

Visual Arts Centre



School of Art . McClure Gallery

www.visualartscentre.ca
514-488-9558 info@visualartscentre.ca



Fall • 2021

Visual Arts Centre

Welcome to the Visual Arts Centre, a thriving cultural community of artists, teachers, and students. We've been part of Montreal's artistic fabric for 75 years! Our School of Art is Canada's largest bilingual independent art school. Our McClure Gallery offers exciting exhibitions, and educational programming. Our outreach program—ARTreach—reaches out into the community to creatively engage with the broader public.

Our Mandate:

To offer excellence and accessibility in the education and presentation of the visual arts. To provide a welcoming, inclusive, and stimulating environment that encourages the development of skill, creativity, and critical thinking in each student. To address the needs of the community through arts programming. To promote and advocate for the role and benefits of the visual arts in broader society. To employ art education as a means to support, enhance, and promote social justice efforts.

Our Administrative Team:

The administrative team at the Visual Arts Centre is composed of specialized members who are highly passionate about our cultural community. They work hard to offer a welcoming environment and ensure that your studio experiences are inspiring.

A Note from the Director:

Between September 2 and 15, we will celebrate the Visual Arts Centre's 75th anniversary! The celebrations will centre around the theme Clay Roots, which looks back at the VAC's beginnings as a women-run ceramics collective. The festivities will include the Clay Roots exhibition in the McClure Gallery, which will feature the artwork of McClure Gallery artists and Visual Arts Centre teachers; the launch of Victoria LeBlanc's Clay Roots publication, which explores this history of the VAC; an online auction of the artworks in the Clay Roots exhibition in the McClure Gallery, along with a number of works from artists in the wider community; and a temporary mural by contemporary artist Shelley Miller, made out of sugar! Additionally, starting September 2nd, the first 75 people who donate \$75 or more to the VAC will have their names added to our new beautiful ceramic leaf installation in the Victoria Ave. entrance stairwell.

Aligning with our ceramic-oriented theme, in October, the McClure Gallery will host the 4th Virginia McClure Ceramic Biennale, curated by contemporary artist Amélie Proulx. Entitled XYZ, this exhibition will explore the use of digital technologies in contemporary ceramics. Amélie has invited five remarkable artists who employ digital tools to enhance, expand, and reinvent analogue practices. We are proud to be collaborating with Concordia University, Centre Materia, and the Maison des métiers d'art de Québec on an elaborate online symposium. Additionally, the exhibition will travel to Centre Materia in the new year.

Importantly, the fall will mark the return to in-person fall courses at the Centre. As long as government regulations permit, we will have the greatest number of in-person offerings since the beginning of the pandemic. To continue to reach a wider audience, we will continue to have a selection of online courses.

There is a lot to celebrate and we are looking forward to doing so with you this fall!



Natasha S. Reid, Executive Director

Photo: Jean-Sébastien Senécal



Administrative Staff:

Natasha S. Reid, Executive Director
Joanne Chase, Assistant Director
Cathy Ransom, Accounting
Claudia Gagnon, Registrar
Margarita Leal, Communications Technician
Barbara Wisnoski, Interim Gallery Co-ordinator
Renée Duval, Gallery Exhibitions Director
Kristy Boisvert, Interim Director, Fine Arts, Youth & Teens Departments
Élise Provencher, Director of the Ceramics Department
Tracy Grosvenor, Project Manager, School of Art, ARTreach
Lily Lanken, Head Ceramic Technician
Shenice Lafortune, Assistant Ceramic Technician
George Saldivar, Custodian
Liam Parish-Cusson, Assistant Custodian

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Raymond James
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Tauben, Irwin
Winn, Christopher
Zeller Family Foundation
Zvagulis, Inta

Active members:

Grateful recognition to all our private donors and active community members.

New Safety Measures:

To keep our community safe while in the VAC's building, we closely follow the Quebec Government's guidelines regarding the pandemic. A complete list of the measures will be provided before the beginning of classes. Together, we will be able to make and experience art in a safe way at the Visual Arts Centre.

Thank you for your cooperation!



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Cover Photo: Matt Ayotte

Office Hours:

The office is closed to the public due to the covid-19 pandemic. Please call us 514-488-9558 or send an email to info@visualartscentre.ca
Monday to Friday, from 9 am to 4 pm

Gallery Hours:

Tuesday to Friday: 12 - 6 pm
Saturday: 12 - 5 pm
Visitors are encouraged to make an appointment before visiting the gallery. Email your request to galeriemcclure@visualartscentre.ca

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Vendôme Metro



24, 63, 104, 138



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Support the VAC during our 75th Anniversary!

Help Canada's largest bilingual independent art school in its 75th year.



Founded in 1946, the Visual Arts Centre began as the Potters' Club, a women-run, ceramic-focused art collective. 75 years later, the Visual Arts Centre is now the largest bilingual independent art school in Canada, with a renowned contemporary art gallery (the McClure Gallery) and a dynamic outreach education program for youth and adults in difficult social or economic situations.

With only 5% of our budget coming from government sources, fundraising is very important for the Visual Arts Centre. As a non-profit charity, the Visual Arts Centre relies on the generous support of foundations as well as corporate and individual donors.

This is especially important during the pandemic. Help us continue to be able to nurture artistic practices and creative communities for the next 75 years!

Your gift to the Visual Arts Centre will make a real difference in so many ways. It allows us to:

- Continue to offer a vibrant curriculum of in-person and online courses and workshops;
- Keep tuition for courses as low as possible;
- Continue to attract a dynamic team of talented and inspiring teachers;
- Sustain the McClure Gallery, a respected contemporary art venue with free programming;
- Organize free community outreach projects with vulnerable populations;
- Purchase equipment for pandemic-related hygiene and distancing measures and cover extra custodial hours;
- Responsibly maintain and upgrade our historic building.

Some great ways to support the Visual Arts Centre during our 75th anniversary:

Donations: Starting September 2nd, the first 75 people who donate at least \$75 will have the opportunity to have their names added to a ceramic leaf that will be included in a new installation in the Victoria Ave. entrance stairwell. Please consider supporting the Centre during its 75th anniversary by donating online at: [Visual Arts Centre - Support Us](#)

You can also call the Centre at: 514-488-9558. A tax receipt is issued upon receipt of your donation.
Charitable Registration Number: 106896244RR0001

Auction Tickets: To participate in the online auction, you will need to purchase a \$35 ticket through Bid Beacon. Find Bid Beacon in app stores, or open <https://app.bidbeacon.com/invite/#BKFHPL> in your browser, click on "Register with this auction!" After that, log into Bid Beacon with a Facebook account, Google account or email address. Click on "view tickets" and finally, click on "Purchase Tickets". The ticket functions as a donation to the Visual Arts Centre. For each \$35 ticket you purchase, you will receive a tax receipt for the full amount (Charitable Registration Number: 106896244RR0001).

Purchase Artwork: There will be over 150 incredible artworks available for sale during the *Clay Roots* Exhibition (September 2-15, with the auction occurring between the evening of September 9 and September 15). Depending on what the donating artist chooses, 50%, 75%, or 100% of the funds from the sale will go to the VAC. The remaining amount will go to the artist. Artwork purchases do not receive tax receipts.

Purchase the *Clay Roots* Book: Following the online interview with author Victoria LeBlanc on September 2nd at 6pm, this book on the history of the VAC will be available for sale in the McClure Gallery.

Thank you to all our contributors

The Visual Arts Centre would like to thank the following foundations, corporations, and individuals who offered their generous financial support to the Centre over the past year. We are most grateful for your donations and sponsorships.

Contributors July 2020 - June 2021

Aberman, Liliane
Aitken, Valerie
An, Jiwon
Anonymous
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Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
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Anonymous
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Shemie, Bonnie
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Vice, Karen
Vila, Olga
Vroom, Ann
Vroom, Christina
Wada, Margaret
Wallace, Ellen
Watters, Catherine
Webster, Patterson
West, Rebecca
Whitehouse, Fern
Winn, Christopher
Wyndowe-Hyde, Nancy
Yannow, Gillian
Yip-Hoi-Martin, Alysia
Zeller Family Foundation
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Photo: VAC

The Centre's McClure Gallery is an exhibition venue for professional artists, both established, and emerging. The gallery serves a strong educational function, encouraging public engagement with contemporary art. We feature monthly exhibitions and seminars and lectures on themes and issues relevant to the visual arts community, as well as, occasionally, exhibition catalogues. Through the McClure Gallery ART-reach programme, we offer free programming to diverse publics. The Centre gratefully acknowledges the support of the Conseil des arts de Montréal (CAM).

