadian, 1923 - 1994
Still Life (with Brown Jug)
1960
oil on masonite
91.50 cm x 61.00 cm
2025.003.002
Gift of Jaquie Poole

Works Borrowed

- On loan from Rob and Mim O'Dowda
September 12, 2024 – July 5, 2025
Betty McArthur: Present in the Moment
Jock Macdonald, Canadian, 1897 – 1960
Caprice
1958
oil on canvas laid on board
40.00 cm x 50.00 cm

Works Lent

- **Wrightwood 659**, Chicago IL
May 2 – August 2 2025
The First Homosexuals
Florence Carlyle, Canadian, 1864–1923
High Noon
1916
oil on canvas
99.40 cm x 81.80 cm
1993.001.001
**Purchased with Funds from the
Volunteer Committee and the
City of Woodstock**



“We are very happy to support the excellent programming of the Gallery.”

**RON SHUEBROOK AND
FRAN GALLAGHER,
WAG DONORS**

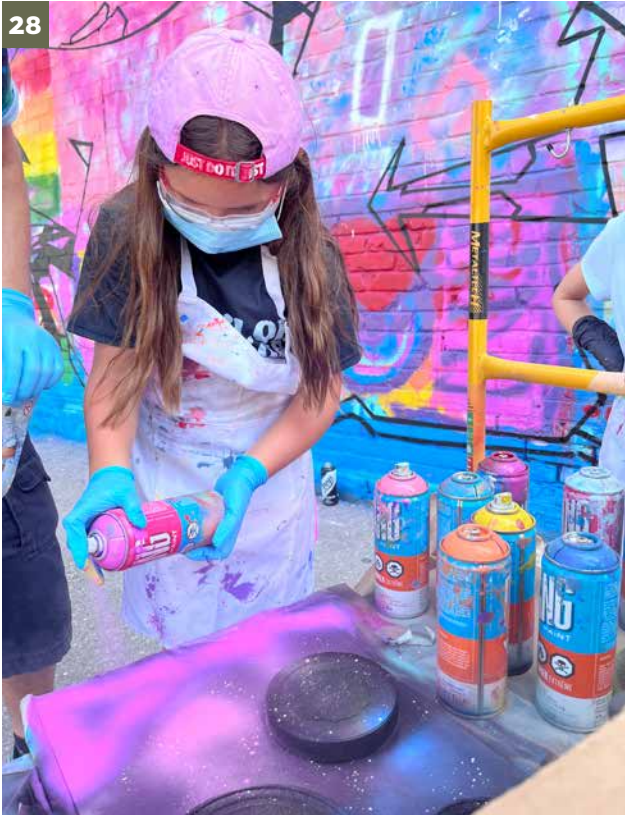




PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Children:

- **March Break Art Camp** – Students examined the importance of conservation practices with City of Woodstock’s Parks and Forestry experts and explored photography with our partners at **Focus on Nature**. The young artists’ photos were displayed in the Community Gallery for *Natural Connections: Student Photography Exhibition*, April 22 – June 11.
- **Birthday Party Program** – Back by popular demand, this program invites guests to explore the exhibits, find inspiration, and create a hands-on art project.
- **Creative PA Day Program** – This program includes art-making activities and lessons, guided gallery tours, and outdoor play.
- **Start with Art** – Preschool aged children and their caregivers explore a variety of artistic fundamentals, techniques, materials, and mindful creative practice.
- **After School Program – Juniors & Seniors** – This program includes guided gallery tours and art lessons, and self-guided activities. Designed to provide time and space for interactive creativity and social engagement.
- **Mini Makers** – This preschool program introduces young artists to a variety of fundamentals, techniques, tools, and materials through mindful artistic practices and collaborative projects. Students learn colour theory, the elements of art, observational skills, art appreciation, and other foundational art concepts through age-appropriate, hands-on, formal art lessons, and guided gallery tours.
- **Little Picassos Art & Swim Camp** – In this partnership program with Recreation Woodstock, summer campers enjoy swimming, field trips, and visit the Gallery to discover a variety of artistic fundamentals, techniques, media, tools, and materials and explore current exhibitions.
- **Nature Art Camp** – Students at this summer camp explored a variety of ecosystems at our local parks and trails, learned about climate change, examined the importance of conservation practices with the City of Woodstock’s Parks and Forestry experts, and appreciated the deeply interconnected relationship between art and nature. Young artists experimented with found objects and non-traditional media, created collaborative outdoor art, and developed a curated portfolio of original nature-themed artwork.



