

A collection of colorful confetti pieces in shades of blue, orange, pink, and yellow, scattered across the top of the image.

100th Anniversary Edition 2024 Report to the Community

asa
1924 - 2024
100
art gallery of alberta



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Celebrating 100 Years!

1924: The Spark of an Idea

With a goal to develop a permanent collection of art for Edmontonians, the Edmonton Art Club, the Edmonton Art Association and the Local Council of Women come together to help create the Edmonton Museum of Arts – under the leadership of Maud Bowman. The Museum is stationed within the Edmonton Public Library's first location at 100th Avenue and 100th Street.

1943: Direction and Volunteerism

Dr. Robert Hedley is appointed the museum's second director, prioritizing the expansion of the Gallery's Art Education program and interest in the visual arts. 1943 also marks the creation of the Women's Society of the Edmonton Museum of Arts, a core volunteer group that oversees many of the museum's activities – interpretive programming, membership engagement, fundraising initiatives and commercial enterprise.

1952: Acquiring Space to Grow

The Museum finds its next home in the renovated former residence of the Secord family, a building transferred to the city after the death of Annie Secord in 1951. At Secord House, the museum finally has space to display its collection, conduct art classes and rent space.

1969: New Name, New Building

The Edmonton Art Gallery (renamed from the Edmonton Museum of Arts in 1956) finds its permanent home in the Arthur Blow Condell Memorial Building, purpose-built with appropriate environmental controls to take on more ambitious travelling exhibitions. This building is made possible by a large donation bequeathed by Mrs. Abigail Edith Condell, in the name of her late son, and local architecture firm Bittorf-Wensley.

1975: A Growing Collection

The Ernest E. Poole Foundation donates 90 artworks to the EAG's growing collection of historical Canadian art, including artworks by the Group of Seven, Tom Thomson, Emily Carr, Cornelius Krieghoff, Jean-Paul Riopelle, Fredrick Arthur Verner and Laura Muntz Lyall among others. The Poole donation remains the most significant contribution to the Gallery's collection to date.

1996: Biennial Beginnings

The Edmonton Art Gallery co-hosts its first Alberta Biennial in partnership with the Glenbow Museum, a showcase of contemporary art by Alberta artists across the province. Presented at both locations and curated by Bruce Grenville (EAG) and Catharine Mastin (Glenbow), the exhibition enhances the dialogue amongst various regions, communities and urban centres.

2005: A New Chapter

Randall Stout, a Los Angeles-based architect, wins an international architecture competition and is selected to design the updated gallery building. The announcement of the winning architect is paired with the unveiling of the Edmonton Art Gallery's new name, The Art Gallery of Alberta, to reflect the Gallery's growing ambitions to become a cultural hub and guardian of Alberta's artistic and cultural heritage.

2007: Construction Begins

The Art Gallery of Alberta transports their operations temporarily to Enterprise Square for holding as construction begins on the new building.

2010: A Dream Realized

Construction concludes on the new Art Gallery of Alberta building, with around 10,000 guests attending the grand opening. A stark contrast to the former building, Stout's design took inspiration from the natural surroundings of the gallery, letting the curves of the North Saskatchewan and aurora borealis inform the flowing, organic design of the architecture.

2024: A Century of Art

Marking 100 years of exhibitions, classes and community, the AGA is now known for award-winning exhibitions and innovative programming – continuing its tradition of being a keystone institution in the city and province.



Maud Bowman, date unknown. City of Edmonton Archives, MS-1220.6.2

Founded by women for a lifetime of inspiration

Women played integral roles in the founding of what is now known as the Art Gallery of Alberta, blazing a trail for a century to come.

In 1924, Maud Bowman founded the Edmonton Museum of Arts (now the AGA) and dedicated herself to securing support for the gallery. Maud Bowman's participation in the Women's Musical Club and the local branch of the Women's Art Association connected her to a national network of women interested in the arts and to the Local Council of Women, lending her the political influence necessary to rally support in establishing the city's first museum. Passionate about art education, she established children's art classes in 1934 which continue to this day in the AGA's Education program.

Despite her substantial contributions, Maud Bowman never received a salary. It was not until much later that the gallery acknowledged her efforts, dedicating a gallery space in her honour in 1978.



Bobby and Sandy Dyde, Photographer
Unknown, 1952

Other key women in the founding of the AGA include:

- Lady Aberdeen, vice-regal consort to Governor General John Hamilton-Gordon in the 1890s, who championed women's rights and the arts, helping to establish the National Council of Women in Canada and a local chapter in Edmonton
- Dorothy Dyde, Edmonton Art Gallery board member and a key patron whose focused collection policy shaped the gallery's direction
- Anna Wells, founder of the Women's Society who raised public interest and funds for the museum
- Abigail Edith Condell, whose generous donation to the gallery supported the construction of a new building named after her late son – the Arthur Blow Condell Memorial Building
- Barbara Poole, designer, philanthropist and avid supporter of the arts, whose seed donation to the AGA through the John and Barbara Poole Family Fund launched the campaign for the construction of the new building and the establishment of the Poole Centre of Design. The Poole family continues to support the AGA to this day.



Women's Society of Museum of Arts Tea Party
Left to right: Mrs. R.B. Wells, Mrs. P.J.A. Fleming,
Mrs. Gordon E. Swallow. Photo: Eric Bland

Adapted from 'Women of the AGA', written by Danielle Siemens on the AGA100 microsite.



Leon Zupan




Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it has been my pleasure to celebrate with you the 100th Anniversary of Your AGA. We are the oldest cultural institution in Alberta and the first to make it to its centenary. The AGA, its patrons and the public celebrated a tremendous year of art, engagement and awareness, in particular a reminder of our history, and our plans for the next century. What began 100 years ago, created by a passionate group of art lovers in Edmonton, has and continues to enrich the lives of Albertans across our province.

The AGA's anniversary year resulted in record attendance for our celebrations, wonderful exhibitions and an opportunity for our patrons and members to come to the gallery and reengage with why the AGA is such an important part of our community. Through your participation and engagement, you have experienced why art and art galleries are so important in our society.

Our success through this past year would not be possible without the generous grants from our municipal, provincial, and federal governments. Their long-term support, and the federal government's funding for our anniversary, allowed your AGA to continue to create, engage, and sustain artistic excellence, while focusing on financial stability. In addition to these major funders, we are so thankful for the generous support of our Members, Director and Curator Circle members, as well the many donors who contributed to our AGA Always Campaign, a major fundraising initiative to provide significant financial support for a new endowment that will assist us in funding the next 100 years of your AGA.

We were thankful to have secured a number of donations to this campaign and thanks goes to our Steering Committee as well as AGA management for engaging and assisting in facilitating these donations.



We have received approximately \$3.5 million in funds pledged and/or received by the AGA and/or ECF over multiple years for the AGA Always campaign. We are building momentum for further donations through the end of 2026. If you have not already done so, I hope you will consider making a donation that will assist us in sustaining your AGA for the next 100 years. At the end of the year, we also received a matching pledge from the Edmonton Community Foundation (ECF) potentially up to \$500,000. We thank them for their commitment to the AGA and other non-profit organizations in our city.

The success of this past year would not be possible without the leadership of our Executive Director and Chief Curator, Catherine Crowston, as well as the efforts of her hardworking and inspiring team of employees and volunteers. This past year, which included many of our special anniversary exhibitions and events, was one of our busiest years since the opening of our building. The extra efforts of management and staff this past year are greatly appreciated.

On behalf of our Board, thank you for allowing us to achieve 100 years of artistic excellence. We are all looking forward to where we can go from here.

This Annual General Meeting will end my final term as your Board Chair. Through these past four years there have been some challenges and many celebrations that I have experienced in my role as Chair. With the support of the Board and a great management team, we have achieved many great things together; it has been a privilege to have served as Chair of the AGA Board of Directors over this time.

Leon Zupan

Chair, Board of Directors



Message from the Executive Director

In 2024 the Art Gallery of Alberta celebrated our 100th anniversary. Founded on August 18, 1924, the AGA is proud to be the oldest cultural institution in the Province of Alberta.

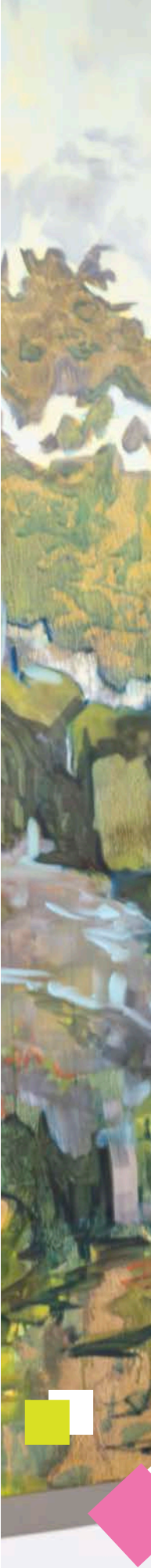
This past century has been a long and wondrous journey, for an organization that began as the vision of one Edmontonian, Maud Bowman. We are so happy to have celebrated this major milestone with our many Members and friends in Alberta and across the country.

The anniversary year commenced with a special exhibition of Alberta women artists presented offsite at the Edmonton YWCA. The exhibition also celebrated the important contribution of women to building the AGA. From our founding Director, Maud Bowman to the contributions of hundreds of artists, curators and philanthropists, the AGA is indebted to many, many visionary, generous and committed women.

We started this momentous year at the AGA with the pairing of two major solo exhibitions featuring the work of Edmonton artists whose artistic contributions have been acclaimed both at home and internationally. Through painting and ceramic sculpture, Emmanuel Osahor captures the ever-changing nature of gardens, in which everything is always in process and there is an ongoing balance between the haphazard and the arduous pursuit of perfection. In Brenda Draney's exhibition *Drink from the River*, the artist delves into complexity of the representation of intimacy. Creating images culled from her archive of memories, she creates works that recall the people and moments that shaped her lived experience.

