



Influential Scholar to Speak at KWAG's Culture Talks Series

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, 30 April 2026

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery continues a series of conversations on the creation of socially conscious cities with the upcoming presentation [Culture Talks: Art, Architecture, the Public Realm and Social Infrastructure](#). This popular series returns on Thursday, 7 May at 6:30 p.m. with Troy Glover, a professor in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo and Director of the Healthy Communities Research Network.

KWAG's series of Culture Talks stems from the Gallery's commitment to civic engagement, in which it takes its role as an art museum in city revitalization seriously and explores the future role of artists and architects as cultural placemakers. In 2026, the series takes a deeper dive into the essential functions of

social infrastructure—the network of services and facilities that support community well-being, promote social equity, and drive economic growth. Dr. Glover’s work digs into how everyday environments and experiences, from parks and public spaces to leisure engagement, shape social connection, community life, and well-being.

“Waterloo Region is immersed in an exciting period of rapid growth,” explains Shirley Madill, KWAG’s Executive Director. “With a goal of reaching 1 million and with shifting demographics, there will be a higher demand for areas that are culturally vibrant, walkable, and amenity-rich - places that support the well-being of our citizens. This demands an integrated approach that shows the importance of arts and culture in social transformation. With our partners, Perimeter Development Corporation, Waterloo Region Community Foundation, and Grand Valley Society of Architects, we believe that these talks contribute to our region’s success in an urban and social transformation.”

Dr. Glover’s focus for this talk is “The Social Life of Repetition: How We Become Connected in Public Space”. Glover explores the hidden social dynamics that shape how connection actually happens within culturally active spaces. Offering a fresh perspective on social infrastructure and cultural placemaking, this talk shifts attention from how spaces are designed to how they are lived.

Limited tickets to [Culture Talks: Art, Architecture, the Public Realm and Social Infrastructure](#) are available online from \$12.50 - \$22.50 plus HST or by phone at 519-579-5860 x 100.

About Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery

As Waterloo Region’s leading public art gallery, the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KWAG) connects people and ideas through art. Its nationally acclaimed exhibitions and programs welcome all to be inspired and challenged through a deepened understanding of ourselves, our cultures, and our communities. For the benefit of current and future generations, the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery collects, preserves, researches, interprets, and exhibits the visual arts. It offers dynamic public programs that inspire creativity and an appreciation of the visual arts in the Region and beyond. Established in 1956 and incorporated in 1968, KWAG is a non-profit organization open to the public and administered in the public trust. Admission is free.

KWAG respectfully acknowledges that we are located in Block 2 on the Haldimand Tract: land promised to Six Nations, which includes ten kilometers on each side of the Grand River.* This is the traditional home of the Attawandaron (Neutral), Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee Peoples, whose resilience we honor by offering this Gallery as a space to reflect and learn from one another.

We are committed to reconciliation and ensuring that our Gallery's programs and Permanent Collection demonstrate more diverse, culturally relevant Canadian art and artists.

Accessibility: KWAG is fully accessible.

Visit Us

Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, 101 Queen Street North, Kitchener, ON N2H 6P7

www.kwag.ca

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KWAG gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of our presenting sponsor, Perimeter Development Corporation, the support of the Walper Hotel, Grand Valley Society of Architects as well as the Waterloo Region Community Foundation.

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