Director: Natasha S. Reid

Interim Gallery Co-ordinator: Barbara Wisnoski

Exhibitions Director: Renée Duval

Gallery Selection Committee members

2021-2022:

Theresa Passarello (Chair), Renée Duval, Victoria LeBlanc, Helena Martin Franco, Anna Jane McIntyre, Erik Nieminen, Grace Sebeh Byrne, Natasha S. Reid

Call for Exhibition Submissions:

The deadline for portfolio submissions is October 15, 2021. Contemporary artists of all media are invited to submit their dossiers.

For more information, please visit our website, call 514-488-9558, or e-mail us at:

galeriemcclure@visualartscentre.ca

Gallery Hours:

Tuesday to Friday: 12 - 6 pm

Saturday: 12 - 5 pm

Visitors are encouraged to make an appointment before their visit. Call 514-488-9558, or email us at:

galeriemcclure@visualartscentre.ca

Exhibitions and public programming 2021 -2022

75th Anniversary Exhibition and Online Auction

Exhibition: September 2 to 15

Clay Roots Book Launch - online interview with

Victoria LeBlanc: September 9 at 6pm

Auction: September 9 to 15

This year marks the VAC's 75th anniversary and the McClure Gallery will celebrate with an exhibition featuring artists who have participated in solo or curated group exhibitions at the McClure Gallery over the past 25 years, as well as artists who are past or current instructors within our School of Art. This is an amazing opportunity to see art in a wide range of mediums and styles, and purchase art at a reasonable price while supporting local artists and your Visual Arts Centre.

75th Anniversary Mural Installation by Shelley Miller

Mural installation: September 3 (or Sept. 4 if it rains)

Pop-up workshops (in-person): September 5 (12pm - 3pm) and 6 (12pm - 3pm)

Completion of mural: September 10 to 13

As part of the VAC's 75th anniversary activities, Montreal artist Shelley Miller will create a commemorative participatory mural on the exterior wall of the McClure Gallery...made out of piped icing sugar! Shelley Miller will also hold two hands-on workshops, where you can try piping sugar to create a design element that will be added to the mural.

Shelley's mural project is supported by **Conseil des arts de Montréal** and **Lantic Sugar Limited**.

4th Virginia McClure Ceramic Biennale • XYZ

Eliza Au (US), Emre Can (Turkey), Del Harrow (US),
Jeanne Quinn (US), Mat Karas (QC)
Guest Curator: Amélie Proulx (QC)
Exhibition: October 1 to 23

Virtual guided tour with curator: Sept. 30 at 5 pm
Art Hive (in-person) with Élise Provencher: Oct. 23,
10:30 am to 1 pm
Workshop (in-person) with Mat Karas: October 9,
11 am to 3 pm (\$60 registration required**)
Virtual symposium and artist presentations: online
throughout October

The 4th Virginia McClure Ceramic Biennale presents the work of five artists who use ceramics and new technologies in their practice, often appropriating these new ways of making to create new tools and processes. Digital tools now allow artists to conceive and make while being assisted by 3D scanners, 3D modelling software and diverse computer-aided fabrication processes. The works in this exhibition reveal the play between analogue and digital technologies and how these two languages inform each other in contemporary ceramics practices. This exhibition is supported by the the Canada Council for the Arts and the Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec.

Workshop
Introduction to Digital Fabrication and Ceramics
Oct. 9, 11 am to 3 pm Mat Karas

Ceramics is an ancient practice that has always held a close relationship to the cutting edge technology of an age. Digital fabrication techniques pose a new paradigm for the ceramic artist. In this workshop, students will be introduced to basic digital fabrication techniques for ceramics, using CAD programs, as well as basic handbuilding, casting and printing techniques.

\$60 + \$10 materials [** To register please click here.](#)

Jazz Keillor • Of Stuff (Gallery 1)

Exhibition: November 5 to 27
Virtual Guided tour: November 4 at 5 pm
Art Hive with Jazz Keillor (in-person): Nov. 27,
10:30 am to 1 pm

Objects harbour emotional histories and intimate meanings; everyday items and precious possessions have stories to tell that are deeply personal yet capable of reflecting the experiences of entire communities. In this exhibition, Jazz Keillor explores the societal and psychological underpinnings of physical objects and examines the ways in which we accumulate, use and ritualize "stuff" as we construct home and identity through acts of place-making.

Stella Pace • Collage et assemblage (Gallery 2)

Exhibition: November 5 to 27
Virtual Guided tour: November 4 at 5 pm
Workshop (in-person) with Stella Pace: Nov. 13,
11 am to 2 pm (\$50, registration required**)

The installations in Stella Pace's exhibition include sculpture, large-format drawings and mixed-media collage that play with figuration and abstraction. Each work is part of a continuum, more passionate than logical, more intuitive than reasoned, more improvised than programmed - the experience of a heartbreaking adventure where faith and despair, anguish and exaltation, desire and plea, are inextricably mixed.

Workshop
Collage Play: Figuration and Abstraction
Nov. 13, 11 am to 2 pm Stella Pace

Participants will be inspired by Stella Pace's gallery exhibition to create different collages using playful techniques in a free spirit.

\$50 [** To register please click here.](#)

Norma Morgan Lecture Series Cheryl Sim • The art of being of service to art

Online talk: November 18 at 6pm

During this talk, Cheryl Sim (Managing Director and Curator, Fondation Phi) will share her work as an artist and curator who has for over twenty-five years, been guided by a spirit of service. As a Canadian-born woman of colour, her journey has led her to encourage and nurture space for a multiplicity of voices in contemporary art. She will share key experiences that led her to define an everyday practice focused on a contribution to society through art.

Nikki Middlemiss • Elevate

Exhibition: December 3 to 24
Virtual Guided tour: December 2 at 5 pm
Art Hive with Nikki Middlemiss (in-person):
December 18, 10:30 am to 1 pm

An exploration of transformative states and time as defined through the repetition of a mark or gesture are unifying themes in Nikki Middlemiss' art practice. With these new drawings, she continues her use of layers and transparencies as she explores the inherent qualities of the tracing paper surface and the interactions of materials. Following the application of paint the paper warps as it dries, behaving much as skin does as it heals a wound. As the fragile, transparent support shrinks and abrades, the drawing elements coalesce into new form.

Art Hives

One per month in-person, with an online component. [Gallery McClure's Facebook Page.](#)

Come set your imagination free and experience the pleasure of artistic expression! These sessions, filled with relaxation and inspiration, encourage you to experiment and share your creativity. With each art hive, we will be inspired by the monthly exhibition in the McClure Gallery. Create with us in this community-oriented, fun, and artistic environment.



Photo: VAC

Director: Natasha S. Reid

School of Art ARTreach Project Manager: Tracy Grosvenor

McClure Gallery ARTreach Project Manager: Barbara Wisnoski, Interim Gallery Coordinator

ARTreach is the Visual Arts Centre's free community outreach programme. Through a variety of projects, we reach out to and creatively engage with different populations in the broader community. Our goal is to reach those who might not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in visual arts education. We have been actively involved in community outreach projects for over twenty years. We work collaboratively with other educational institutions, community organizations, independent artists, and social workers, lending our expertise to projects that embrace art as a means of community and individual well-being and social change.

This fall, we are planning to return to holding the monthly McClure Gallery Art Hive directly in the gallery. An Art Hive is a welcoming arts-based community space that encourages self-directed and group creative learning. Participants are encouraged to experiment and exchange their knowledge and skills. Community members are offered the opportunity to engage with mini themes that are linked to the exhibition in the gallery at the time.

FUNDING ARTREACH—YOU CAN HELP!

ARTreach projects are dependent on funding. As a non-profit registered charity, we seek funding each year from foundations, corporations, government agencies, as well as individual donors for specific ARTreach projects. In addition, we contribute ten percent of the Centre's fundraising revenues to ARTreach.