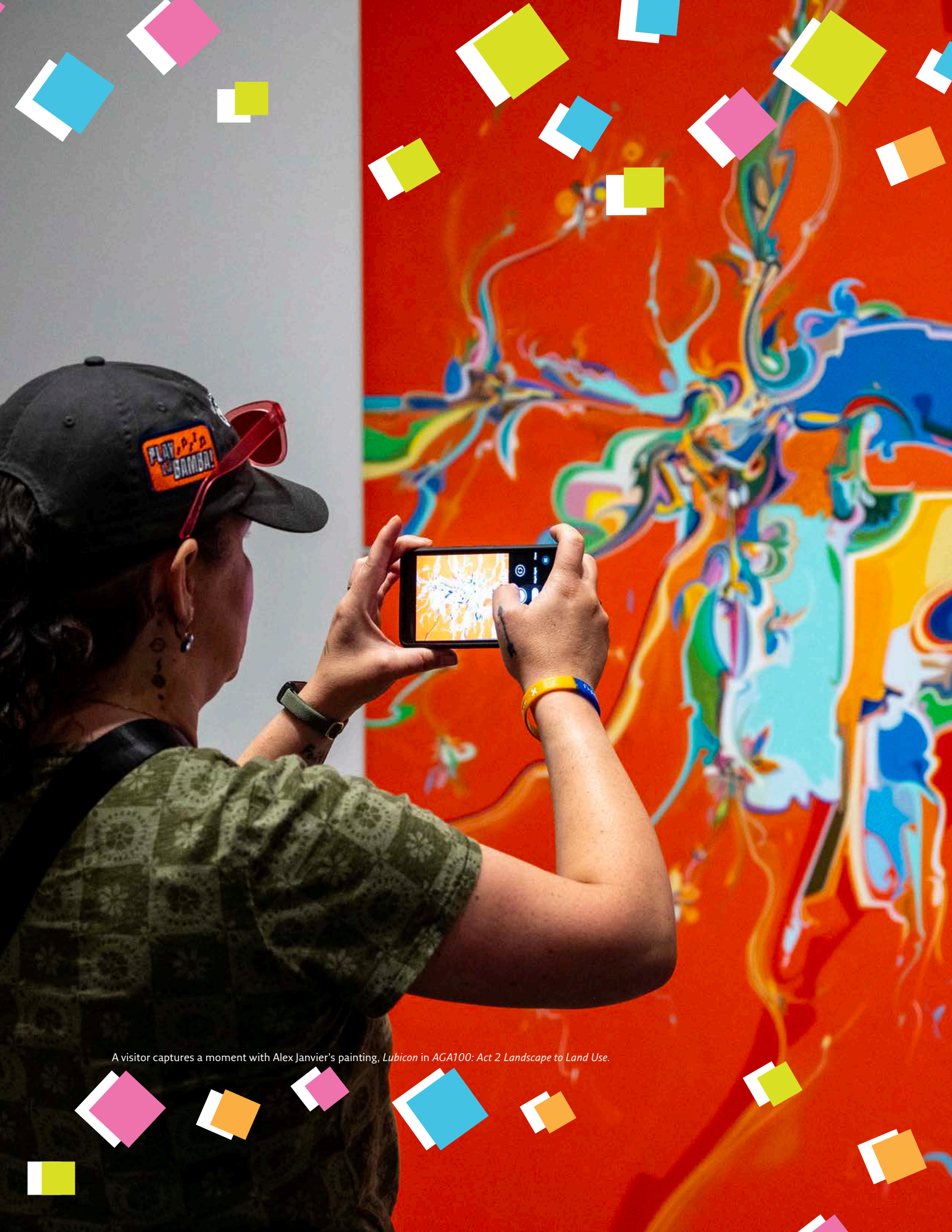
In February we opened the major exhibition, *Tom Thomson: North Star*, a tribute to this important Canadian artist, organized and toured by the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. Alberta audiences were able to see major works that traced the artist's working process and connection to the land. Simultaneously, the exhibition of a new installation by Braxton Garneau, entitled *Pay Dirt*, gave a surreal glimpse of the landscapes created by the oil industry in Northern Alberta and the artist's familial homeland of Trinidad. The question of our experience with the land was also addressed in Dwayne Martineau's immense photographic mural created for the main hall, *Boreal Fortress*. Using images of trees, bark, weeds and detritus from our aspen parkland ecosystem, the installation's massive scale and uncanny mirroring effect makes the trees feel strange yet familiar.

In spring, the AGA produced an exhibition featuring the photographic work of Meryl McMaster and Aïda Muluneh, entitled *Ebb and Flow*. Meryl McMaster's self-portraits, in which the artist assumes characters or animal personas in elaborate costume were presented with Aïda Muluneh's dream-






Visitors to Emmanuel Osahor's exhibition *I made this place for you*. Photography: Charles Cousins



A visitor captures a moment with Alex Janvier's painting, *Lubicon* in AGA100: Act 2 Landscape to Land Use.

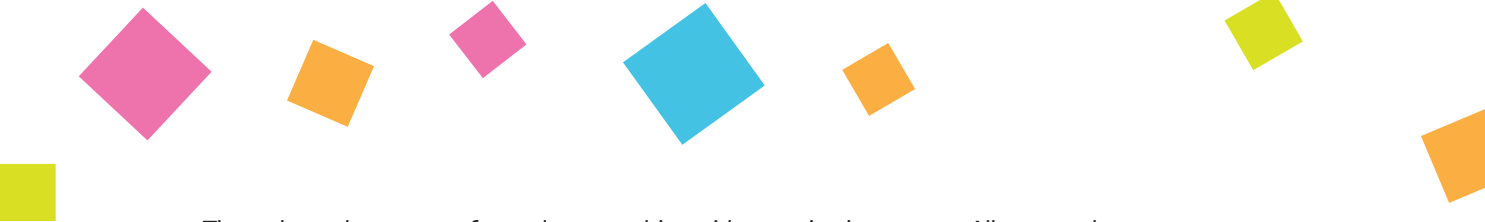


like images that often touch on Ethiopian history and culture. Both artists create works that are complex, historically informed and nuanced, images that reference moments from recent memories, family stories, to deep pre-human histories.

Beginning in May, curatorial activities were focused on sharing the history of the AGA and of art in Alberta, as part of the AGA's centennial. As a central part of this, a series of connected exhibitions was developed to feature our collection and to celebrate art and artists in Alberta over 100 years. The AGA curatorial team worked together to curate four connected exhibitions of Alberta art, from the 1920s to the present day. The exhibitions addressed themes recurrent in Alberta art and included over 200 Alberta artists in all media. Grouped together as *AGA100: Act 1, 2 and 3*, these three serial exhibitions were titled: *Earth to Eternity*; *Landscape to Land Use*; and *Words to Worldmaking*. Exploring themes such as land, landscape and land use; abstraction and infinity; the people and communities that comprise our province, together the exhibitions provided a glimpse into the complex, layered history of art in Alberta. Our fourth exhibition, *Knowledge Made Concrete: 100 Years of Teaching and Collecting*, opened in 2025, as a special partnership with the Illingworth Kerr Gallery at the Alberta University of the Arts in Calgary. Artists are the backbone of the AGA, and we acknowledge the important contributions of all those featured in our exhibitions and all those who choose to live and make art in our province.

Two additional exhibitions also looked at significant moments in the AGA's history. The exhibition, *1924: Edmonton and the Beginnings of the AGA*, looked at what our city looked like at the time of our founding. In 1975, the AGA was gifted a large and significant collection of Canadian art, donated by the Ernest E. Poole Foundation. This group of 90 paintings and sculptures became the cornerstone of the AGA's collection of Canadian historical art. The gifts featured work by Group of Seven artists such as Lawren Harris, Arthur Lismer, J.E.H. MacDonald and Frederick Varley as well as works by other luminaries of art in Canada: Emily Carr, David Milne, James Wilson Morrice, Tom Thomson amongst many others. The exhibition, *A Lasting Legacy*, featured the artworks in this legacy of the Poole family and commemorated their contributions to the AGA and art in Alberta.

The long history of the AGA – as with all public galleries and museums – is interconnected with the lives and histories of individuals who love and collect art. As part of the AGA's 100th anniversary celebrations, this exhibition brings together more than 75 works of art on loan from private art collections across Alberta. Featuring a selection of works as varied as the collecting visions as the people who have lent them, *A Look Within* provides a view into the wide range of approaches, passions and interests that drive practices of collecting. Supported by Canadian Western Bank, the AGA gratefully acknowledges the generosity and support of all of the lenders to this exhibition



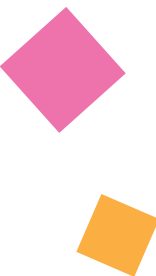
Throughout the year, we formed partnerships with organizations across Alberta to share art more broadly from and with the community. February brought with it the celebration of the work of 5 Artists 1 Love. For over 15 years, the AGA's partnership with this important community organization has enabled us to feature new works by a diverse group of artists of African heritage. Collaboratively organized by the AGA and the Nina Haggerty Centre, the exhibition *Wavy Dimension* brought together artworks created by Aaron Harvey and Boyd Dymchuk. Our partnership with the Africa Centre envisioned an exhibition, Aliya Logun's *Portraiture of Black Youth*, which served as a time capsule, representing the infinite nature of youth self-expression. At the end of the year, the exhibition, as with other AGA anniversary exhibitions, looked to the past and its impacts on the present and future—in this case, through a photographic tribute to Alberta survivors of the Holocaust.

In addition to exhibitions presented on site, in 2024 the AGA produced and toured 5 new exhibitions of contemporary art in 35 communities across Central and Northern Alberta. In 2024, over 154,000 people across Alberta experienced contemporary art exhibitions in their own communities. The AGA's Art Sales and Rental Gallery also worked to organize exhibitions each year in collaboration with non-profit community arts organizations. AS&R currently represents over 120 Alberta artists and provides income for living artists through a revenue-sharing agreement.

Another component of AGA core activities is the collection of over 6,600 works of art. Significant acquisitions have been made to the collection over the last few years, to address the historical lack of representation of Indigenous, First Nations, Métis and Inuit artists in the collection. Much of our success in building exhibitions and a collection representative of Indigenous knowledge and creativity is guided by the work of Indigenous curators. At the end of the year, we achieved an important strategic plan objective of fostering Indigenous curatorial expertise at the AGA with the appointment of Alaynee Goodwill-Littlechild as the first full-time Curator of Indigenous Creativity, thanks to the support of TD.