• **Graffiti Art Camp** – Students at this summer camp discovered graffiti techniques, non-traditional tools and equipment with guidance from guest artist Chris Seaton. Young artists collaboratively designed a professional graffiti mural on the back exterior wall of the Woodstock Art Gallery!

• **Culture Camp** – This two-in-one summer Culture Camp provided a full week of fun and inspiring projects, field trips, and collaborative activities! Students discovered the world of science through hands-on experiments at the Woodstock Museum and experienced the power of art through mindful creative practices at the Woodstock Art Gallery. Campers spent the morning at the Woodstock Art Gallery and the afternoon at the Woodstock Museum.

Teens/Adults:

• **Student Volunteer Program** – High School students develop and build employable skills and earn the 40 hours required to graduate while assisting with public programs and community events.

- **Post Impressionist Acrylic Painting** – Through a series of exercises, students experienced a variety of post-impressionism techniques that defined the style of Vincent van Gogh with instructor Lindsay Liboiron.
- **Watercolours: Bold + Free** – Students explored the possibilities of imagination and imagery discovered through watercolour painting. Students new to watercolour learned to understand its fluid qualities and vivid sensations with instructor Bob Phillips.
- **Mindful Mark Making** – Designed for anyone open and curious about exploring their creativity. This series of workshops encouraged students to develop or hone art fundamentals and self-expression through practice and process. Each month, different tools, materials, and techniques were explored.
- **Introduction to Acrylic Painting** – In this workshop, instructor Lindsay Liboiron introduced students to acrylic paint through a series of fundamental exercises, techniques, and styles.
- **Just for Teens – Drawing the Unseen (High Contrast Drawing Class)** – Students dissected a drawing layer by layer, exploring how various objects and materials fold, drape, and convey mass. Instructor Mercedes Schuster taught students about bulk and how to examine the hidden mass beneath fabrics and plastics.

Family/All Ages:

• **Family Day Open Studio** – This free drop-in program is accessible for everyone and is part of the 3rd annual City of Woodstock (COW) Family Day event. Families participated in a self-directed art project and a Family Storytime with the Woodstock Public Library. Supported by the Children’s Aid Society of Oxford County, COW Transit, and COW Special Events.

“Thanks so much for having our class out to the Art Gallery at the beginning of October! We had a fantastic time and learned so much during our watercolour painting workshop.”

MME. JOHNSON’S GRADE 1 CLASS,
ROCH CARRIER FIS

- **Open Studio Drop-in** – These free drop-in programs are accessible to everyone. All activities are self-directed and relate to current exhibitions or works from the Permanent Collection.

