

Burnaby Art Gallery Supports Student Artists with Two New Exhibitions
Arts Alive 2019: Math & Art and Transitions



BURNABY, BC – The Burnaby Art Gallery (BAG) is excited to present two new student exhibitions launching May 3. *Arts Alive*, in collaboration with the Burnaby School District, celebrates its 37th year with a selection of artworks from elementary schools across Burnaby, showcasing the emerging talent of young students from Grades K-7. *Transitions* is an exhibition featuring artwork created by Grade 11 and 12 students from Burnaby secondary schools participating in the BAG's Artist Apprenticeship Program. The public is invited to the opening reception for both exhibitions on **Thursday, May 2 at 6:00pm.**

Arts Alive is an annual exhibition showcasing student works in partnership with the Burnaby School District. This year's 37th edition presents artworks from 15 elementary schools across the city with 30 classes and over 600 students participating. To be inclusive of all students' artworks, teachers were requested to create group projects with math and art as the theme. This year, over 40 artworks will be exhibited in the BAG's Lower Gallery.

"The Burnaby Art Gallery is committed to providing opportunities to young artists in the community while creatively exploring the connections between math and art," says Christina Froschauer, Fine Arts Programmer at the Burnaby Art Gallery. "Working in partnership with the Burnaby School District, we have found ways to weave the current school curriculum with art education for an inspiring and imaginative take on subjects such as math, history, socials and Indigenous studies. The *Arts Alive* theme this year is inspired by the Burnaby School District's interest in cross-curricular subject matter."

Transitions, an exhibition taking place in the BAG's Upper Gallery, features artwork created by 12 senior secondary students participating in the BAG's Artist Apprenticeship Program. This program mentors students interested in pursuing a career in the fine arts and invites them to develop and curate an exhibition of their own works.

The students, representing Byrne Creek, Moscrop, Burnaby Mountain, Burnaby Central, Burnaby North and Burnaby South secondary schools, took part in the program last fall. Guided by professional artists, curators and programmers, students created artwork and learned how to develop their own show. Students also spent a day touring galleries - from artist-run centres to commercial galleries.

While developing their exhibition, participants were asked to consider themes such as mimicry, pattern, text, transformation and unearthing the past – themes present in the City of Burnaby's Permanent Art Collection. As a group, the students chose "transformation" as their theme and then each selected an inspiration piece from the collection. This exhibition features their selected works from the collection and their creative responses.

Arts Alive and *Transitions* will be exhibited at the Burnaby Art Gallery from May 3 until June 9.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Opening Reception: Arts Alive & Transitions

Thursday, May 2, 6:00 PM

Free, everyone welcome

Join us for the opening of *Arts Alive* and *Transitions* at the Burnaby Art Gallery. The evening will feature opening remarks, followed by a reception.

Burnaby Art Gallery Tour

Sunday, May 5, 1:00-3:00 PM

Free | Please call to register for your time slot: 604-297-4422

Join our knowledgeable guides for a gallery tour of our current student exhibitions, *Arts Alive 2019* and *Transitions*, and view a brief video about the history of the gallery. Tours start on the hour and half-hour mark. Please call to register.

In the BAG: Family Sundays

Sunday, May 12 and June 9, 1:00-4:00pm

Free, drop-in | Sponsored by ABC Recycling

Come and make art! Get your minds humming with a visit to the gallery and then to the studio for family-friendly art projects. Each program begins on the hour and half-hour mark with the last program at 3:30pm.

Theme for May: Symbols, Patterns, Rotate, Repeat

Theme for June: Transitions

MEDIA CONTACT

Parm Johal, Marketing and Sponsorship Coordinator | 604-297-4857 | parm.johal@burnaby.ca

Image Credits: (left - *Arts Alive*) Maya A., *Friendship* (detail), 2019, acrylic paint, chalk pastels, Grade K, Buckingham Elementary, Teacher: D. Dubinsky, Photo: Nicole Wang and Snow Diaio; (right - *Transitions*) Sarah Yang, *Untitled* (detail), 2019, mixed media, Grade 12, Moscrop Secondary

Burnaby Art Gallery

Since 1967, the Burnaby Art Gallery (BAG) has acted as a leader in the collection, preservation and presentation of contemporary and historical visual art by local, national and internationally-recognized artists. The Burnaby Art Gallery is the only public art museum in Canada dedicated to works of art on paper, and cares for over 5,700 works of art in the City of Burnaby's Permanent Art Collection. Through its collection and exhibition practices, the BAG endeavours to represent the best and most promising Canadian artists in a variety of contexts.