Throughout 2024 we developed numerous programs to engage with diverse cultural communities in Alberta through expanded language initiatives; community advisory committees; community-led tours and augmented programming for new citizens. Our seniors' program, Aging Artfully, received national recognition through a Canadian Museums Association award for programming. The year also featured numerous 100th anniversary specific programming initiatives, both inside the building and across the City.

Our 100th Birthday party on Churchill Square attracted over 5,000 people who enjoyed free admission, art activities, live performances, a special anniversary art market as well as cake. To close the year, we hosted a special, once-in-a-life time anniversary gala, The Century Ball. What a celebration it was, with a finely crafted dinner, marvelous music, a live figure drawing studio and a late night party.



2024 continued to be a challenging year, however, from a financial perspective. Despite this, we were thrilled with the engagement of so many people who showed how important the AGA continues to be as a cultural hub for our city and province. I would like to express our sincere thanks to all of those who so generously gave to the AGA's anniversary campaign, AGA Always. Your contributions made such a difference in this year, and for years to come. A special thank you to the Edmonton Community Foundation, who approved a potential match of up to \$500,000, for new donations to the campaign.

The AGA relies on the goodwill of so many people to operate each year, and we would like to acknowledge the donors who made financial and in-kind contributions to support AGA operations now and in the future. The Poole Centre of Design, funded by the Poole Family Foundation through the Edmonton Community Foundation, continued to be a key AGA funder of inspiring programming focussed on the intersection of art and design.

Our most sincere gratitude is given to the many people, AGA Members, Curator's Circle and Director's Circle Members, private donors and all our supporters who gave so generously to the AGA this year. This includes those who donated works of art to help us grow our permanent collection. Thank you as well to the ongoing corporate sponsors who continued to support the AGA this year, as well as all of our new supporters who joined the AGA family in 2024.

I would like to thank all the AGA staff and volunteers for their contributions over the past year. In particular, I would like to recognize the management team: Dara Armsden, Courtney Higgins, Trina Johnson, Mike Slywka and Pat St. Arnaud, who work hard every day to ensure the success of the AGA. Special thanks are extended to all of the AGA staff, everyone of whom who took on extra responsibilities and projects this year in order to make our 100th anniversary a year to remember. Thank you all!

The AGA Board of Directors and the AGA Always committee continue to provide guidance and support for the AGA team, and their work is most sincerely appreciated. In closing, I would like to express my most sincere thanks to Leon Zupan, Chair of the AGA Board of Directors for his dedicated leadership and tireless commitment to the AGA and building for our future. He has provided his knowledge, wisdom and support as Chair for the last 5 years, in times of both uncertainty and celebration.

Catherine Crowston

Executive Director/Chief Curator



Opening night reception in front of Dwayne Martineau's *Boreal Fortress*. Photography: DB Photographics

Exhibitions

Brenda Draney: Drink from the River

January 20-May 5

This survey exhibition featured the work of Edmonton-based painter Brenda Draney. Based in images culled from her personal archive of moments and memories, Brenda Draney pictures figures and moments that have shaped her lived experience, delving into complex questions around the notion of intimacy. Her works explore the relationship between how we make memories and how we build knowledge, through storytelling and image making.

Initiated, organized, and circulated by The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, Toronto. Supported by the Sobey Art Foundation. This exhibition is made possible with the generous support of the Canada Council for the Arts.



Emmanuel Osahor: I made this place for you

January 20-May 5

Emmanuel Osahor: I made this place for you uses paintings and ceramic sculpture to present gardens as sites of collective respite and convalescence.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Lindsey Sharman. Presented by the Poole Centre of Design.



5 Artists 1 Love

January 20-March 3

Artists: Macha Abdallah, Anthony Chinedu Ezeifedi, Martin Kwame, Miguel Matthews, Lorelle Whittingham

This annual exhibition curated by 5 Artists 1 Love celebrates the artistic vibrancy and range of Edmonton's African- Canadian communities.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and 5 Artists 1 Love. Curated by Darren W. Jordan.



Tom Thomson: North Star

February 17-May 26

This exhibition offers a fresh perspective on the life and legacy of Tom Thomson, Canada's preeminent modern painter.

Organized and circulated by the McMichael Canadian Art Collection with the exceptional support of the National Gallery of Canada. Curated by Ian A.C. Dejardin and Sarah Milroy. Supported by the Government of Canada / Avec l'appui du gouvernement du Canada. Sponsored by Heffel.

McMichael  NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA  Canada Heffel

Braxton Garneau: Pay Dirt

February 17-May 26

Pay Dirt makes social and industrial connections between Pitch Lake in Trinidad, the largest natural deposit of asphalt in the world, and Alberta's bitumen deposits.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Lindsey Sharman. The RBC New Works Gallery features new artworks by Alberta artists and continues the Art Gallery of Alberta's tradition of supporting and promoting Alberta artists.



Dwayne Martineau: Boreal Fortress

March 2-August 4

Boreal Fortress features surreal images of a cluster of trees from our aspen parkland ecosystem that suggests a secret passageway into another world.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Lindsey Sharman. This exhibition is presented by Capital Power Indigenous Art Fund.



Aïda Muluneh and Meryl McMaster: Ebb and Flow

March 23-July 7

Ebb and Flow is a photography exhibition about water, the manipulation of water as tool of colonial violence, water as matrilineal connector and water as keeper of geologic time.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Lindsey Sharman.



Visitors to the exhibition *AGA100: Act 1 Earth to Eternity*. Photography: Valeriya Voronovskaya

Probably, Plausibly, Possibly

March 23, 2024-Apr 20, 2025

Designer: Jaime Calayo

This exhibition imagines what the AGA might look like another 100 years into the future with audio collages and kid collaborations.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Dara Armsden.

Records and Remembrance: A Selection of Recent Acquisitions

April 18-July 7

Artists: Lori Blondeau, Dana Claxton, Ruth Cuthand, Isabelle Hayeur, Natalka Husar, Skeena Reece, Mary Scott, Shirley Wiitasalo, Mary Shannon Will

A selection of recent acquisitions with a focus on living Canadian and Indigenous women artists.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Catherine Crowston and Danielle Siemens. This exhibition is presented by Capital Power Indigenous Art Fund.

Indigenous
Art Fund



AGA100: Act 1 Earth to Eternity

May 25-November 3

Artists: Giuseppe Albi, Catherine Burgess, Isla Burns, Eric Cameron, David Cantine, Ann Clarke, Jim Corrigan, Chris Cran, Philip Darrah, Jim Davies, Dick Der, Ihor Dmytruk, Clay Ellis, John Freeman, Paul Freeman, Douglas Haynes, Peter Hide, Geoffrey Hunter, Alex Janvier, Walter Jule, Harry Kiyooka, Bill Laing, Sheila Luck, Ken Macklin, Lynn Malin, Gloria Mok, Ron Moppett, Mark Mullin, Sheri Nault, Marion Nicoll, Katie Ohe, Emmanuel Osahor, Lyndal Osborne, Seka Owen, Graham Peacock, Alan Reynolds, Harry Savage, Mary Scott, Blake Senini, Robert Sinclair, Mitchel Smith, Jeffrey Spalding, Takao Tanabe, J.B. Taylor, Carroll Taylor-Lindoe, Laura Vickerson, Sylvain Voyer, Samantha Walrod, Arlene Wasylynchuk, Mary Shannon Will, Norman Yates, Richard Yates

To celebrate the Art Gallery of Alberta's 100th anniversary, *AGA100: Act 1 Earth to Eternity* showcases Alberta art and artists represented in the AGA's Collection.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Catherine Crowston, Lindsey Sharman and Danielle Siemens.

AGA100: Act 2 Landscape to Land Use

June 15, 2024-January 19, 2025

Artists: Mark Arneson, Alana Bartol, Maxwell Bennett Bates, Sandra Bromley, Robert Brunelle, Sean Caulfield, Diane Colwell, Steven Dixon, Alec J. Garner, Roland Gissing, Henry George Glyde, Ted Godwin, Jude Griebel, Tanya Harnett, Percy Henson, Hubert Hohn, Alex Janvier, David Janzen, Illingworth Kerr, Ernest Kroeger, Eleanor Lazare, A.C. Leighton, Thelma Manarey, Walter May, Euphemia McNaught, Janet Mitchell, Harry Palmer, Walter J. Phillips, Clifford Foard Robinson, Marigold Santos, Margaret Shelton, Heather Shillinglaw, Paul Smith, John Snow, Laura St. Pierre, Peter von Tiesenhausen, William Townsend, Sylvain Voyer, George Webber, George Weber

To celebrate the AGA's 100th anniversary, *AGA100: Act 2 Landscape to Land Use* showcases Alberta art and artists represented in the gallery's Collection.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Catherine Crowston, Lindsey Sharman and Danielle Siemens.

Boyd Dymchuk & Aaron Harvey: Wavy Dimension

June 15-October 6

The Wavy Dimension is an alternative reality created by Aaron Harvey and Boyd Dymchuk that is filled with waves of joy, love and imagination.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and the Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts. Curated by Lindsey Sharman.



August Klintberg: Love Empire

June 15-August 25

Consisting of a barebones stage, basic PA system and a secret compartment, *Love Empire* creates a space for public proclamations of love, admiration, passion and emotion.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta in partnership with the National Gallery of Canada.



1924: Edmonton and the Beginnings of the Art Gallery of Alberta

July 27-November 10

Artists: J.W. Beatty, MJ Belcourt, Frederic Marlett Bell-Smith, Alban Cartmell, Bessie Fry, Robert Gallon, Braxton Garneau, Ishbel Hamilton-Gordon, Lawren Harris, William Johnstone, Frederick M. Kitchener, Peter Lipinski, Arthur Lismer, Laura Muntz Lyall, Florence Maud Mortimer, Florence McGillivray, Liliás Torrance Newton, Frank H. Norbury, Margaret Rabbitskin, Egerton L. Pope, Jerry Saddleback Sr., William St. Thomas Smith, Emile Walters

1924 is an introduction to the formation of the Art Gallery of Alberta against the cultural backdrop of Edmonton in the early 1920s.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Danielle Siemens.