A GRATEFUL THANK YOU

We are deeply grateful to the many generous donors who have supported ARTreach. We extend a heartfelt thank you to an anonymous foundation for generously supporting the Intergenerational Art project.

School of Art



Photo: Matt Ayotte

Our School of Art

Our School of Art is the largest bilingual, independent art school in Canada and has been involved in the teaching of art for 75 years. We register almost 4000 students a year, of all ages and walks of life. Our students range from the absolute beginner to students wishing to develop a portfolio or professional artists returning to hone new skills. Classes are bilingual.

Our Philosophy and Curriculum

Our philosophy of teaching balances the development of technical skill with the encouragement of personal creativity. Admission to introductory courses is based on the interests of the student; no formal education is required. Small classes of 15 students or less allow for much individual attention. Our curriculum of approximately 325 courses annually includes most major disciplines in the visual arts, from introductory to advanced levels. Workshops by visiting artists and our own faculty enhance the programme throughout the year. As well, our McClure Gallery shares the school's educational mandate, offering regular lectures, artists' talks, and conferences on ideas and issues of interest to the arts community.

Our Community

As a cultural space, the Centre is renowned for its vibrant sense of community and engagement amongst students, artists, teachers, and staff. We offer you a warm, encouraging, and welcoming environment in which to develop and explore your personal creativity and pursue your artistic passions.

Portfolio Development and Mentorship

This program is designed to help you get the most out of your art practice at home. One of our teachers/artists will help you one-one-one, improve your skills, give you feedback on your current work or support you in the early stages of a new creative project. A one-hour session will be conducted via email, Zoom or another online platform, with content tailored to your interests and needs.

Open Studios at the VAC

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Visual Arts Centre has implemented new measures in order to keep students, teachers and staff as safe as possible in our building. For this reason, we are not able to offer the same open studio time to registered students. Please refer to each Department section for more information about open studios in your medium. Thank you in advance for your understanding.



Photo: Matt Ayotte

Faculty

The Visual Arts Centre has earned a stellar reputation for excellence in the quality of its teaching. Our faculty is chosen for the strength of their work as artists and for their training and experience in art education; they bring a wealth of creativity and expertise to the studio classroom.

Mérida Anderson	Shenice Lafortune
Claudia Baltazar	Kyung Sun Lim
Caroline Boileau	Francis Macchiagodena
Kristy Boisvert	Helena Martin Franco
Mylène Boisvert	Melanie Mathews
Guylaine Chevarie-Lessard	Konstantinos Meramveliotakis
Zoe Compton	Michael Merrill
Olaf de Winter	Lorna Mulligan
Philip Dutton	Stella Pace
Renée Duval	Julian Peters
Colleen Dwyer-Meloche	Élise Provencher
Karine Fournier	John-Elio Reitman
Annelise Gadoury	Danielle Shatz
Elisabeth Galante	Naghmeh Sharifi
Gianni Giuliano	Nathalie St-Pierre
Tracy Grosvenor	Noémie Sylvestre
Cynthia Hawkes	Hazel Thexton
Leona Heillig	Lorane Thibodeau
Jennifer Jones	Pat Walsh
Corina Kennedy	Robert Wiseman
Eva Lapka	Mei Zhi

Learn more about our teachers on our website!

Visit [TEACHERS VAC](#) to read their bios and see their artwork.



Photos: Jean-Sébastien Senécal

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Registration

The Centre will be offering both in person and online courses this fall. Please read the following procedures carefully. If you have any questions about registration, email info@visualartscentre.ca

Register by telephone (Visa or MasterCard) or online at [Visual Arts Centre](https://www.visualartscentre.ca)

Annual Registration Fee:

All students are required to pay an annual registration fee of \$25; families are required to pay \$35. Not applicable to workshops or summer camp. This fee is valid for one year from the session in which it was paid. Registration fees are non-refundable.

Tuition Fees:

The tuition fees must be paid in full before the course/workshop commences. Taxes are applicable except for children 14 and under.

Deadline for Registration:

Students are encouraged to register early; deadline is 5 days prior to the start of the course.

Registration after deadline: Later registration could result in a class cancellation due to low enrollment or the class may already be at maximum capacity.

Fall registration begins August 9, 2021:

- No in-person registration
- Register online and over the phone as of 9 am.

Holidays

Monday, Oct 11: Thanksgiving

Cancellation and Refund Policy:

Student withdrawals or refund requests will not be processed by telephone; please advise the Centre in writing.

If the Visual Arts Centre cancels your course or workshop, you will receive a full refund.

If the student withdraws from a course:

- prior to the start of course, student will receive a full refund of course fees less \$20 administration charge;
- after the first class, student will receive a full refund of course fees less \$20 administration charge and the cost of one class;
- no refund will be made after the second class.

If the student cancels attendance in a workshop or intensive course 1-5 days in length.

- 48 hours prior to the start of the course or

workshop, student will receive a full refund of the course or workshop fee less \$20 administrative charge;

- no refund will be made after this time.

Transfer Fees:

A \$10 transfer fee applies to any course transfers.

IMPORTANT

If the VAC is obligated to close due to a "force majeure" such as the COVID-19 pandemic, all courses will be moved to an online format. We will not issue refunds in such a situation.

Courses that will not be able to be moved online are: jewellery, pottery on the wheel, and glazing. If we are forced to close the building, students registered for these three types of courses will be refunded for the remaining classes.



Photo: Matt Ayotte

Online Learning Policies

Registration

We need a minimum number of students for a class to run (the minimum number of students varies for each class). If a class is cancelled due to low enrollment, registrants will receive a full refund or credit.

Students must submit a registration form and payment online to complete enrollment in a virtual program. Registration forms are processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Use the 'Register Online Now' button below the class description to access our secure online registration form. Unfortunately, we cannot hold a spot in the class without a registration form or payment.

Payments

All payments must be processed online or over the phone with VISA or MasterCard.

Fees

Fees are paid in full upon registration. Fees do not include any materials with certain exceptions. A material list is provided for each class and students are required to purchase their own materials. GST and QST will be added to all fees.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Student withdrawals or refund requests will not be processed by telephone; please advise the Centre in writing.

If the student withdraws from a course prior to the start of the course, student will receive a full refund of the course fees less \$20 administration charge; after the first class, student will receive a full refund of the course fees less \$20 administration charge and the cost of one class. No refund will be made after the second class.

If the student cancels attendance in a workshop or intensive course 1-5 days in length 48 hours prior to the start of the course or workshop, student will receive a full refund of the course or workshop fee less \$20 administrative charge; no refund will be made after this time.

Privacy Policy

For information about the Visual Arts Centre's privacy policy, please visit:

[VAC Privacy Policy](#)

Register online at [VAC School of Art](#)

What you need to follow our on-line courses:

- A computer (laptop or desktop, with an internal microphone and camera) OR a newer model iPad, Tablet, iPhone or Smart Phone.
- Hands-free capability, using a stand or tripod for iPads, Tablets, iPhones or Smart Phones.
- A stable Internet connection.
- A web browser that is compatible with Zoom OR you can choose to download the Zoom application (free version).
- Access to Google Classroom (free). Some email domains require permissions.
- Materials for the class that you registered for (see individual material lists provided for each class in Google Classroom).



zoom



Fine & Applied Arts

Photo: Jean-Sébastien Senécal

Interim Programme Director: Kristy Boisvert

Our Fine and Applied Arts Department offers a full curriculum. Small classes guided by professional working artists provide the ideal setting for students to pursue their chosen medium. Courses range from introductory to increasingly advanced levels. Additionally, the Centre welcomes students who wish to develop their portfolios for advanced studies. Workshops and intensives offer students the opportunity to explore new and innovative techniques in a collaborative atmosphere.

Levels

Beginner: No experience is required. Also ideal for reviewing techniques if you feel out of practice.

Intermediate: Some experience required. For students who have mastered basic techniques.

Advanced: Significant experience required. For students who are ready to explore the nuances of a medium.