School Programs

- **Education Co-op Program** – High School students develop employable skills and gain experience assisting the Education Department with research, development, and program delivery.
- **Professional Development Workshops** – Fanshawe College - Woodstock/Oxford Regional Campus 2nd year Early Childhood Education students participate in role-playing assignments and situational learning in an annual professional development workshop. Students from the Fanshawe College - School Within a College participate in a guided gallery tour, behind the scenes vault tour, and a hands-on art activity in the studio in an annual workshop.
- **Friends of the Woodstock Art Gallery Legacy Scholarship** – Each year a local high school graduate student is awarded \$1,000.00 to pursue post-secondary arts education. This year’s recipient, Finn McCallum of Thamesford, is a graduating student from H.B. Beal Secondary School, accepted into Western University’s BFA Studio Art program.
- **High School Portfolio Day** – High School Portfolio Day provides an opportunity for local high school students to network with and gain insight into the practices and current issues of arts professionals in the cultural industry.
- **Teacher Appreciation Night** – In collaboration with the Woodstock Museum NHS, local teachers were invited to learn about school programs, partnerships, classes, and events offered throughout the school year. Teachers entered a draw to win a free school program for their classroom!
- **Offsite, Onsite and Combo School Programs** – The Woodstock Art Gallery offers hands-on, experiential school programs for JK–Grade 12. Designed to enhance communication, critical thinking, and creativity through cross-curricular and interdisciplinary learning.

Onsite (at the WAG) school programs include a guided tour of current exhibitions and an art activity.

In collaboration with the City of Woodstock Transit Department, one school per month can receive **free transportation** for a day of gallery programs. This initiative offers safe, accessible transportation for schools unable to fund travel and fosters awareness and appreciation for local public transit.

Offsite (in school) programs include a guided presentation highlighting works from our Permanent Collection and a hands-on art lesson.

Combo school programs are available in partnership with the Woodstock Museum NHS and provide teachers with a full-day experience, allowing them to visit each location.

“Thank you so much for continuing to mentor co-op students. They have learned so much from this experience. We really appreciate all that you do.”

ARIA MARANO,
WOODSTOCK COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE
CO-OP TEACHER





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ONSITE EVENTS

Winter Open House – February 17, 2025

- Walk & Talk with exhibiting artists Janet Jones and Michel Daigneault, *Gathering Fictions: A Dialogue on Painting*
- Exhibition Talk with Danielle Hoevenaars, *Florence Carlyle: In the Space Between*
- Carving demonstrations with the Tri-County Carvers Club

Student Open House – June 18, 2025

- Exhibition Talk with Stephanie Porter, *Natural Connections: Student Photography Exhibition*
- Scholarship Award announcement with Juror HollyJo and Councilor Connie Lauder, Friends of the Woodstock Art Gallery Legacy Scholarship

Lyn Carter Reception and Artist Talk – July 26, 2025

- Opening reception with exhibiting artist Lyn Carter, *Lyn Carter: The Pinks*

Visual Elements 67 Walk & Talk – September 6, 2025

- Award announcement and Q & A with Danielle Hoevenaars and Jurors Matthew Ryan Smith and Nicholas Crombach, *Visual Elements 67: Annual Juried Exhibition*

Discover Downtown Woodstock: Hospitality Hop – September 16, 2025

- Hospitality Industry workers stopped by the WAG and other downtown businesses to learn more about what Downtown Woodstock has to offer
- Hosted by Tourism Oxford in partnership with The City of Woodstock

“Thank you to [WAG] for hosting an absolutely amazing event! [Taste of Art] is truly one of Woodstock’s top notch events to sample the best culinary around!!”

CHRIS WEITZEL
VIA FACEBOOK

Taste of Art: 10th Anniversary – September 20, 2025

- 10th Anniversary of WAG's signature annual fundraiser, sponsored by Maglin Site Furniture, Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada, and Stag Shop
- Raised over \$1,800 for the Shelley Niro Art Acquisition Fund through the Silent Auction
- Attendees collaborated to create a community art project, *Taste of Art 2025 Community Art Project*
- Entertainment - 180 Drinks, Cheesy Cow Company, Chris Seafood, Ingersoll Pipe Band, Jack Redman Music, Petals 2 Posh, The Wright Stuff
- Vendors - Anderson Craft Ales, Black Gold Brewery, Charles Dickens Pub, Crafty Corner Tea Room, Fair/Square, Finkle St. Dining, Habitual Chocolate, K&H Meats, MyKitchen, Reel treats Popcorn & Sweets, Rose and Daffodil Bakery, Spring Mill Distillery: John Sleeman & Sons, Streets Ahead Coffee Roasters, Tempo Restaurant, Two Guys and A Whisk, Upper Thames Brewing Co.