AGA100: A Lasting Legacy

July 27, 2024-January 5, 2025

Artists: Frederick Banting, J.W. Beatty, Lorne Holland Bouchard, Franklin Brownell, Franklin Carmichael, Emily Carr, A.J. Casson, Georges Chavignaud, F.S. Coburn, Charles John Collings, Maurice Cullen, Ernest Alfred Dalton, John Fox, Clarence Gagnon, Frederick Stanley Haines, Lawren Harris, James Henderson, Frank Hennessy, Randolph Hewton, A.Y. Jackson, Otto Jacobi, Franz Johnston, Cornelius Krieghoff, Arthur Lismer, J.E.H. MacDonald, David Milne, James Wilson Morrice, Rita Mount, Graham Norwell, Lucius O'Brien, Lawrence Panton, Paul Peel, Jean-Paul Riopelle, William Goodridge Roberts, Alfred Henry Robinson, Stanley Royle, John Wentworth Russell, Marc Aurele de Foy Suzor-Coté, Tom Thomson, F.H. Varley, Frederick Arthur Verner, Homer Watson

In 1975, the AGA was gifted a large and significant collection of Canadian art, donated by the Ernest E. Poole Foundation.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Catherine Crowston. This exhibition is presented by the Poole Centre of Design.



AGA100: Free for All Anniversary Wall

August 17, 2024-March 2, 2025

In this remix of the beloved 2007 exhibition *Free for All*, we are transforming our main lobby into a vibrant mural, featuring artwork submitted by our community. Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Catherine Crowston.

Aliya Logan: Portraiture of Black Youth - A Time Capsule of Infinite Possibilities

October 26, 2024-January 19, 2025

A photo portrait exhibition by Aliya Logan showing the expansiveness of self-expression among Edmonton's Black youth.

Organized by the Africa Centre and the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by the Africa Centre. The RBC New Works Gallery features new artworks by Alberta artists and continues the Art Gallery of Alberta's tradition of supporting and promoting Alberta artists.



A Look Within: The Vision of Alberta Collectors

November 23, 2024-February 17, 2025

Artists: Natalie Ball, Maxwell Bates, Ronald Bloore, Jack Bush, Franklin Carmichael, A.J. Casson, Chris Cran, DaveandJenn, Reg Davidson, Nicholas de Grandmaison, Beau Dick, Joseph Drapell, Dean Drever, Joe Fafard, Geoffrey Farmer, Lionel LeMoine Fitzgerald, John Folsom, Helen Frankenthaler, Jeneen Frei Njootli, Wyn Geleynse, Ted Godwin, Adad Hannah, Lawren Harris, Douglas Haynes, Damien Hirst, David Hoffos, A.Y. Jackson, Franz Johnston, Dorothy Knowles, William Kurelek, Marie Laurencin, Tau Lewis, Arthur Lismer, J.E.H. MacDonald, Liz Magor, Kelly Mark, Luanne Martineau, Marmaduke Matthews, Arthur McKay, Meryl McMaster, Chris Millar, Kent Monkman, Damian Moppett, Ron Moppett, Norval Morrisseau, Marion Nicoll, Kenneth Noland, Jules Olitski, Roula Partheniou, William Pehudoff, Walter J. Phillips, Pablo Picasso, Susan Point, Larry Poons, Jean-Paul Riopelle, William Goodridge Roberts, Jon Sasaki, Ryan

Sluggett, John Snow, Françoise Sullivan, F.H. Varley, Frederick Arthur Verner, Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas
A Look Within is a view into the wide range of approaches, passions and interests that drive practices of collecting.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Supported by Canadian Western Bank. The Art Gallery of Alberta gratefully acknowledges the generosity and support of all of the lenders to this exhibition.



Here to Tell: Faces of Holocaust Survivors

November 28, 2024-February 9, 2025

Here to Tell: Faces of Holocaust Survivors is a commemorative and educational photography exhibit featuring both living and deceased Holocaust survivors with a connection to Alberta.

Curated, produced and directed by Marnie Bondar and Dahlia Libin, Holocaust and Human Rights Remembrance and Education of the Calgary Jewish Federation. Supported by Anonymous, Dr. Frances Cyngiser and family in loving memory of Dr. Sidney & Bronia Cyngiser, Nora & Lawrence Lyman in loving memory of Isadore & Florence Burstyn, Elizabeth Regan & Robert Abells, Dr. Eric & Elexis Schloss, Barry Zalmanowitz & June Ross.



Offsite

George Littlechild: Here I am - can you see me?

Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre, Medicine Hat: January 13, 2024- April 6, 2025

Red Deer Museum and Art Gallery, Red Deer: May 10-August 17, 2024

Giving remembrance, recognition, honour and validation to the thousands of innocent children that nobody is able to recognize as they stand amongst their fellow residential school students in the photographs... these children are finally acknowledged, and work begins to recognise and remember these lost souls.

Organized and circulated by the Art Gallery of Alberta, curated by MJ Belcourt.



Opening night in Aliya Logan's exhibition *Portraiture of Black Youth - A Time Capsule of Infinite Possibilities*.



Installation view of *Women of the AGA: Celebrating 100 Years of Achievement*. Photography: Charles Cousins

Women of the AGA: Celebrating 100 Years of Achievement

YWCA Edmonton Office: March 28-August 23

Artists: Robin Arsenault, Catherine Burgess, Vera Gartley, Marion Nicoll, Lyndal Osborne, Violet Owen, Jane Ash Poitras, Jean Richards, Arlene Wasylynchuk, Mary Shannon Will

In conjunction with the AGA's 100th anniversary, this pop-up exhibition at the YWCA celebrates Alberta women artists in the AGA's Collection.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta, presented by YWCA Edmonton and curated by Danielle Siemens.



Community Gallery

Infocus Photo: *Identity Ether*

January 27-March 21

Artists: Saeed Abdollahi, Dani Dimon, Gerry Dotto, Aidan Guerra, Natasha Kravchenko, Yashoda Latkar, Francesco Lepre, Angela Mickle, Quintavius Oliver, Vanessa Tignanelli, Courtney Townsend.

Identity Ether invites viewers on a contemplative journey through the complex interplay between self-discovery and self-definition. The showcased photographs delve into nuanced realms of identity where Self is explored through the tapestry of cultural and societal ideologies, career, creativity, death, and the psyche.

Organized by Art Sales and Rental at the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Alexis-Marie Chute

Creating Beauty: A Watercolour Exhibition

April 6-June 2

Artists: Sheila Greer, Brenda Heine, Sheilah Kelly, Cheryl Moskaluk, Shannon O'Blenes, Ingrid Pederson, Lucy Rachynski, Brenda Raynard, Misty Ring, Pam St. Laurent, Linda Vaudan
Inspired by the book "Beauty, the Invisible Embrace", 11 artists explore the concept of beauty through watercolour.

Organized by Art Sales and Rental at the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Amy Lowen.



Works from the exhibition (y)OurAGA. Photography: Charles Cousins

Artist Proof: Art Sales & Rental New Acquisitions

June 8-August 25

Artists: Jeff Bell, Richard Borowski, Anusha Gajaweera, Dasha Harrison, Steven Maillie, Sara Norquay, Michael Reinhart, Kelsey Stephenson, Alex Thompson

To celebrate the AGA's 100th year, *Artist Proof* showcases prints by members of SNAP (Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists), which are also the newest additions to the AGA's distinguished Art Sales & Rental program.

Organized by Art Sales and Rental at the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Andrew Wujkowski.

Fairweather: Equality, Community, and Climate Change

September 7-November 10

Artists: Violet Berland, Louisa Bone, Emma Caith McLay, Mia Cook, Micheal Cor, Kassidy Dachuk, Maurissa Davis, Wendy Dawson, Clara Desjarlais, Bertha Dewolfe-Auger, Colton Faithful, Tony Friesen, Lana (Flett) Gal, Jenna Gal, Tralynn Ganter, Jamie Goth, Stacie Halcrow, Jada Isaac, Riley Jane Kelly, Saamiha Kanji, Kaitlyn Konkin, Miya Lamoureux, Soléne Lamoureux, Roberta Laviolette, Kristie Lee, Meadow Makokis, Nic Martin, Madison Melley, R Mills, Joanna Miranda, Vivian Moghrabi, Alvina Mui, Nyah Nichol, Pierre Öberg, Kane Pendry, Evan

Robinson, Jenna Sampson, Cynthia Schroter, Mohamed Sesay, Sabrina Shanta, Maria Shironoshita, Manpreet Singh, Amelie Snowdon, Christian Spacil, Lester St. Arnault, Chantell Stamp, Donna Steele, Ruby Sweetman, Hannah Walter, Natalie Ward, Sabrina Watson, Daniel Whyte, Lena Wiebe, Dax Ziesel

Presented by students, graduates, and instructors from Portage College and the University of Alberta, as well as special guest artists from India and around the world, this exhibition explores climate-focused themes of fair weather, climate change, and climate justice.

Organized by Portage College and the University of Alberta. Curated by Pierre Öberg and Royden Mills.



(y)OurAGA

November 16, 2024-January 19, 2025

Artists: Terrena Boss, DOMFOOL, Jesse Dutton-Kenny, Linda Frena, Shane Golby, Alayne Goodwill-Littlechild, Krissy Iraheta, Bridget Trout, Coralie Monpontet, Sharon Pianzola, Steve Nixon, Misty Ring, Evan Robinson, Kevin Sehn, Emily Stovold, Thomas Weir, Clint Wilson, Chelsea Wong, (y)OurAGA celebrates the artists who, in their "day jobs", bring Your AGA to life each day.

Organized by Art Sales and Rental at the Art Gallery of Alberta.



Edmonton's Poet Laureate Shima Robinson speaks from August Klintberg's *Love Empire* installation on the gallery's terrace. Photography: DB Photographics



Gibril Bangura, *Connection*, 2023. Mixed media. Courtesy of the Artist. From the TREX Exhibition *Riot on the Walls*.

TREX

The Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition Program.
Produced by the Art Gallery of Alberta.

The Travelling Exhibition Program (TREX) was established in 1981 by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts with the vision that every Albertan would have the opportunity to experience visual art exhibitions in their own communities. Fully funded by the AFA, the TREX program is produced by the coordinated effort of the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie (TREX Northwest), the Art Gallery of Alberta (TREX Central and Northeast), The Alberta Society of Artists (TREX Southwest), and the Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre (TREX Southeast).

The Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA) has managed the TREX program for Central and Northeast Alberta since 1986. In March 2018, the AFA awarded the AGA management of the TREX program for five years (2018-2023). In December of 2023, the AFA extended the five-year contract for one year while the program was reviewed. We are happy to announce that the AGA has been approved to continue serving the province by organizing the TREX program in a renewed contract for 2025-2030.



2024 TREX Region 2 Exhibitions on Tour: 19

2024 TREX Region 2 Exhibition Bookings: 73 exhibition bookings (100% booking rate)

2024 TREX Region 2 Exhibition Visitors: 101,482



Kananginak Pootoogook, *Raven Takes the Catch*, 1988. Stonecut and stencil. 55.3 x 71 cm. Gift of Dr. Adrian Jones.

Collection Acquisitions

The AGA acquired the following works in 2024*

Dorothy Barnhouse

Saskatchewan Valley, 1939*

Watercolour with charcoal and graphite on paper

45.5 x 36.2 cm

Gift of Thomas Parlee & Spence Hill in memory of Rosemary Parlee (Mother) 1920-2000, a member of the Edmonton Sketch Club, c. 1937-1941

Kyle Beal

Funtown: September Saturnalia / Infernal Inferno, 2013*

Charcoal on rag paper

65 x 90 cm

Gift of the Artist

Funtown: Electrical Fire Extravaganza, 2014*

Charcoal and pastel on rag paper

66 x 127 cm

Gift of the Artist

Funtown: Burnt. A Boardwalk To A Beach, 2014*

Charcoal on rag paper

86 x 127 cm

Gift of the Artist

David Blackwood

Visitation on Bragg's Island, 1997*

Etching on paper, ed. 49/75

65.5 x 55 cm

Gift of Dr. Adrian Jones

Joane Cardinal-Schubert

We Have Slept for Over 100 Years, 1995*

Mixed media on canvas

91.4 x 91.4 cm

Purchased with funds from the Soper Endowment

Mary Cassatt

Denise Holding her Child, c. 1905, printed c. 1923*

Drypoint, unnumbered Delâtre edition

32.5 x 23.7 cm

Gift of Dr. Adrian Jones



Left: Joane Cardinal-Schubert, *We Have Slept for Over 100 Years*, 1995. Purchased with funds from the Soper Endowment.
Right: Laura Vickerson, *Power and Privacy*, 2003. Gift of the Artist.

Dana Claxton

Cabri Lake BW Panorama, 2000, printed 2021*
Gelatin silver prints, ed. 1/2
121.9 x 678.2 cm
Gift of the Artist

Geoffrey Farmer

In the dark pool the grass grows. In the grass there is night. Hold tight, and climb the tree, eating leaves then leap!, 2014*
Douglas Fir pole with seven photographs mounted on foamcore
489 x 8.5 x 8.5 cm
Gift of Ken W. Bradley

Workbooks with When I got fired from that Beckett Play (Fountain), 2014*
Vitrine with five cut-outs collaged on foamcore, framed cut-outs and ink mounted on paper, two wooden wall facades, paint, window, sandbags
Dimensions variable
Purchased with funds from the Mitchell Endowment

Gordon Ferguson

ddesk, 2020*
Mixed media/found objects
Dimensions variable
Gift of the Artist

Carolyn Reesor Kaufman

Title Unknown, 1945*
Watercolour on paper
26 x 22 cm
Gift of Mark Smith

Ken Macklin

Blue Bird, 2004
58.5 x 81 x 47 cm
Concrete and steel
Gift of the Artist

Ron Moppett

DECOY (2), 1989*
Oil on canvas
183.1 x 468.2 cm
Gift of the Artist

Terry Munro

11 photographs from *Mesozoic Park* series, 1982*
Silver gelatin prints
40.5 x 50.2 cm (each)
Gift of the Artist

Kananginak Pootoogook

Raven Takes the Catch, 1988*
Stonecut and stencil
55.3 x 71 cm
Gift of Dr. Adrian Jones

Curtis Talwst Santiago

Culture in the Key of Kerry, Sung by my Aunties on a Saturday Afternoon, 2024*
Reclaimed jewellery box, Paper, leather, plastic, wood, acrylic paint, oil paint, human hair, gold leaf and Epoxy putty
5.5 x 9.5 x 8 cm
Purchased with the support of the York Wilson Endowment Award, administered by the Canada Council for the Arts./Œuvre achetée avec l'aide du Prix de la dotation York-Wilson, administré par le Conseil des arts du Canada, and with funds from the Mitchell Endowment

Heather Shillinglaw

De Towe teli Towe, 2023*
Recycled fabrics, hand sewn embroidery, stabilizers, thread painting, acrylic paint and yarn
117.3 x 77.6 x 0.5 cm
Purchased with funds from the Cheryl M. Sutton Endowment Fund

Laura Vickerson

Power and Privacy, 2003*
Gauze, thread and used corporate and business security envelopes
8'9" x 9'5"
Gift of the Artist

*Works recognized in the 2024 Audited Financial Statements

Value for
acquired works
in 2024:

Donated: \$291,292
Purchased: \$102,811



Singhmar Centre for Art Education

Program Overview

Total Programs: 537 **Total Participants: 15,912**

By offering dynamic learning opportunities, Education & Learning at the AGA strives to connect students, community and ideas through art and creativity. We offer teacher and school programs; family programs; art classes and camps; youth programs and initiatives; adult programs; and community outreach. We provide various access points to current exhibitions and hands-on artmaking that empower all members of our community to transform their lives with curiosity and play.

Education Goals

- Provide a point of entry to the AGA and current exhibitions that is accessible and equitable for people of all ages, experiences and capacities.
- Foster problem-solving, critical thinking and collaboration through play, discussion, hands-on process and reflection
- Create innovative and interactive experiences that build connections between ourselves, our students and our communities.

Teacher & School Programs

Teacher Programs

Total Programs: 8 **Total Participants: 502**

School Programs

Total Programs: 197 **Total Participants: 7664**

The teacher and school programs connect teachers and students to big ideas through various programming formats and access points, including in-person and virtual exhibition visits, studio projects, professional development sessions and online resources.

- Connections to Alberta Education's Programs of Study in the areas of Social Studies, Language Arts, Science, French, Spanish and Early Childhood Learning
- In-depth investigations of featured exhibitions and studio practices
- Heightened focus on inquiry-based learning and student-centered programming.



Photography: Valeriya Voronovskaya

Family Programs

Family programs provide opportunities for families to connect to exhibitions through art exploratory focused on play, hands-on art-making and exciting in-gallery experiences.

Stroller Tours

Stroller Tours are in-depth tours of a current exhibition offered once per month to parents with new babies. With added flexibility, caregivers can learn about art in a safe space where babies can be babies and parents can interact with other parents.

Total Programs: 9 Total Participants: 60

Tours for Tots

Tours for Tots is a weekly art exploration for families with young children to discover exhibitions together. Themes change from week to week, and the program includes a gallery visit, hands-on art experiments, storytelling and more.

Total Programs: 42 Total Participants: 243

Birthday Parties

Birthday Parties are fun-filled studio explorations for children aged 4 years and up. Birthday Parties include a gallery visit and interactive studio project led by Gallery Educators.

Total Programs: 42 Total Participants: 811



All Day Sundays

All Day Sundays are once-per-month afternoons packed full of engaging art activities for the whole family. With exciting programs and projects that tie into current exhibitions, guests of all ages can join in and have fun.

Total Programs: 11

Total Participants: 481

Art Classes and Camps

Offered throughout the year, Art Classes and Camps are for children ages 6-12 to hone their visual literacy, critical thinking and artmaking skills. Each class or camp features close-looking activities and discussion, unique art projects and material explorations.

Weekend Art Classes

Weekend Art Classes feature a wealth of opportunities for students to explore their creativity including investigative gallery visits and process-led art projects inspired by featured exhibitions. Weekend Art Classes are led by professional artists/educators and are focused on experimentation, risk-taking and participation in a dynamic studio setting.

Total Programs: 11 Total Participants: 86 Total Attendance: 541

ArtBreak Camps

ArtBreak Camps are offered during the summer school breaks. Students take the lead in these exploratory programs to discover the world around them through art activities, exercises and projects related to specific themes. Focusing on student interactions and personal experiences, these camps create bridges between art, ideas and the community.

Total Programs: 11 Total Participants: 112 Total Attendance: 521

Youth Programs & Initiatives

By engaging with art and ideas featured in current exhibitions, youth programs provide teens the opportunity to hone their artistic skills and to expand and develop their creative voices.

Youth Art Classes

Youth Art Classes dive into the creative practices of artists featured in current exhibitions while providing opportunities to take artistic risks in a safe and fun environment.

Total Programs: 8 Total Participants: 53

The AGA Youth Council

The AGA Youth Council is a group of dedicated teen volunteers committed to developing teen audiences at the AGA. As members of the council, youth have exclusive access to the inner workings of the Gallery, as well as unique opportunities to collaborate with local artists and creative professionals. They work alongside AGA staff to design and develop programming initiatives for teens.

Total Programs: 29 Total Participants: 207

Teen Night

Teen Night is a special night designed just for teens at the AGA. It is the perfect opportunity for youth to see what is happening at the Gallery, make new friends and be creative. Teen Night is developed and presented by the AGA Youth Council.

Total Programs: 2 Total Participants: 153

Adult Programs

Adult Open Studio

Adult Open Studio is a casual drop-in art workshop offered weekly. Featuring a new project and theme connected to current exhibitions each week, these workshops provide participants with opportunities to experiment and explore new ideas and materials in a relaxing studio environment.

Total Programs: 45 Total Participants: 406

Art Express

Art Express is a hands-on approach to art education for adults with developmental challenges. Class sessions take place in twelve-week intervals throughout the year and involve drawing, printmaking, painting, sculpture and mixed media art. Partnering with the Cerebral Palsy Association of Alberta, Art Express offers class projects that are inspired by current exhibitions and are focused on students expressing their creativity.

Total Programs: 48 Total Participants: 380

Team Building

Team Building Studio-based events featuring a range of art materials and techniques, exhibition visits and chances to connect with colleagues. Current themes include Art Fundamentals, Mindfulness and Creativity or Teamwork.

Total Programs: 3 Total Participants: 44



Photography: Valeriya Voronovskaya

Community Outreach

Community Outreach activities foster engagement beyond our regular programming schedule and include partnerships with community organizations and activities off-site and in the community.