B

Beginner

I

Intermediate

A

Advanced

Drawing • In Person

Intro to Drawing

Beginner

Mon. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Claudia Baltazar](#)

Wed. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Naghmeh Sharifi](#)

Wed. 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Corina Kennedy](#)

If you've always wanted to draw, here's an excellent way to begin. Work in a relaxed atmosphere as you develop the basic skills of observational drawing and discover the magic and pleasure of drawing what you see. The fundamentals of light and shade, line, form, and composition will be introduced, using materials such as pencil, ink, charcoal, and Conté. Subjects include still life, live models, and nature studies.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Intro to Soft Pastel

Beginner

Wed. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Corina Kennedy](#)

This step-by-step introduction begins with simple combinations of two or three colours and the use of toned or coloured papers made especially for the chalk pastel medium. As the class evolves, you will add to your palette, arriving at a full, expressive colour range, with all of its potential for layering and blending. Subjects derived from nature, still life and landscape.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Intro to Illustration

Beginner

Thurs. 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Julian Peters](#)

Begin your exploration by illustrating a simple phrase or poem, and progress toward small comic or graphic projects. Learn some basic illustration skills, progress from initial sketch to final illustration, using ink, line, wash, and watercolour. A unique voice and style emerge as you see your own stories come to life on paper.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Drawing

Intermediate

Tues. 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Michael Merrill](#)

Drawing is a rewarding, lifelong activity for anyone. This intermediate course encourages the regular practice of sketching and drawing in relation to a variety of subjects: landscapes, still life, live models, and abstract imagery. Explore various paper surfaces and drawing materials, including India ink, coloured papers, and pastels.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Possibilities in Monochrome

Intermediate

Wed. 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Naghmeh Sharifi](#)

This drawing course will focus on the endless possibilities of working in monochrome, mastering values by using a limited palette and exploring mediums such as charcoal, Conté and ink over several weeks. You will learn a variety of techniques for achieving as much depth, perspective, texture, volume, and light in one drawing as possible.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Learn to Draw the Figure

Intermediate

Wed. 9:00 - 12:00 pm

Starts Sept. 22

[Gianni Giuliano](#)

I

Thurs. 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Starts Sept. 23

[Gianni Giuliano](#)

This confidence-building approach to life drawing begins with the basics of contour, gesture, proportion, and the underlying structure of the figure. Work from live models every week, with step-by-step instruction and guidance. Pencil, charcoal, Conté, contribute to varied, expressive qualities of line, and tonality.

\$460 + materials (12 wks)

Portrait Drawing

Intermediate

Thurs. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Starts Sept. 23

[Gianni Giuliano](#)

I

An introduction to the art of portraiture for students with some basic drawing experience. Face and head studies help students develop skills in realistic drawing. Expressive and imaginative approaches to the portrait are also explored. Pencil and charcoal. Live models.

\$460 + materials (12 wks)

Abstract Drawing

Intermediate

Mon. 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Starts Sept. 20

[Guylaine Chevarie-Lessard](#)

I

NEW

Do you enjoy abstraction in painting? Why not explore it in drawing as well? This course aims to familiarize students with various drawing techniques by exploring the world of pictorial abstraction and experiencing the expressive freedom of non-figurative drawing. The focus will be on composition, shapes, lines, textures and colors.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Studio with Model

All Levels

Fri. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Starts Sept. 24

[No teacher](#)

Each week, the studio is available for artists who want to work from the model. When space is available, late registration is possible.

\$300 + materials (12 wks)

Watercolour • In Person

Intro to Watercolour

Beginner

Sun. 2:00 - 5:00 pm

Starts Sept. 19

[John-Elio Reitman](#)

B

Tues. 7:00 - 10:00 pm

Starts Sept. 21

[Annelise Gadoury](#)

Get acquainted with your paints, paper, and brushes in this introduction to the art of watercolour. Instruction covers wash and glaze techniques, wet-on-wet, dry brush, and use of the white of the paper to establish luminosity. Learn the basics of colour mixing and composition while developing your expressive painting style. Weekly projects include still life, landscape, and abstraction.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Watercolour: Portraits

Intermediate

Mon. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Starts Sept. 20

[Helena Martin Franco](#)

I

We begin this journey into portraiture with a feeling for structure and proportion of the head, with tone and colour. With this base, we turn toward more interpretative approaches: loose, wet-on-wet sketches, transparent layers, and washes. A special focus will be placed on watercolour palettes, to achieve luminous flesh tones and rich shadows. We will work with both models and photographs. In French, discussion bilingual.

\$390 + materials (10 wks)

Watercolour: Figure

Intermediate

Sat. 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Starts Sept. 25

[Helena Martin Franco](#)

I

The fluidity and expressiveness of watercolour invites a poetic interpretation of the human figure. Through the study of live models, proportion, volume, and movement, you are encouraged to develop your own creative approach to the subject. We will work with transparent wash, reserving white, and the combination of watercolour with pencil drawing. Live nude models. In French, discussion bilingual.

\$390 + materials (10 weeks)



Photo: Matt Ayotte

Watercolour & Ink: Following Nature

Intermediate

Tues. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Lorna Mulligan](#)

NEW

I

Nature subjects and landscapes inspire this exploration of two fluid mediums used in partnership. From traditional line and wash to a more contemporary vision, you will combine luminous colour with intense black ink. Experiment with a range of watery effects on various paper surfaces with watercolour, black, and coloured inks.

\$ 375 + materials (12 wks)

Watercolour & Graphite

Intermediate

Thurs. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Oct. 7

[John-Elio Reitman](#)

I

NEW

This course focuses on bringing together watercolour and graphite techniques to create contemporary, expressive works of art. Explore your creativity by combining these contrasting but complementary mediums. Observational studies, in addition to a more open-ended exploration, will be included.

\$310 + materials (10 wks)

Painting • In Person

Intro to Acrylic Painting

Beginner

Mon. 6:30 - 9:30 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Tracy Grosvenor](#)

B

This introduction to the acrylic medium offers step-by-step instruction for beginners. Basic tools and techniques will be covered: paint selection, brushes, and preparation of paper and canvas. Various subjects are included, with emphasis on composition and effective use of colour.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Intro to Oil Painting

Beginner

Thurs. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Claudia Baltazar](#)

B

This intro class guides students through the first steps in oil painting as a unique medium. Learn colour mixing, the basics of composition, and how to develop a painting from start to finish. Class is based on demonstration and one-on-one instruction.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Intro to Painting (Oil or Acrylic)

Beginner

Sat. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 25

[Robert Wiseman](#)

B

No experience necessary to begin painting in your choice of oil or acrylic; tools and techniques are covered for both. Discover the basics of colour mixing and brushwork and learn the steps of composing and completing a painting. A variety of subjects are explored in both abstract and representational styles.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Intro to Abstract Painting

Beginner

Mon. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Corina Kennedy](#)

B

Have you always wanted to paint, but were perhaps intimidated by painting from a still life or a model? Here is a beginner approach to abstract painting that dives right into expressive colour mixing, brushwork, and composition, helping you create your own images. Acrylic.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Abstraction: A Personal Language

Intermediate

Tues. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept 21

[Guylaine Chevarie-Lessard](#)

I

Thurs. 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Starts Sept 23

[Corina Kennedy](#)

This course is designed to help students discover new creative directions in abstract painting. You will work with expressive colour harmonies and contrasts while evolving your own imagery and painting style. Compositional ideas and the expressiveness of mark-making and gesture will be emphasized. Acrylic.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Landscape Painting

Intermediate

Wed. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Robert Wiseman](#)

I

Thurs. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Renée Duval](#)

Learn how to choose an effective landscape subject and plan a composition with sketches and colour studies. Instruction also includes treatment of light, skies, trees, water, and overall unity of space, colour, and paint technique. Personal imagery and expressive painting styles are encouraged. Oil or acrylic.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

The Art of Painting

Intermediate

Thurs. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Renée Duval](#)

I

Are you a painter who sometimes can't figure out what to paint or how to get started? This class focuses on practical strategies to generate ideas for your paintings and get you painting. Visual presentations and painting assignments will help students deepen their understanding of artistic techniques while exploring the subject matter that inspires them. Individual guidance and feedback is given to each student according to their needs and interests. Oil or acrylic.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Personal Projects

All levels

Mon. 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Michael Merrill](#)

A full day in the studio for motivated students working in drawing, collage, watercolour, gouache, acrylic, or oil. We will look at the importance of drawing skills and basic pictorial concerns in artwork, whether abstract or observational in approach. Students will receive individual attention according to their individual project and specific needs. Lunchtime videos encourage stimulating discussion of new ideas and possibilities.