Doors Open Woodstock 2025 – October 4, 2025

- Various sites across Woodstock opened their doors for the public to learn more about their history
- WAG offered exclusive tours of the vault space, led by Stephanie Porter, and showed a slideshow highlighting the history of the John White Building
- Hosted by the Woodstock Museum N.H.S. and the Heritage Advisory Committee, in partnership with the Ontario Heritage Trust



Jaquie Poole Reception and Artist Talk – October 25, 2025

- Opening reception with exhibiting artist Jaquie Poole, *Jaquie Poole: Present in the Moment*

Fall Open House – November 1, 2025

- Open Studio Drop-in program
- Exhibition introduction with Councilor Connie Lauder, *Jaquie Poole: Present in the Moment*
- Artist Talk with exhibiting artist Aidan Urquhart, *Aidan Urquhart: Taking a Walk*
- Artist Talk with exhibiting artist Lynn Carter, *Lyn Carter: The Pinks*
- Artist Talk with exhibiting artists Reva Stone and Diana Thorneycroft, *Together Apart | Under One Roof: Aganetha Dyck, Reva Stone, Diana Thorneycroft*

Donor & Volunteer Appreciation Event – November 24, 2025

- Celebrated WAG's 2024 Donors, Volunteers, and Sponsors, catered by MyKitchen
- Exhibition Tour with Danielle Hoevenaars, *Together Apart | Under One Roof: Aganetha Dyck, Reva Stone, Diana Thorneycroft*
- Recognized outgoing Advisory Board Member Carol McWilliam
- Award announcement with Alexandra Hartstone, Outstanding Volunteer Award 2025, Aaron Dawson

OFFSITE EVENTS

Rec & Leisure Fair – March 2, 2025

- Community gathered to learn more about the wide variety of clubs, sports, and activities available in Woodstock, hosted by the Woodstock Recreation Advisory Committee

“Oh what fun at [the] 10th Anniversary of Taste of Art at [the] Woodstock Art Gallery last night. Sooo many wonderful people, such amazing food & drink. Too many to list!!! See you again next year!”

CRAFTY CORNER TEA ROOM
VIA FACEBOOK

**Oxford County Career Expo 2025 –
March 27, 2025**

- WAG and 150+ businesses and organizations came together to share their volunteer and career opportunities with students and community members seeking work, hosted by Community Employment Services Oxford

Oxford Pride Family Day – June 14, 2025

- Celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the Oxford Pride Family Day event, hosted by the Oxford County Pride Committee
- WAG Education Department invited attendees to contribute to a collaborative community art project



Summer Streetfest – July 18-19, 2025

- Annual two-day event in Downtown Woodstock featuring live entertainment, food, shopping, and family-friendly activities, hosted by Woodstock BIA and Woodstock Downtown Development
- WAG summer Artist-in-Residence Chris Seaton offered live graffiti painting demonstrations
- WAG organized the Artist Alley vendor market, featuring Chris Seaton, CrochetEra Etc., Jennifer Dawes Ceramics, and Roxanne Tochor

**Woodstock Public Library Teen Volunteer Fair –
September 27, 2025**

- Local organizations were invited to connect with High School students seeking volunteer opportunities, hosted by the Woodstock Public Library in partnership with Community Employment Services Oxford
- Keziah Hope represented the City of Woodstock Culture Department and Special Events Department, sharing information on the various opportunities within each department

Fall Fest – October 4, 2025

- City of Woodstock's newest family-friendly fall event, hosted by City of Woodstock Special Events
- WAG Education Department invited attendees to create festive buttons

Lighting of Museum Square – November 14, 2025

- Annual lighting of the lights in Woodstock's Museum Square, hosted by City of Woodstock Special Events
- WAG Education Department invited attendees to create festive key chains