Art Hive

Art Hive is a weekly community-based artmaking initiative that is open to all and welcomes participants as artists. Partnering with the St. Stephen's College Art Therapy program at the University of Alberta, Art Hive is a safe(r) and inclusive space that uses artmaking as a tool for collaboration, dialogue, skill-sharing and community engagement for people across different cultural and socio-economic backgrounds, ages and abilities. No art training or experience is required to participate.

Total Programs: 51 Total Participants: 499

Our Family Roots

In its 3rd year, we present a month-long exhibition in partnership with the Alberta Genealogical Society and St. Thomas Aquinas School. Students are invited to investigate their family roots and create a poster for display. The exhibition was open to the public, and the Education and Learning team hosted a special reception and ceremony as part of the outreach initiative.

Total Programs: 1 Total Participants: 155



Photography: Valeriya Voronovskaya

Art Cart

Educators from the AGA delivered drop-in art programming on Churchill Square in partnership with the Edmonton Arts Council. Art activities explored a range of art, artists, techniques and materials.

Total Programs: 2 Total Participants: 47

Street Performers Festival

In the lead up to our 100th anniversary, we facilitated an art activity as part of the SPF in Churchill Square.

Total Programs: 2 Total Participants: 82

St. Albert Children's Festival

The St. Albert Children's Festival invited AGA Education to collaborate on a festival-long art-making workshop. Participants engaged with watercolour and relief printing mediums while reflecting on their favourite memories and imagining the future in the lead up to our 100th anniversary.

Total Programs: 4 Total Participants: 1021

K-Days

The AGA Education Team delivered a rotating roster of art activities in partnership with Explore Edmonton. Projects included watercolour landscapes, futuristic collages and more.

Total Programs: 10 Total Participants: 1387



Photography: Valeriya Voronovskaya

It All Starts with Me

It All Starts with Me is an ongoing partnership with City Lumber, BGCBiggs, sponsors and art partners promoting knowledge of the arts and its ability to empower children through visual art, music, theatre and more.

Total Program: 1 Total Participants: 19

New Year's Eve

Educators delivered drop-in art activities as visitors utilized the AGA as a warming station during the New Year's festivities organized by the City of Edmonton and in partnership with the Arts District.

Total Programs: 1 Total Participants: 1600

Special Presentations

Programming initiatives and prototypes that are new or one-time programs that are not part of our regular programming schedule.

Catalogue Launch

In partnership with the Nina Haggerty Centre in tandem with our exhibition *Boyd Dymchuk and Aaron Harvey: Wavy Dimension*.

Total Program: 1 Total Participants: 21

Indigenous Youth Workshop

We hosted a series of art-making workshops in our studios with local Indigenous youth facilitated by David Garneau and organized by the National Gallery of Canada

Total Programs: 5 Total Participants: 45



Programming and Engagement

AGA programming provides opportunities for our patrons and the public to learn more about art and artists in featured exhibitions in a range of presentation formats.

Lectures, Talks and Panels

These programs offer opportunities to connect more deeply with art through facilitated conversations and access to local artists and experts in the arts and cultural field.

Total Programs: 6 Total Participants: 446

- January 19: Artist Panel featuring Emmanuel Osahor and Brenda Draney
- February 16: Curator's Talk of *Tom Thomson: North Star* with Sarah Milroy, Executive Director and Chief Curator of the McMichael Canadian Art Collection
- February 24: Curator's Tour of *5 Artists 1 Love* with Darren Jordan and Musical Guests
- June 6: Curator's Tour of *Records and Remembrance* with Danielle Siemens
- October 24: Artist in Conversation: *Portraiture of Black Youth – A Time Capsule of Infinite Possibilities* with Aliya Logun
- November 7: Public Lecture: Separating Fact from Painted Fiction: An Examination of Paul Kane's Problematic Representations of Indigenous Peoples in America with historian Dr. Ian MacLaren

Refinery

A late-night party, Refinery encourages new audiences to engage with art and exhibitions in new ways. Each Refinery features a different theme and includes performances, art activities and other delightful surprises.

Total Programs: 1 Total Participants: 298

- March 23: The Palm Room

Event Days

Full-day programming, including performances by local artists, art activities and complimentary film screenings.

Total Programs: 4 Total Participants: 1310

- June 21: Indigenous Peoples' Day at the AGA
- June 27: Pride Day at the AGA
- September 29: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- October 3: Seniors' Takeover Day



Room for two
Oil on Canvas
2023

5:43 PM

Brenda Draney and Emmanuel Osahor were in conversation with curator Lindsey Sharman at the opening of *Drink from the River* and *I made this place for you*.
Photography: Charles Cousins

Special Presentations

Unique programming initiatives and prototypes that sit outside our regular schedule of programs and events.

Total Programs: 13 Total Participants: 582

- January 11: Film Night - *The Lost Leonardo* (2021) and *The Monuments Men* (2014)
- February 22: Black History Month Film Night and Panel Discussion – *Summer of Soul* (2021)
- January 21: Heart of the City – Music Program Series
- February 18: Heart of the City – Music Program Series
- May 19: Heart of the City – Music Program Series
- May 25: Chinese Embroidery Collage with Gloria Mok
- May 30: Artist Activation: The Edmonton Goji Map Project with Yong Fei Guan
- June 6: Artist Workshop with August Klintberg – Youth Council x Aging Artfully
- June 9: Indigenous History Month Artist Workshop – Alayne Goodwill-Littlechild
- June 21: Indigenous History Month Film Screening – *Rosie* (2022)
- June 27: Pride Month Film Screening – *Queen Tut* (2023)
- September 26: Artist Activation: Artist for Hire with Brin Steeves
- September 29: Film Screening and Talk of *Nanekawâsis* with Conor McNally and George Littlechild

Aging Artfully

Our senior's advisory committee is a group of dedicated volunteers who lead the way and lend their talents to increasing accessibility and awareness to all seniors in our community.

Total Programs: 20 Total Participants: 481

Seniors' Tours

- January 26: *Brenda Draney: Drink from the River* and *Emmanuel Osahor: I made this place for you*
- February 28: *Tom Thomson: North Star* with Danielle Siemens
- April 26: *Aida Muluneh and Meryl McMaster: Ebb and Flow* with Lindsey Sharman
- May 24: *Women of the AGA: Celebrating 100 Years of Achievement* (at the YWCA) with Danielle Siemens
- June 28: Indigenous History Month: Indigenous Artists in current exhibitions
- July 25: *AGA100: Act 1 Earth to Eternity* with Lindsey Sharman
- August 28: *AGA100: Act 2 Landscape to Land Use* with Lindsey Sharman
- September 27: *1924: Edmonton and the Beginnings of the Art Gallery of Alberta* with Danielle Siemens
- November 22: *AGA100: A Lasting Legacy*
- December 13: *Here to Tell: Faces of Holocaust Survivors*



Vendors at the Pride Market. Photography: Charles Cousins

Cinema for Seniors

- January 11: *The Lost Leonardo* (2021)
- February 9: *John Ware Reclaimed* (2020)
- March 8: *At Eternity's Gate* (2018)
- April 12: *This Beautiful Fantastic* (2016)
- May 10: *Cutie and the Boxer* (2013)
- June 14: *Maker of Monsters: The Extraordinary Life of Beau Dick* (2017)
- July 12: *Lay Down Your Heart* (2022)
- August 9: *Gerhard Richter Painting* (2011)
- September 13: *The B-Side: Elsa Dorfman's Portrait Photography* (2017)
- November 8: *Anthropocene: The Human Epoch* (2018)

Markets

Our Market Series invites local entrepreneurs, artists and craftspeople to share their work with our audience.

Total Programs: 4 Total Participants: 1923

- April 13 and 14: Comic and Zine Market
- June 27: Pride Market
- September 21 and 22: Indigenous Arts Market
- November 30 and December 1: Handmade for the Holidays



Outreach Tours and Programs

Free tours or exhibition access to community groups to foster greater connection and engagement to the AGA.

Total Programs: 4 Total Participants: 86

- January 31: EPL Learn Downtown Talk
- September 14: Little Italy Walking Tour with Terasa Spinelli from the Italian Centre
- September 21: Chinatown Walking Tour with the Chinatown Transformation Collaborative
- September 28: River Valley Walking Tour with Talking Rock Tours

AGA100 Anniversary Programming

During much of 2024, many events, programs and workshops were coordinated to share our 100th anniversary with the general public.

Total Programs: 10 Total Participants: 6551

- June 14: *Love Empire* Performance Series with Shima Robinson
- June 27: *Love Empire* Performance Series hosted by Evolution Wonderlounge
- July 11: Love Empire Performance Series Open Mic Night Hosted by Shayne Giles from CKUA
- July 25: *Love Empire* Performance Series hosted by the Polyglot
- August 8: *Love Empire* Performance Series hosted by 5 Artists, 1 Love
- August 17: *Love Empire* Performance Series hosted by Layne Mitchell
- August 17: Flashlight Tours – AGA100 Late Night Birthday Bash
- August 18: *Love Empire* Performance Series AGA100 Birthday Karaoke hosted by Shayne Giles from CKUA
- August 18: Centennial Market
- August 18: AGA100 Birthday Party on the Square

Partnerships

Throughout the year the AGA partnered with local organizations to co-host events, concerts, and programs aiming to bring new audiences to the Gallery.

Total Programs: 5

Total Participants: 571

- February 6: WEBINAR Navigating the Artworld with Geneviève Wallen and Toyin Oladele in partnership with CARFAC
- April 18: Art Industry Night in partnership with CARFAC Alberta
- November 21: Art Industry Night in partnership with CARFAC Alberta
- October 20: Film Screening of *Director's Cut of Claude Cormier's Oral History* with MADE
- November 28: Bring Your Own Beamer in partnership with MacEwan University



Visitors to Artists' Alley at the AGA100 birthday celebration on Churchill Square. Photography: Brandon Mattice

Community Partners

- The Polyglot
- CKUA
- Evolution Wonderlounge
- 5 Artist 1 Love
- CARFAC Alberta
- MacEwan University
- MADE
- The Africa Centre
- YEGTheComeUP
- Talking Rock Tours
- Chinatown Transformation Collaborative
- VIVA





Art on the Block

Thank you to all who joined us on May 10, 2024 for Art on the Block. What started as the 'art mart' many years ago continues as an important event raising funds and profile in support of Alberta's visual arts sector.