\$650 + materials (10 wks)

Mixed Media • In Person

Mixed-Media Explorations

Beginner

Tues. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Claudia Baltazar](#)

B

Opening the boundaries between drawing and painting, this course explores the creative possibilities and vast array of materials and techniques available to the mixed-media artist. Ink, watercolour pencils, charcoal, and pastels are used in a multi-layered, playful manner. Inspiration will be drawn from both past and contemporary artists. Some models included.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Textile Papers: Texture & Volume

Beginner

Sat. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 25

[Mylène Boisvert](#)

B

This course allows you to explore multiple possibilities of handling white or coloured paper by considering the creative potential of a textile approach to this material. We will study different papers and several techniques allowing us to modify their surfaces either by softening them, stiffening them or by texturing them to create volume. A repertoire of proposed techniques will serve as inspiration for the realization of a work of textile paper in 2D or 3D. Some materials will be provided.

\$265 + \$40 materials (8 weeks)

Creative Art Circle

Beginner

Sun. 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Starts Sept. 19

[Naghmeh Sharifi](#)

Sun. 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Starts Oct. 31

[Naghmeh Sharifi](#)

B

Need more creative activity in your life? Join our VAC Art Circle, a weekly, informal class based on a shared desire to draw, paint, and create. This is all about the fun and satisfaction of making artwork and you'll also pick up some skills along the way. Students will be introduced to materials and themes that will stimulate their playful, mixed-media explorations. All materials are provided.

\$200 + \$40 materials (6 wks)

A Portable Studio

Intermediate

Sun. 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Starts Sept. 19

[Caroline Boileau](#)

I

A pocket-sized sketchbook will be explored as a "mini studio", a place to experiment, scribble, and paint, in the spirit of intention and accident. You will work with watercolour, brush, collage, and homemade painting tools, developing a stream of personal images. The sketchbook process is a fertile one for an artist, offering time and precious freedom to lose oneself in making and gathering ideas for future works.

\$265 + materials (8 wks)

Displaced Readings

Intermediate

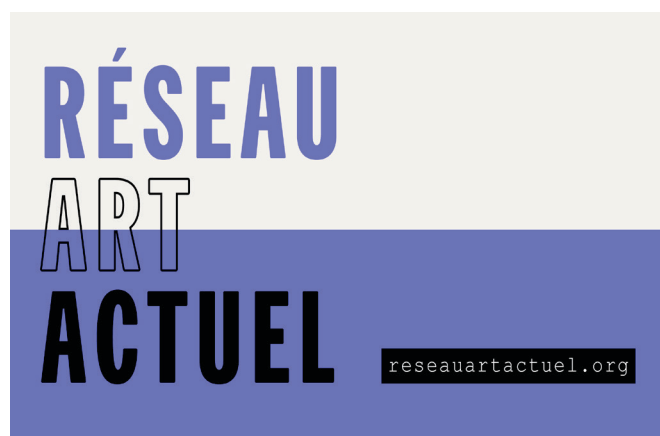
Sun. 2:00 - 5:00 pm
Starts Sept. 19

[Caroline Boileau](#)

I

As part of the course, students will be invited to transform a found book using different drawing, collage and wash techniques. In order to create this hybrid object, between the book and the sketchbook, students will be guided through the process with classroom exercises, critiques of the work in progress and presentations on contemporary drawing practices. The objective of this course, which is both rigorous and fun, is to end the session with a completed artwork.

\$265 + materials (8 weeks)



Mixed Media: Abstract Directions

Intermediate

Tues. 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Lorna Mulligan](#)

NEW

I

Using a mixed-media approach, gestural mark-making will us into rich, textural layers of colour. Focus on composition, experimentation, and personal expression. We will work with watercolour, fluid acrylics, inks and gesso, along with traditional drawing materials. Contemporary artists and directed painting projects guide us through the adventurous process of abstraction.

\$375 + materials (12 weeks)

Collage: A Creative Opening

Beginner

Mon. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Stella Pace](#)

B

The tactile pleasure of handling materials will contribute to your workflow as you combine materials intuitively and express yourself in visual form. Engage in image-making with a sense of unedited creativity while also considering how to unify your work with strong composition, rhythm, and contrast. Materials include coloured and textured papers, photos, drawings, found materials, and paint.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Washi: Large Format

Intermediate

Wed. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Starts Oct. 13

[Danielle Shatz](#)

I

NEW

Liberate your creativity by working on larger formats of Washi (Japanese paper). One of the wonderful characteristics of Washi is its incredible variety of weight and texture. Some of the lightest, finest varieties are surprisingly resistant and are a wonderful support for mixed media. While working to develop a series of works, each class will be focused on exploring a single variety of Washi. The largest format worked on will be 2 X 3 feet and you will be using a variety of brush types and sizes, along with wet and dry mediums, including paint, ink, pencil, pastel, and fragments of collage.

\$200 + \$50 materials (6 wks)

Intro to Photography

Beginner

Tues. 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Francis Macchiagodena](#)

B

This beginner's class approaches photography as an art practice and gives you the tools to make more personal and interesting images. Basic techniques (exposure, focus, lighting) and an understanding of your digital camera will be taught hand-in-hand with the expressive side of the medium. Course includes creative assignments and an introduction to historical and contemporary photo-based artists. In English, discussion bilingual.

\$375 + materials (12 wks)

Independent Studies

Are you an advanced student preparing for an exhibition, portfolio, or application? Would you like to further develop your work and discover new artistic directions? The independent studies program may be a perfect fit for you.

One-On-One Meetings with a Teacher

Includes one-on-one critique sessions of 1 hour with one of our teachers. Discuss your objectives with a professional artist, receive feedback, and assemble a unified body of work. Register for a 5 session bundle or sign up for one session at a time.

How to Register

Steps to follow:

Call us to discuss your goals with the Director of Fine Arts
You will be matched with one of our teachers
Next, register over the phone
Finally, book meetings directly with the teacher

1 Session: \$ 85

5 Session Bundle (sessions must be completed in one semester): \$ 400



Photo: Matt Ayotte

Workshops • In Person

Plein Air Painting

Intermediate

Sun. Sept. 26, 10 am - 5 pm

[Robert Wiseman](#)

*Rain day: Oct. 3

This one-day outdoor painting experience, in the lively Lachine canal area, begins with thumbnails and small paint-sketches, progressing, if desired, to a more sustained painting. We will address the challenges of working on the spot: editing out unnecessary detail, simplifying colour and value, keeping the painting alive and vibrant. You will need a folding chair, portable easel or other support, and a minimalist paint kit. All mediums welcome: oil, acrylic, watercolour.

\$ 110 + materials

Drawing as Meditation

Beginner

Sun. Oct. 17, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

[Corina Kennedy](#)

This workshop will explore how meditation techniques can be adapted to one's drawing practice. Through guided exercises we will explore concepts of awareness, attention, and close looking. We will explore the parallels between breathwork, mantras, repetition and mark-making. All drawing materials and skill levels are welcome.

\$95 + materials

Drawing with Silverpoint

Intermediate

Sun. Oct. 24, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

[Gianni Giuliano](#)

Silverpoint, the Renaissance forerunner of the graphite pencil, literally means drawing with a silver tip on a paper or wood surface that has been coated with white pigment. Particles of silver leave their delicate traces and shimmering tones, which continue to oxidize and deepen over time. Inspired by Da Vinci, Dürer, Raphael, and various contemporary artists, we will adopt this beautiful technique to capture light and shadow in a still-life subject.

\$95 + materials

Poetry & Comics

Beginner

Sun. Oct. 31, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

[Julian Peters](#)

Comics and poetry may seem like an unlikely pairing, but they share a number of common elements. After being introduced to strategies for translating poetic devices into comics, workshop participants will create a one-page comic based on a favourite poem or song lyric.