WAG Team



VOLUNTEER COMMITTEES

Collections Committee:

- Aaron Dawson
- Catherine Elliot Shaw
- Jen Hamilton
- Madeline Lennon
- Brian Meehan
- Sarah E. Smith
- Leslie Sorochan

Taste of Art Committee:

- Sarah Acchione
- Lisa Brown
- Nabil Danha, Committee Consultant
- Aaron Dawson
- Kirsten Frankish
- Emina Kobajica
- Jennifer Seh-Taylor
- Mohan Singh

WAG ADVISORY BOARD

Executive:

- Angie Poirier, Chair
- Kirsten Frankish, Vice-Chair
- Brian Meehan, Treasurer (*until February 2025*)
- Aaron Dawson, Past-Chair

Members:

- Connie Lauder, City Council Representative
- Simon Brothers (*until September 2025*)
- Carol L. McWilliam

- Jennifer Seh-Taylor (*until October 2025*)
- Sarah E. Smith
- Magda Stroińska

STAFF

- Cathy Campbell – Front Desk Attendant
- Stephan Cam – Digital Projects Coordinator (*until May 2025*)
- Sara Cuthbert – Gallery Operations Coordinator
- Braeden Gruber – Installation Technician
- Alexandra Hartstone – Director/Curator (*started August 2025*)
- Danielle Hoevenaars – Head of Collections
- Kellen Hodgins – Facility Maintenance
- Keziah Hope – Facility Rentals & Special Events Coordinator
- Scott Knox – Custodian
- Dee Logan – Education Coordinator
- Stephanie Porter – Head of Education
- Mary Reid – Director/Curator (*until February 2025*)

Students:

Positions funded through Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs

- Elle Brown-Barnes, Summer Art Instructor (*June 30-August 29*)
- Lily Lebinger, Curatorial Assistant (*May 6-August 23*)
- Exie Towers, Summer Art Instructor (*June 30-August 29*)
- Thomas Vukovic, Front Desk Assistant (*May 6-August 23*)

Interns:

Positions funded through Young Canada Works Building Careers in Heritage

- Amelia Takacs, Curatorial and Collections Intern
(June 24, 2025 – March 31, 2026)

Art Instructors:

- Elle Brown-Barnes, Instructor, Public and School Programs (May 7-June 26)
- Lyn Carter, Instructor, High School Portfolio Day (October 24)
- Braeden Gruber, Instructor, High School Portfolio Day (October 24)
- Danielle Hoevenaars, Instructor, High School Portfolio Day (October 24)
- HollyJo, Juror and Instructor, Friends of the Woodstock Art Gallery Legacy Scholarship (March 17-June 18), Culture Camp (August 12), High School Portfolio Day (October 24)
- Lindsay Liboiron, Instructor, Post Impressionist Acrylic Painting (February 15), Public and Summer Programs (March 10-August 21), High School Portfolio Day (October 24)

- Trish Near, Instructor, High School Portfolio Day (October 24)
- Bob Phillips, Instructor, Watercolour: Bold + Free (October 1-November 19)
- Mercedes Schuster, Instructor, Just for Teens – Drawing the Unseen (October 11-25)
- Chris Seaton, Instructor, Graffiti Art Camp and Summer Streetfest (July 18-25)

Education Volunteers:

- Maddy McFalls, Co-op Student
- Samantha Pearson
- Ivey Szaefer
- Abinesha Vinothan
- Taylor Wilcox

Event Volunteers:

- James Ackford
- Deegan Barber
- Sarah Barber
- Joel Paluska
- Margaret Trapnell
- Tushar Tyagi
- Jadey Wheeler

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Thank You!

The Woodstock Art Gallery gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations who have generously contributed to the Gallery's ongoing operations over the last year.