Art on the Block is the AGA's premier art auction fundraiser and cocktail party that sees hundreds of amazing Albertans attend and bid on original works and experiences each year. Imagine our galleries filled with art collectors, both established and aspiring, artists, donors, members, sponsors, professionals, art enthusiasts and more!

This prestigious annual fundraiser once again provided attendees with an exclusive opportunity to bid on original works by Canadian artists, as well as numerous art inspired items such as trips, exclusive dinners and unique experiences that sometimes can't be bought elsewhere.

Attendees were treated to inspired cocktails, culinary delights and music in an energetic cocktail party atmosphere.

Thank you to our sponsors, ticket purchasers, auction donors and bidders. Together, we raised important funds in support of your AGA's exhibitions and programming.

The Century Ball

The Century Ball and Art Party delivered an elevated culinary and cultural experience designed to celebrate the AGA's 100th Anniversary.

The Century Ball provided an elegant gala-style dinner with a menu inspired by revolutionary art movements of the 20th century, while the Art Party followed with an interactive, high-energy celebration featuring live music, roaming performances, and unique food and drink experiences.

These events offered an immersive journey into Alberta's artistic and culinary heritage, featuring a multi-course fine dining experience, creative cocktails, and curated culinary delights crafted by the award-winning Chef Serge Belair and team at the Edmonton Convention Centre.

This memorable celebration is forever etched in our hearts as a wonderful gathering to celebrate the value of art for us all.



Equity Committee

In 2024, the Equity Committee supported initiatives in community engagement and staff training, including

- Whisper mics as a regular feature of our tour program. The mics allow visitors to listen to the tour guide without straining to hear and block out the ambient noise in the exhibition spaces that could be distracting.
- Partnering with CARFAC Alberta to develop a series of professional development and networking events for artists in our community. The latest event was specifically designed for artists from marginalized communities. We leveraged our contacts at CARFAC, Edmonton Arts Council, Alberta Foundation for the Arts and others to ensure that artists had an opportunity to network with people at these organizations and assembled a team of ambassadors to facilitate conversations.
- The development of a prototype onboarding module for new staff. This module offers a broad introduction to equity themes and concepts, ensuring that all new hires have a foundational understanding of these topics. The module includes a glossary of terms, an inclusive language guide, and articles on identifying racism, facilitating difficult conversations and understanding bias and privilege.

Marketing

Throughout 2024, Marketing and Communications had the pleasure of promoting AGA100 events, exhibitions and programming, both organically and through multiple partnerships. In addition, we championed the launch of the AGA's new website, designed to improve user experience and maintain the AGA's profile as Alberta's hub of arts and culture.

General Numbers

- Over 130,000 social media followers or a growth of 3,000 followers from 2023
- Over 4.2 million impressions
- 125,000 total ad clicks
- 17,000 ad conversions
- 30,377 ad engagement
- 22,314 link clicks
- 18,013 E-News subscribers or a 2.5% growth from 2023
- 56.4% e-newsletter open rate, more than double the industry standard
- 19 e-newsletters sent
- 12 media releases sent
- 84 media stories
- Over 25 partnerships with organizations or groups



Enterprise and Visitor Experience

Acting as “the face of the AGA”, Enterprise and Visitor Experience creates a warm and welcoming environment for our guests, clients, customers and members. By marrying the attributes of its four programs: Guest Services, Art Sales & Rental, the Community Gallery, and shopAGA, Enterprise & Visitor Experience reaches into Alberta’s creative community and helps build sustainable financial opportunities for artists and makers while attracting visitors to Edmonton’s downtown.

Guest Services

As the first point of contact for most visitors to the AGA, the Guest Services desk serves as a hub of information, ensuring visitors, clients, and artists enjoy their time at the Gallery. Guest Services fulfills several integral functions, including admissions processing, daily attendance tracking, conducting surveys, recording visitor feedback, and selling and updating memberships.

By providing ongoing training and streamlining daily processes, our Guest Services Associates are equipped to manage a perpetually dynamic stream of traffic while ensuring the exceptional level of personal service we strive to provide all visitors. In 2024, this service included complimentary and mandatory coat check services during the runs of special exhibitions that required additional security provisions.

In 2024, growth in membership purchases and renewals continued to be a focus for the AGA. Understanding how a positive member experience can enhance loyalty, encourage continued involvement and create word-of-mouth advocates, the Guest Services team connected with new and returning members, helping to shape our members’ positive touch-point experiences be it with enrollment, visitation, or renewal.

Furthering its role in admissions, the Guest Services team implemented the launch of AGA’s new Top-Up initiative, which invited visitors to round-up their entrance fees. This point-of-sales donation incentive was an effective way for visitors to show their support of the gallery through small, manageable contributions which collectively translate to a significant monetary impact over time. Since its implementation in August 2024, this new initiative collected \$1,923 in these micro-donations.



Art Sales & Rental

The longest-running program of its kind in Alberta, Art Sales & Rental enables the public to enjoy art in their homes and offices at a reasonable cost. This vital program supports Alberta artists through remuneration for artwork sold and rented. It also provides a high-profile platform through which professional artists can promote their bodies of work both physically and virtually. For the visitor, the Art Sales & Rental Gallery creates an accessible avenue to encounter thousands of artworks in every medium, which in turn, builds understanding of and greater appreciation for Alberta art and artists.

In 2024, Art Sales & Rental:

- Presented over 1,680 artworks available for rent and purchase
- Rented an average of 89 artworks each month by 60 artists to 34 clients
- Sold 72 works to 50 clients

With the entire collection of available artworks showcased on our website, potential clients and buyers can actively search for their next acquisition from the comfort of their home, or request a viewing of specified artworks in our showroom during regular gallery hours.

Community Gallery

An impactful initiative of the Art Sales & Rental program, the Community Gallery supports local community groups who are interested in curating and producing diverse art exhibitions with the intention of selling their artworks. Through this initiative, the AGA provides a venue for these retail exhibitions and supports their production, installation and promotion. Undertaken in a spirit of collaboration, openness and knowledge sharing, the Community Gallery space features up to five exhibitions per year and is always free to the public with all exhibited artworks available for sale.

In 2024, under the administration of Art Sales & Rental, the Community Gallery showcased 5 exhibitions: *In Focus*, *Creating Beauty*, *Artist Proof*, *Fair Weather: Equality, Community and Climate Change* and *(y)Our AGA*. Combined, these five exhibitions featured 226 artworks by 104 Alberta established, mid-career and emerging artists.



shopAGA


Attracting visitors to the heart of downtown Edmonton, shopAGA is an integral part of our creative community. Celebrating Alberta's provincial identity through the lens of the maker, shopAGA is committed to featuring well-crafted, original, culturally significant and locally sourced, small-batch, studio-made selections that complement AGA gallery exhibitions.

shopAGA is more than a retail destination. It is an important part of an artist's diverse, whole-career professional practice. shopAGA's retail and marketing opportunities serve as an important component to an artist's larger career scope by supporting their revenue-generation streams and providing a platform on which to build profile in support of their artistic identity. With a selection of over 1,000 pieces of art, fine-craft and design created by 147 artists, designers and makers, shopAGA ensures underrepresented communities are provided opportunities to sell their works. In 2024, shopAGA vendor-identified representation included:

- 147 vendors
- 22 new vendors
- 79% Albertan
- 18% Indigenous
- 5% persons of colour
- 6% new citizens
- 59% female-led business
- 2% LGBTQ+
- 10% senior (65+ years)
- 5% Francophone

Celebrating AGA's centennial year, shopAGA featured several exclusive lines of merchandise to help build awareness of the longevity of the AGA's presence in our province as well as tell its narrative through the skilled hands of the maker. A local chocolate maker created flavoured bars inspired by the decades; a leather worker designed card wallets embossed with a line-drawing of the iconic AGA building; an Indigenous ceramic artist hand-built plates inspired by the AGA's interior lattice work; an embroidery artist created a limited edition embroidery kit featuring a floral interpretation of the iconic AGA building; and a local antique collector showcased selected antique and vintage treasures to give visitors a taste of what was worn and carried throughout the decades. And with our selection of vintage exhibition catalogues resurrected, visitors were reminded of just how much was created in a hundred years!

Each year, shopAGA attracts more artists, designers, makers and writers who seek to be a part of this growing enterprise. As our catalog of creators grow, so do the buying selections for our customers, enhancing the gallery experience and making one's shopping excursion more interesting and culturally diverse.



“Spending time at
the gallery is a great
outing for me and
my children.”

Photography: Lee Burton



Membership

2024 was an incredible year for our AGA Members as we celebrated our 100th Anniversary with 3,573 active memberships.

Our AGA Members gain access to exhibitions and numerous benefits all year round and provide crucial support to AGA's ability to deliver high quality programming, classes and events. We are proud to offer a diverse range of options to suit all art lovers – from discounted senior rates to philanthropic partnerships with a tax-deductible, charitable donation.

“I have enjoyed my membership at the Art Gallery for a number of years. I enjoy the freedom to view the Gallery when I wish. I have enjoyed the opportunity to see opening exhibits first, meet the owners, artists, or lending curators. I have been able to participate in your seniors programs and attend the AGM. It is always my pleasure to visit our Art Gallery whether for an hour between tasks to be done, or for longer visits.”

All memberships include:

- Free admission
- Invitations to exhibition openings and special events
- 10% discount on programming and at shopAGA, including art rentals
- Member pricing and advance sales to AGA programming, events, and parties
- Extra discounts and programming during Members' Weeks
- Reciprocal admission to select galleries across Canada
- Voting privileges at AGA's Annual Meeting
- Exclusive insider updates and news

The AGA continues to be part of North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) Association and Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums (ROAM). These programs allow our Explore, Enhance, Curator's Circle and Director's Circle Members to enjoy reciprocal admission at over 1,000 museums and galleries across the United States, Canada, Bermuda, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico, and Panama.

Thank you to all of our AGA Members who made the past year possible!





AGA Always Campaign

The Art Gallery of Alberta has a bold course for the future. In a time of breathtaking change, economic challenges and social complexity, the AGA is more essential than ever before.

