

INFORMATION SHEET

The Richmond Art Gallery will initiate *the RAG Youth Mentorship Program: Expanding the Horizon* in November 2016. A small group of youth ages 14-19 will build their skills and focus their talents in our intensive 10-month program by working with artists and arts professionals.

Mentors will share knowledge and provide project guidance, while participants will explore various contemporary visual arts and curatorial practices. Youth will meet each week for 2 ½ hours over the 10-month period to work with Melanie Devoy, Program Facilitator; Kathy Tycholis, Education & Public Programs Coordinator; Hilary Letwin, Guest Curator; and guest artists Diyan Achjadi, Keith Langergraber, and Cody Lecoy to create new artworks and learn about the curatorial process.

Participants in the program will be selected through a portfolio submission process to ensure they have a passion for the visual arts and a strong commitment to the program.

The culmination of this program will be the completion of a final artwork to include in a gallery exhibition alongside works from the RAG collection, as well as writing an extended label about their work. For their involvement in this exhibition, participants will receive an artist's honorarium of \$300.00.

The exhibition *Beyond the Horizon* will feature works from the Richmond Art Gallery collection that reflect how Canadian landscape painting has changed over the course of the 60 years represented. While the participant's artworks may reflect the theme of landscape, the focus of the program is to expand perceptions of traditional visual arts and encourage explorations of contemporary art practices and issues. Through independent research, portfolio development, and constructive critique the program participants will create artworks in a variety of media as a response to the artworks in the Gallery Collection.

In addition to developing their own artistic practices and amplifying their portfolios with the work created over the course of the program, participants will also gain invaluable insight into what happens "behind the scenes" at a professional Gallery by working with the curator of the exhibition and the Gallery staff throughout the preparation and installation of the exhibition.

In addition, youth will be interviewed for a video produced by the Gallery that will be screened throughout the duration of the exhibition in our *Hope-Smith Art Lounge* and also posted online to YouTube.

DEADLINE: Application materials must be delivered to the Richmond Art Gallery, 7700 Minoru Gate by 6pm on **November 16, 2016**.

NOTIFICATION: Applicants will be notified **November 18-21** of their acceptance in the program.

PICK UP: Submission materials must be picked up from **10am-5pm, November 19-22, 2016**.

Materials will not be kept by the Richmond Art Gallery after November 22, 2016.

PROGRAM STARTS: Thursday, November 24 at 4:00 pm