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Giving Back

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- Northdale Public School – Annual Spring Fling
- Oxford County Pride – Family Day Market
- City of Woodstock – Annual Rec & Leisure Fair

To please make a donation,
visit www.woodstockartgallery.ca
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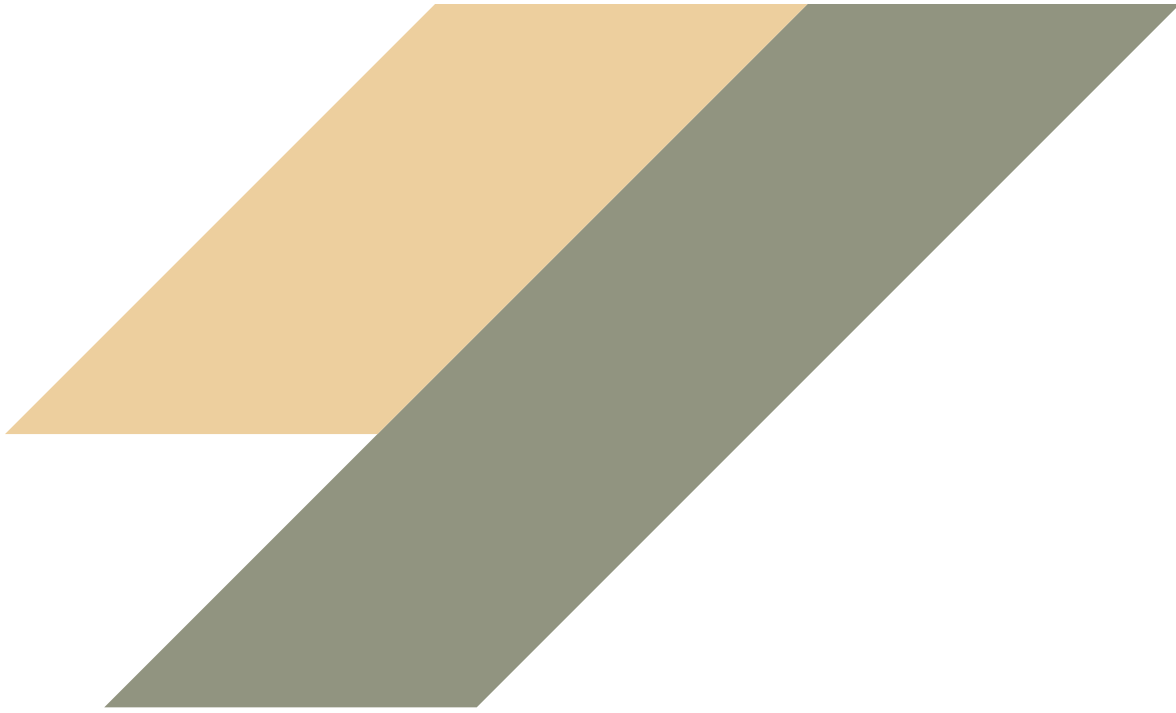
We welcome your comments on the
Woodstock Art Gallery's Annual Community Report.
waginfo@cityofwoodstock.ca

Designed by: Andrea De Boer, Design Pixie

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- 22** Installation of *Still Life (with Brown Jug)*, Photo Credit: WAG Staff
- 23** Devona Paquette, Canadian, 1930-1993, *Green's Grocery*, 1990, watercolour on paper, 74.00 cm x 87.00 cm, Gift of Karen Leroux, in memory of Gerald A. Jenkins, Woodstock Art Gallery Permanent Collection, Photo Credit: Braeden Gruber
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- 40** Culture Camp with guest Brian Egan, Fire Inspector, City of Woodstock Fire Department, Photo Credit: WAG Education Department



WOODSTOCK

ART GALLERY

📍 449 Dundas Street, Woodstock, Ontario
✉ P.O. Box 1539, Woodstock, Ontario, N4S 0A7
519.539.6761
waginfo@cityofwoodstock.ca
woodstockartgallery.ca



The Woodstock Art Gallery is a division of the
Department of Culture of the City of Woodstock.