That is why we are embarking on a Campaign to progressively strengthen the unique value that the AGA brings our entire province for years to come.

\$20 million: A legacy for our next 100 years

Inspired by our first century, AGA Always' goal is to amplify and grow the legacy of art in our city and province. We will kick-start our next hundred years by:

- Establishing a 100th Anniversary Endowment Fund valued at \$15 million to:
 - Drive audience engagement, pan-Albertan and digital experiences
 - Deliver expansive education and public programming
 - Invest in local artists and art
 - Increase the number of major international exhibitions
 - Grow and preserve Alberta's permanent collection
- Advancing excellence in capital infrastructure with approximately \$2.5 million
- Building capacity through operational and curatorial innovations valued at \$2.5 million

Thank you to the AGA Always Steering Committee:

- Bruce Bentley
- Graham McLennan
- Maggie Mitchell
- Allan Scott
- Barry Zalmanowitz
- Leon Zupan (Chair)

Thank you to the generous donors who have supported our campaign to date. An investment in AGA Always is an investment in our people and our communities, to spark ongoing engagement, creativity and innovation, and to craft a lasting future for art in our province.

Join us.



Donors and Patrons

The time is now to ensure that the AGA is here for always.

The next few decades will bring tremendous growth to our city, province and country. We believe that art must be at the heart of it, and that depends – like it always has – on so many people coming together to boldly chart our course. Thank you to our donors, funders, members and sponsors for investing in the AGA. Together, we are strengthening the unique value that the AGA brings our entire province as a gallery of national significance, an icon of Edmonton’s downtown and a creative hub in Alberta.

AGA Always

The AGA Always Campaign is an ongoing campaign to raise operating, endowment and capital funds for the AGA. ‡Indicates funds pledged and/or received by the AGA and/or ECF over multiple years for operating, capital and/or endowment confirmed at the time of report production.

Visionaries \$1,000,000 +

Maggie & John Mitchell AGA 100th Anniversary Fund
at the ECF ‡

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We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of donors who generously supported the Art Gallery of Alberta with their gifts of \$100 and over from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

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Thomas Weir (from April 2024)
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Alexandra Daigle, Program and Outreach
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Patricia Whitebone, Education and
Learning Administrator

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Jen Dunford
Terrena Boss
Krisssa Iraheta, Spanish Bilingual
Educator
Avelina Rathbone
Lindsey Bond (from March 2024 to
August 2024)
Shaihiem Small (from March 2024)
Celina Roaquin, French Bilingual
Educator
Coralie Monpontet, French Bilingual
Educator
Mariana Soares-Espindola, Spanish
Bilingual Educator (to April 2024)
Kerri Strobl, French Bilingual Educator
Mitchell Dexter (from November 2024)

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Steven Nixon
Evan Robinson
Emily Storvold
Misty Totman
Cynthia Valencia-Hegedes (to April 2024)
Chelsea Wong

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Administrator (to February 2024)

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Administrator (from June 2024)
Yeside Talabi, Application and Business
Analyst
Florence Ojoade, Interim Application and
Business Analyst (to May 2024)

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Visitor Experience
Graham Leggett, Associate Manager,
Enterprise and Visitor Experience (to
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Susan Winters, Senior Associate,
Enterprise and Visitor Experience (from
April 2024)

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Camille Mistrih
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Mariana Soares-Espindola (to September
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Donor Engagement
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Jennifer Harris, Development Coordinator
Harmonie Tower, Membership and
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Veronica Fraser, Senior Campaign
Associate (from April 2024 to August
2024)



Volunteers

For the 100th Anniversary Year, a core team of 153 volunteers provided essential support to AGA special events, exhibitions and programming. Over 1,537 hours, they generously gave their time, enthusiasm and dedication.

From our founding in 1924, volunteers have played a crucial role in the art gallery's formation. One example is The Women's Society of the Edmonton Art Gallery, a group of like-minded art enthusiasts who provided incredible contributions to the Gallery – from hosting membership Sunday teas to garnering countless donations to support the institution. Fifty-five pieces of art and sculpture, particularly focused on Inuit art, were purchased by the Women's Society and gifted to the Gallery in two years alone!

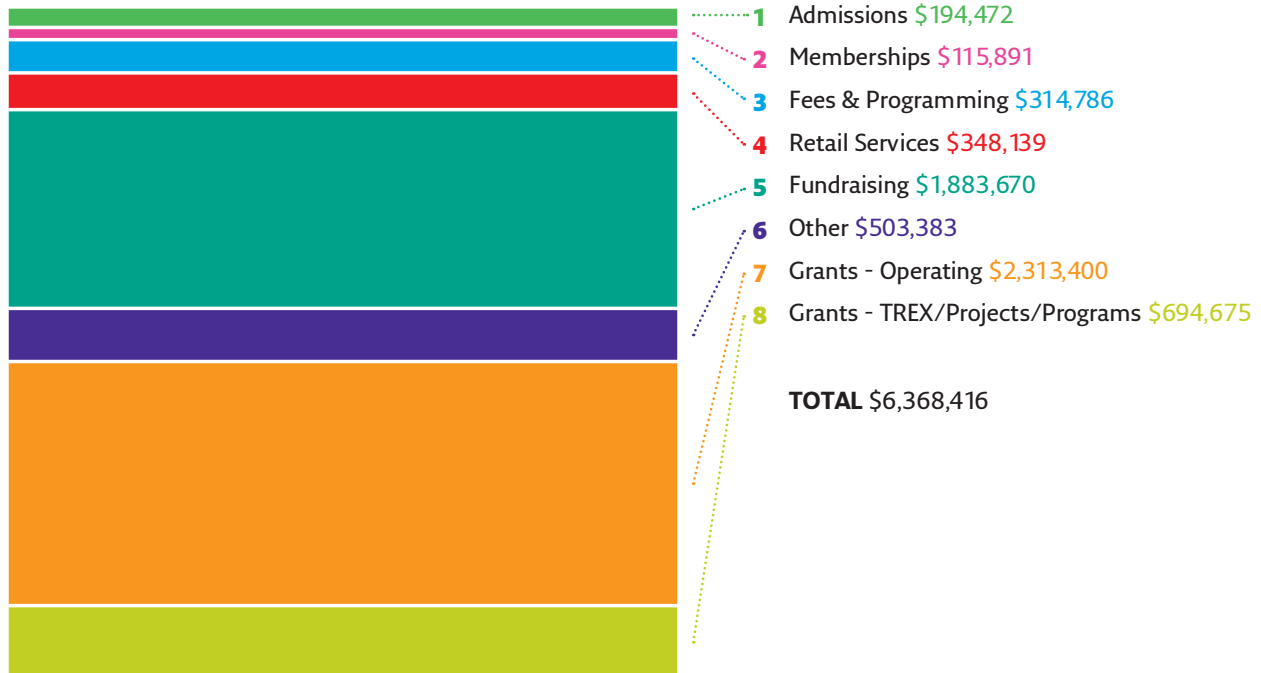
As the Gallery grew, volunteers continued to demonstrate their crucial role in its success. The docent program, in which volunteers guided visitors through exhibitions and provided information and context about the works, was essential to daily operations. In one year, 700 docent hours were recorded, providing 7,000 attendees guided tours. It is impossible to mention all our fantastic docents that have contributed over the years, with each having provided incalculable support.

Thank you to the following group of caring volunteers whose unwavering dedication and passion has enriched Alberta's cultural landscape in 2024:

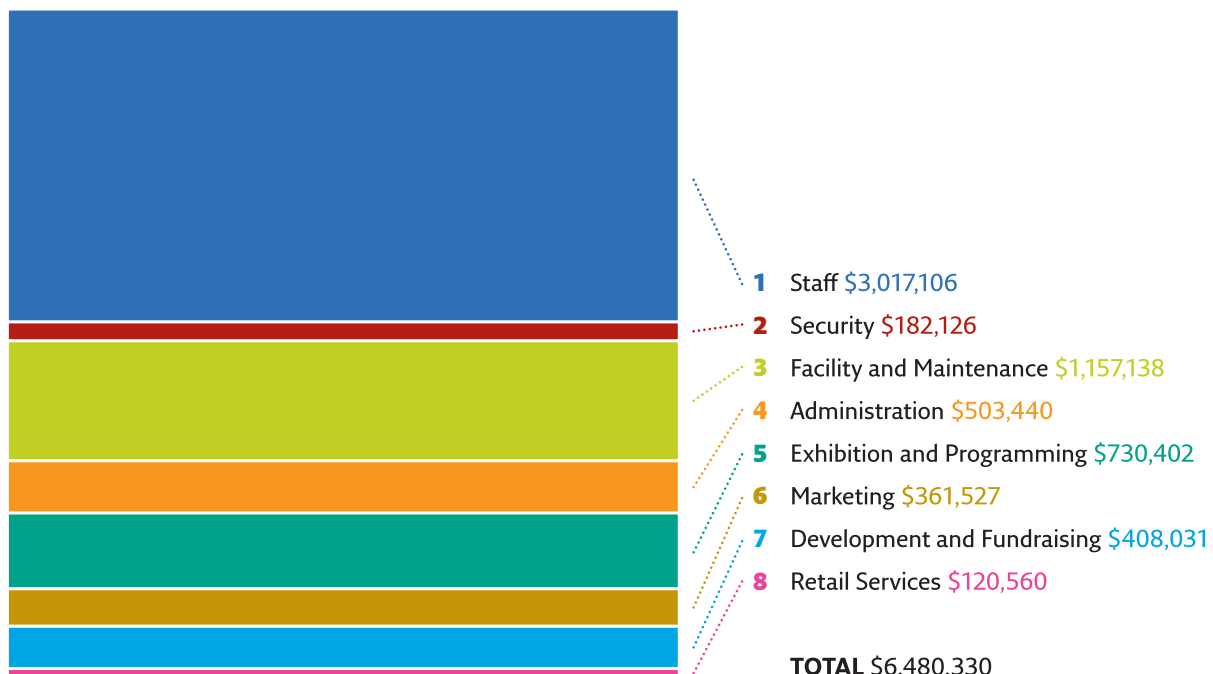
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Revenues & Expenses

2024 Operating Revenue: \$6,368,416



2024 Operating Expenses: \$6,480,330



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