\$95 + materials

Spinning Paper Threads

Beginner

Sun. Nov. 7, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

[Mylène Boisvert](#)

Learn traditional and creative techniques for turning paper into thread. Discover Mylène Boisvert's approach to various methods of spinning paper: one by hand, without tools and the second inspired by a Japanese technique requiring the use of a spindle. Explorations will include various Japanese and other natural fibre papers. You will leave with a variety of hand-made threads to be incorporated into your own artwork.

\$95 + \$40 materials

A Crash Course in Acrylic Painting

Beginner

Sun. Nov. 14, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

[Tracy Grosvenor](#)

If you've always wanted to try painting on canvas and can't make the time, this is a great place to start. You will be guided through the painter's process: the enjoyment of mixing colours, handling a brush, and designing your own composition. You will go home with a finished work on canvas and a real sense of what's involved in going further. Begin your artistic practice now! All materials are included.

\$95 + \$30 materials

Acrylic Revolution: Colour Mixing Magic

Intermediate

Sun. Nov. 21, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

[Melanie Matthews](#)

This practical workshop for acrylic painters delves into the fascinating world of colour properties and the development of a personal palette. You'll identify pigments in terms of transparency, opacity and tinting strength; then discover how they behave in relation to one another, in layers and juxtaposition. Vivid colour charts will be created, designed to hang in your studio space for future reference. For unity of results, all acrylic paints, products and supports are provided, including a kit of products to take away.

\$95 + \$60 materials

Handmade Holiday Cards

Beginner

Sun. Nov. 28, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

[Kristy Boisvert](#)

Learn how to create unique handmade cards for friends and family. Kristy Boisvert shares her own creative mixed-media approach to card making, including ink transfer, hand lettering, collage, and drawing, while you add your own references, humour, or sentiment for a truly personalized greeting. A kit of art materials, paper, and envelopes is included in the workshop fee. All materials included.

\$95 + \$30 materials



Online Courses

Intro to Drawing

Beginner

Mon. 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Nathalie St-Pierre](#)

B

If you've always wanted to draw, here's an excellent way to begin. Work in a relaxed atmosphere as you develop the basic skills of observational drawing and discover the magic and pleasure of drawing what you see. The fundamentals of light and shade, line, form, and composition will be introduced, using materials such as pencil, ink, charcoal, and Conté. Subjects include still life, live models, and nature studies.

\$360 + materials (12 wks)

Intro to Soft Pastel

Beginner

Wed. 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Nathalie St-Pierre](#)

B

This step-by-step introduction begins with simple combinations of two or three colours and the use of toned or coloured papers made especially for the chalk pastel medium. As the class evolves, you will add to your palette, arriving at a full, expressive colour range, with all of its potential for layering and blending. Subjects derived from nature, still life, and landscape.

\$360 + materials (12 wks)

Drawing in Colour

Intermediate

Wed. 9:00 - 11:00 am
Starts Sept. 22

[Konstantinos Meramveliotakis](#)

I

Take your drawing to a new level with the inclusion of coloured media such as Conté on coloured paper, coloured pencil, ink, and pastel. Focus on harmony and unity of expression through the development of effective colour choices and individual palette; subjects to include plants, landscape, natural elements, abstraction, and the figure.

\$360 + materials (12 wks)

Picasso to Present: Abstraction in Soft Pastel

Intermediate

Thur. 1:00 - 3:30 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Pat Walsh](#)

NEW

I

During its 100+ year history, abstraction has challenged the way we think about art. This course will focus on how we can bring some of these exciting, ground-breaking concepts to life in our own work. Using soft pastels as our primary medium, we will investigate a variety of abstraction principles, including analyzing and reducing a subject into shapes, creating movement on the page, activating a 2-dimensional space through composition, and working with personal imagery and symbolism. Pastel techniques such as blending, layering and gestural pastel application will be reinforced, with the addition of mixed media and collage in some of the projects.

\$360 + materials (10 wks)

Intro to Watercolour

Beginner

Sun. 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Starts Sept. 19

[Leona Heilig](#)

B

Thur. 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Nathalie St-Pierre](#)

Get acquainted with your paints, paper, and brushes in this introduction to the art of watercolour. Instruction covers wash and glaze techniques, wet-on-wet, dry brush, and use of the white of the paper to establish luminosity. Learn the basics of colour mixing and composition while developing your expressive painting style. Weekly projects include still life, landscape, and abstraction.

\$360 + materials (12 wks)

Watercolour: Portraits

Intermediate

Tues. 9:00 am - 11:00 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Helena Martin Franco](#)

I

We begin this journey into portraiture with a feeling for structure and proportion of the head, with tone and colour. With this base, we turn toward more interpretative approaches: loose, wet-on-wet sketches, transparent layers, and washes. A special focus will be placed on watercolour palettes, to achieve luminous flesh tones and rich shadows. We will work with both models and photographs.

\$420 + materials (12 wks)

Watercolour & Ink: Following Nature

Intermediate

Wed. 9:00 am - 11:00 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Lorna Mulligan](#)

NEW

I

Nature subjects and landscapes inspire this exploration of two fluid mediums used in partnership. From traditional line and wash to a more contemporary vision, you will combine luminous colour with intense black ink. Experiment with a range of watery effects on various paper surfaces with watercolour, black, and coloured inks.

\$360 + materials (12 wks)

Watercolour: Sargent

Intermediate

Sat. 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Starts Sept. 25

[Lorna Mulligan](#)

I

The watercolours of John Singer Sargent have long amazed us with their loose, gestural brushwork, glowing, coloured whites, and rich shadows. Starting from an analysis of his watercolour style, we will paint a small series in his honour. The final few weeks will be devoted to original works enriched by this foray into Sargent's watercolour approach.

\$195 + materials (6 wks)

Watercolour & Drawing: A Meeting Place

Advanced

Tues. 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Elisabeth Galante](#)

A

Wed. 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Elisabeth Galante](#)

This course focuses on watercolour and drawing techniques while also exploring the rich dialogue between the two mediums. Observational studies, in addition to a more open-ended poetic exploration, can enliven your practice and take you to unexpected places in your work. Pencil, pen and brush; varied subjects.

\$360 + materials (12 wks)

A Portable Studio

Intermediate

Wed. 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Caroline Boileau](#)

I

A pocket-sized sketchbook will be explored as a “mini studio”, a place to experiment, scribble, and paint, in the spirit of intention and accident. You will work with watercolour, brush, collage, and homemade painting tools, developing a stream of personal images. The sketchbook process is a fertile one for an artist, offering time and precious freedom to lose oneself in making and gathering ideas for future works.

\$255 + materials (8 wks)

Chinese Brush Painting

Beginner

Fri. 9:30 - 11:30 am
Starts Sept. 24

[Mei Zhi](#)

B

Discover the aesthetics and techniques of this traditional art; learn bamboo brush handling, colour mixing, composition, and how to grind ink on a stone. You will practice painting birds, flowers, and other natural objects, balancing spontaneous brushwork with a practiced and centred technique.

\$310 + materials (10 wks)

Chinese Brush Painting

Intermediate

Tues. 9:30 - 11:30 am
Starts Sept. 21

[Mei Zhi](#)

I

This course is designed for anyone interested in continuing from a beginner Chinese Painting course. Students will deepen their knowledge of the materials and their characteristics as well as the underlying philosophy and objectives of this style. Through project-based classes students will learn to paint a variety of new subjects such as birds, animals, vegetables, and landscapes. Students will work towards using the tools and skills with an understanding of tone, value, composition, and a knowledge of the subject to create pleasing finished works that express the essential nature of what is depicted.

\$310 + materials (10 wks)

Chinese Brush Painting: Landscapes

Advanced

Mon. 9:30 - 11:30 am
Starts Sept. 20

[Mei Zhi](#)

A

This advanced course will review the basic elements and brush techniques of Chinese landscape painting through the study of traditional Chinese landscape masters' work. Learning their unique ways of expression and interpretation of landscape. From these masters' works, students will be guided through the process with demonstrations and will be shown the oriental approach to the creation of poetic landscape works with the dynamic energy of “chi”.

