

For immediate release

KWAG Volunteer Senta Ross Receives Ontario Museums Association's Award of Excellence with Distinction

13 October 2017, Kitchener ON – The Ontario Museums Association presented its annual Award of Excellence for Volunteer Service to Senta Ross, an exceptional supporter of the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, during the OMA Annual Conference held this week in Kingston, Ontario.

A retired school teacher and a Waterloo local, Senta Ross joined the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery in 2013 and has been a passionate champion of its mission ever since. She is an integral player in fundraising and event planning, and a passionate ambassador for the Gallery in the wider community.

Senta Ross undertook considerable research in preparation for the Gallery's 60th Anniversary in 2016, searching historical archives across Waterloo region and beyond to track down members of KWAG's original founding committee. Her tireless commitment

to recognizing our founders ensured that our 60th Anniversary campaign was a resounding success.

Her thoughtful work as the Community Curator of *Celebrating Our Own*, an exhibition of Permanent Collection artworks marking the founding and growth of the Gallery, made yet another profound contribution to the 60th Anniversary.

"As a charity, a lot of what KWAG does is volunteer supported," explains Executive Director Shirley Madill. "Senta is one of those volunteers we have come to rely on not only because we know she is capable, but also because she is such a wonderful representative of the art community."

The OMA readily recognized the extraordinary depth and dedication of Senta's volunteerism with their WOW Distinction for truly exceptional achievement: "It is unusual for a Volunteer to take on so much, show such initiative and receive such profound support from the staff and Board. Her success and approach to her work has won over and gained support for these initiatives; that is exactly the kind of leading example that institutions should learn from."

The six Awards of Excellence presented this year recognize institutions and individuals whose contributions move the Ontario museums sector forward in enriching people's lives and building vibrant, engaged communities.



Senta Ross. Photo © Scott Lee.

ABOUT THE KITCHENER-WATERLOO ART GALLERY

Established in 1956, the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KWAG) is Waterloo Region's leading public art gallery with an emphasis on contemporary art, offering creative and accessible experiences for all ages and segments of society. KWAG connects people and ideas through art, drawing the community into a shared experience of art that moves from sight to insight. The Gallery and its Permanent Collection of more than 4000 works is located within Centre In The Square.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery acknowledges that we are located on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. We are on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (Neutral Confederacy), Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples.

MEDIA CONTACT

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KITCHENER-WATERLOO ART GALLERY

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HOURS AND ADMISSION

T-W 9:30 am-5 pm, Thu 9:30 am-9 pm, Fri 9:30 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm,
Sun 1-5 pm
Open before most Centre In The Square performances

Admission to KWAG's exhibitions is free, courtesy of



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