\$310 + materials (10 wks)

Photography: Bare Essentials

Beginner

Mon. 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Francis Macchiagodena](#)

B

This condensed beginner's class approaches photography as an art practice and gives you the tools to make more personal and interesting images. Basic techniques (exposure, focus, lighting) and an understanding of your digital camera will be taught hand-in-hand with the expressive side of the medium. In English, discussion bilingual.

\$255 + materials (8 wks)



Photo: Matt Ayotte



Photo: Matt Ayotte

One of the only Montreal venues for jewellery study outside of a degree program, the department offers instruction in jewellery construction, forming, and wax techniques, using sterling silver and other materials. Original design and creativity is also emphasized.

Jewellery • In Person

Jewellery Fundamentals

Beginner

Mon. 7 - 10 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Kyung Sun Lim](#)

Tues. 1 - 4 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Kyung Sun Lim](#)

Thurs. 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept 23

[Cynthia Hawkes](#)

Sat. 1:30 - 4:30 pm
Starts Sept 25

[Cynthia Hawkes](#)

This introduction to basic metal construction will allow you to evolve your skills over time. You will learn to saw, file, form, solder, and produce sterling silver pieces during the session. Make a simple ring, chain, earrings, or pendant; returning students may progress to stone setting or projects in lost wax technique. No experience necessary. Materials may be purchased from the instructor (tools provided). Two to three projects can be completed in one semester.

\$430 + materials (12 wks)

Personal Projects in Jewellery

Advanced

Tues. 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[TBD](#)

Thurs. 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[TBD](#)

Continue your jewellery training by working on personal projects of your own design. Projects of varying complexity may be carried out, according to skill level and experience. Instruction includes individual guidance at each step. Materials may be purchased from the instructor (tools provided). Materials are not included.

\$430 + materials (12wks)

B

Open Studio in Jewellery

All Levels

Sun. 1 - 4 pm
(Nov. 14, Nov. 21, Nov. 28)

For students currently registered in our jewellery program the Open Studio offers extra studio time. A jewellery technician will be present. Deadline for registration: one week prior, subject to availability.

\$30 per session + materials



Photo: Matt Ayotte



Photo: VAC

Programme Director: Élise Provencher

The VAC started as a clay guild 75 years ago and our ceramics tradition continues to thrive. The department offers a unique learning experience in our large studio, equipped with thirteen wheels, five electric kilns, a laboratory for the preparation of glazes and our skilled technicians. Teaching focuses on technical expertise mastering the wheel, use of glazes, etc. but also encourages students to explore the expanding boundaries of contemporary ceramic art. The additional fee for materials covers one bag of clay, glazes, stains, and engobes, as well as firings. Students are expected to bring their own tools. Open studios are available outside of class hours for students to come and practice and are included in the material fee. Due to Covid19, students now have to register for a space in the open studio sessions to control the number of people in the space.

Ceramics • In Person

Pottery on the Wheel

All levels

Tues. 6 - 9 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Mérida Anderson](#)

Wed. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Colleen Dwyer Meloche](#)

Thurs. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Philip Dutton](#)

Thurs. 6 - 9 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Olaf de Winter](#)

Learn fundamental wheel-throwing techniques for both functional and sculptural pottery, from bowls and cups to teapots and decorative forms. Surface treatment and decorative techniques are explored and explained. Course includes demonstrations, theory, and critiques of individual work. All levels; beginners welcome.

\$390 + \$70 materials (12 wks)

Advanced Throwing

Advanced

Tues. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Loriane Thibodeau](#)

A

Improve throwing skills and create more complex forms by altering, cutting, joining, and incorporating hand-built elements into your pieces. Surface treatments will include raw clay approaches such as texturing and various methods of engobe and stain application as well as overlapping and resist techniques with glazes. Emphasis placed on a personal approach to surface and form. Prerequisite: two sessions of throwing.

\$390 + \$70 materials (12 wks)

Hand-building

All levels

Mon. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Eva Lapka](#)

Mon. 6 - 9 pm
Starts Sept. 20

[Shenice Lafortune](#)

Sat. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Starts Sept. 25

[Shenice Lafortune](#)

Learn the techniques of hand-building with clay. Beginners will get acquainted with pinched pots, coiling, slab-building, and hollowing. More advanced students will concentrate on personal projects according to their needs making functional or sculptural pieces. Decorative and pictorial techniques will also be taught, using engobes, glazes, and pigments. Students will be encouraged to develop their creativity.

\$390 + \$70 materials (12 wks)

Ceramic Inspirations

Intermediate

Thurs. 1:30 - 4:30 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Colleen Dwyer Meloche](#)

I

Learn advanced ceramic techniques by exploring the inspiring work of ceramic artists or themes in ceramic art. Every semester, a theme or a short list of artists will be chosen as sources of inspiration. Through the investigation of major works of important ceramic artists, students will learn techniques and discover the particularities and aesthetics of these seminal figures. Prerequisite: one session of hand-building or throwing.

\$390 + \$70 materials (12 wks)

Advanced Ceramic Studio

Advanced

Wed. 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Starts Sept. 22

[TBA](#)

A

For students who have a foundation in throwing and/or hand-building and who are ready to foster more personalized work. Through the development of self-directed projects, students will be assisted in the technical and aesthetic aspects of creating ceramic objects. Also, by exploring contemporary ceramics, we will consider studio practices and various approaches to making. The objective is to assist students with the realization of their own body of work and place it within the contemporary ceramic discourse. Prerequisite: intermediate skills in hand-building and/or throwing; an eagerness to make self-directed work.

\$390 + \$70 materials (12 wks)

Intensive Workshops • In Person

Raku firing at the Rozynski Art Centre (Ayer's Cliff, Eastern Townships)

Intermediate

Sat. Oct. 9, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

[Lorianne Thibodeau](#)

I

Raku is an outdoor firing that is a rustic, impressive and unifying experience. This workshop aims to have initiated students to discover this type of firing during a one-day round trip at the Rozynski Art Centre in Ayer's Cliff. Students previously or currently subscribed in a class can bring up to 6 of their biskware to fire in the raku kiln (all types of clay welcome, excluding porcelain). Raku glaze included. Transportation is at the charge of the student. Lunch will be provided at the Rozynski Art Centre, a delicious pizza baked in the pizza kiln outside.

\$195 includes glazes and firing

Large-scale hand built vessels

Intermediate

[Élise Provencher](#)

I

Fri. to Sun. Nov. 12, 13 & 14, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sun. Dec. 5, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Learn how to build large-scale vessels using coils on casted bases. In this 4 day workshop, you will work in teams of two people to create the sculpture. The team will build 2 vessels, so each participant will leave the workshop with one piece to take home. The first 3 days will be for building and decorating, and the fourth day for glazing.

\$275 + \$30 materials

Online Courses



Studio-at-Home

Advanced

Sept. 19, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

[Shenice Lafortune](#)

A

Advanced or intermediate level students may continue working from home in an 'independent study'-type class while taking advantage of the studio's facilities to fire their pieces. Registration includes a 10 kg bag of clay, the bisquing of your pieces in our kiln, two one-hour Zoom meetings with the group and one session of open studio to glaze your pieces.

\$100 + 50 \$ materials

Open Studio in Ceramics

All levels

Mon. 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Tues. 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Wed. 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Fri. 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Fri. 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Sat. 13:30-16:30

Due to the covid-19 pandemic, we must control the number of students in the space. To participate in open studio time, students are required to reserve their time slot (3h) by phone or email.



Photo: Matt Ayotte

Youth • In Person

Interim Programme Director: Kristy Boisvert

The VAC offers exciting hands-on learning, introducing children to the joy of creating art. The fundamentals of drawing, painting, sculpture, and printmaking are taught through the exploration of a wide range of art materials and techniques. Working with an exceptional faculty of teachers (all practicing art educators), students create original artworks, giving form to their ideas and feelings about themselves and the world around them. New projects are introduced each semester. The sense of personal satisfaction gained through self-expression early on in life builds self-esteem, critical thinking skills, and establishes a positive and lasting experience in the world of art.

Little Studio (4-5 yrs)

Sat. 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Starts Sept. 25

[Jennifer Jones](#)

Art offers an enriching experience that stimulates curiosity, experimentation, and creativity in young children. Painting, assembling and collaging provide many opportunities to enhance and stimulate the imagination. Creating and playing with gouache, watercolour, clay, and construction materials builds confidence in self-expression.

\$275 + \$35 materials (12 wks)

Adventure in Art (6-8 yrs)

Sun. 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Starts Sept. 19

[Zoe Compton](#)

Sat. 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Starts Sept. 25

[Jennifer Jones](#)

A spirit of adventure, exploration, and experimentation guides this multimedia class, where students learn fundamental skills to create both two- and three-dimensional art projects. Students will have the opportunity to work in a wide variety of media, which may include clay, plaster, acrylic paint, printmaking, watercolour, ink, and charcoal, to name but a few. They will be encouraged to develop imagination and creativity while gaining confidence in their own self-expression.

\$275 + \$35 materials (12 wks)

Contemporary Drawing (9-12 yrs)

Tues. 4:30 - 6:30 pm
Starts Sept. 21

[Hazel Thexton](#)

This course will help to develop a strong foundation of drawing skills and techniques through contemporary and popular culture approaches. Students will be introduced to the basics of line, shading, form rendering, perspective, and composition. Working from both imagination and still life, students will be encouraged to explore their creativity and personal styles. Experimentation with a variety of media will be introduced, including ink, pencil, charcoal, gouache, watercolour, and different drawing surfaces.

\$275 + \$35 materials (12 wks)

Drawing, Painting and Sculpture (9-12 yrs)

Sun. 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Starts Sept 19

[Zoe Compton](#)

Sat. 9:30 - 11:30 am
Starts Sept 25

[Karine Fournier](#)

This course enables students to consolidate their art making skills, to sharpen their observation skills, and to experiment with new media. Students will work in both two- and three-dimensional media, which may include clay, plaster, acrylic paint, printmaking, watercolour, ink, pastel, and charcoal. Students are encouraged to develop their imagination, creativity, and their own style of expression.

\$275 + \$35 materials (12 wks)

Introduction to Ceramics (9-12 yrs)

Sun. 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Starts Sept. 26

[Noémie Sylvestre](#)

This course offers the opportunity to work creatively in 3D by discovering the possibilities that ceramics offer. The course will have two main components, an introduction to various hand-building techniques and the use of plaster moulds to create objects. You will be guided in the use of glazes and pigments to customize your sculptural projects.

\$255 + \$45 materials (10 weeks)



Photo: VAC



Teens • In Person

Photo: Matt Ayotte

Interim Programme Director: Kristy Boisvert

These courses are geared to reflect teen interests in contemporary culture and to develop skills, self-expression, and creative thinking. For students considering an art related career, our courses and Portfolio Programme provide the chance to develop portfolios for admission to CEGEP or university.

Drawing Fundamentals (13-17 yrs)

Wed. 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Starts Sept. 22

[Hazel Thexton](#)

With a focus on drawing from observation, learn the fundamental skills necessary to achieve a strong drawing foundation and develop a personal style and visual language. Drawing from still life, live model, nature, and imagination and using a wide range of drawing media, from pen and ink to conte and pencil, students will learn the key elements of drawing: line shape, shadow and light, composition, and perspective.

\$275 + \$55 materials (12 wks)

Innovative Mixed-Media Studio (13-17 yrs)

Thurs. 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Starts Sept. 23

[Karine Fournier](#)

Want to learn how to use a wide range of media—drawing, painting, sculpture, fibre arts, and printmaking? Or, mix them together to express your ideas in new ways? This dynamic class introduces you to diverse contemporary artists and other sources of inspiration while exploring the creative potential of art from paint to plaster, ink to fabric, and printed images to found objects.

\$275 + \$55 materials (12 wks)

Introduction to Ceramics (13-17 yrs)

Sun. 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Starts Sept. 26

[Noémie Sylvestre](#)

This teen course offers the opportunity to work creatively in ceramics. The course will have two main components, an introduction to different hand-building techniques and the use of liquid clay in plaster moulds. Functional or sculptural individual projects will be encouraged. You will also have the chance to experiment with glazes and pigments to customize your projects. Enhance your portfolios with 3D components, enjoy the unique experience of working in a fully-equipped ceramics studio, and experiment with this very popular medium! Open studio is not included.

\$255 + \$45 materials (10 weeks)

Jewellery Fundamentals (15-17 yrs)

Sun. 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Starts Sept. 19 (6 weeks)

[Kyung Sun Lim](#)

Wed. 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Starts Oct. 6 (10 weeks)

[Malika Rousseau](#)

Learn to make metal jewellery! This introductory course will cover basic construction techniques such as how to saw, file and solder. Students will have the opportunity to make a simple silver ring, earrings, or a pendant. No experience necessary, tools are provided. Materials may be purchased from the instructor, costs vary.

\$230 + materials (6 weeks)

\$360 + materials (10 weeks)

Portfolio

Teen Portfolio Programme (13-17 yrs)

Online or in-person

For students planning to pursue studies in Fine Arts, the Teen Portfolio Programme provides one-on-one mentoring to help create a portfolio for advanced studies. Each teen will be paired with experienced artists/teachers who will guide them in the process of developing a body of work, selecting artwork, laying out the portfolio, and writing an artist statement. Students can register for blocks of 3 sessions. While it can be taken on its own, it is recommended that students undertake the portfolio programme in conjunction with a regular semester course. Each session is 1.5 hours.

3 sessions 270 \$

Week at a Glance • In-person at the VAC

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
MORNING						
Adventure in Art (6-8)	Personal Projects	Watercolour & Ink: Following Nature	Learn to Draw the Figure	Portrait Drawing	Studio with Model	Drawing, Painting and Sculpture (9-12)
Intro to Ceramics (9-12)	Intro to Drawing	Advanced Throwing	Washi: Large Format	Intro to Oil Painting		Little Studio (4-5)
Portable Studio	Watercolour: Portrait		Pottery on the Wheel	Art of Painting		Hand-Building
Creative Circle	Hand-Building			Pottery on the Wheel		
AFTERNOON						
Drawing, Painting and Sculpture (9-12)	Abstract Drawing	Mixed Media: Abstract Directions	Landscape Painting	Learn to Draw the Figure		Adventure in Art (6-8)
Introduction to Ceramics (13-17)	Collage: Creative Opening	Mixed Media Explorations	Intro to Drawing	Landscape Painting		Intro to Painting
Jewellery Fundamentals for Teens (15-17)	Intro to Abstract Painting	Abstract Painting: Personal Language	Intro to Soft Pastel	Watercolour and Graphite		Textile Papers: Texture & Volume
Intro to Watercolour		Jewellery Fundamentals		Jewellery Fundamentals		Watercolour: Figure
Displaced Reading		Contemporary Drawing (9-12)		Ceramic Inspirations		Jewellery Fundamentals
EVENING						
	Intro to Acrylic	Intermediate Drawing	Intro to Drawing	Abstract Painting: Personal Language		
	Jewellery Fundamentals	Intro to Watercolour	Possibilities in Monochrome	Intro to Illustration		
	Hand-Building	Intro to Photography	Jewellery Fundamentals for Teens (15-17)	Personal Projects: Jewellery		
		Personal Projects: Jewellery	Drawing Fundamentals (13-17)	Innovative Mixed Media (Teens)		
		Pottery on the Wheel	Advanced Ceramics Studio	Pottery on the Wheel		

LEGEND:

CERAMICS

JEWELLERY

FINE ARTS

YOUTH & TEENS

Week at a Glance • Online Courses

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
MORNING						
	Chinese Painting (Advanced)	Chinese Painting (Intermediate)	Drawing in Colour		Chinese Painting (Beginner)	
		Watercolour: Portraits	Water & Ink: Following Nature			
AFTERNOON						
Intro to Watercolour			Watercolour & Drawing: A Meeting Place	Soft Pastel: Picasso to the Present		Watercolour: Sargent
			Intro to Soft Pastel			
EVENING						
	Intro to Drawing	Watercolour & Drawing: A Meeting Place	Portable Studio	Intro to Watercolour		
	Photography: Bare Essentials					

LEGEND:

CERAMICS

JEWELLERY

FINE ARTS

YOUTH & TEENS