

## Youthful creativity returns to the Main Gallery for *Expressions 47: Look Up*

**3 March 2022, Kitchener ON** – The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery’s annual exhibition of student artwork from across Waterloo Region has returned to the Main Gallery following two years of digital exhibitions during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Expressions 47: Look Up](#) is now on view at KWAG until 15 May 2022, featuring the works of over fifty student artists from across Waterloo Region.

“After two years of digital exhibitions, KWAG is so excited to once again present *Expressions* on site, and to welcome the public into the Gallery to witness the talent and creativity of student artists in our Region,” says KWAG Director of Public Programs, Stephen Lavigne. In their responses to this year’s theme, participating students have explored ideas of movement, change and growth that aspire to a positive post-pandemic future.



This year’s *InSight* installation, presented as a part of *Expressions 47*, features a reading room of handmade sketchbooks by students at Eastwood Collegiate Institute and St. Teresa of Avila, which were created with the support of Artist in Residence Brenda Reid. Students from both schools worked individually and collaboratively to create a dynamic series of experimental book works.

*Expressions 47: Look Up* also features an interactive digital installation that invites visitors to create and contribute images as part of a growing universe, and a series of paintings created by members of the KWAG Youth Council. The themes and ideas explored across this exhibition are enhanced by selections from KWAG’s Permanent Collection that include works by Homer Watson, Frederick S. Coburn and Barbara Hepworth, among others.

“The Gallery’s close relationship to student artists in our community dates back to our earliest days in a bicycle shed behind Kitchener Collegiate Institute,” explains Shirley Madill, Executive Director. “*Expressions* is a long-standing tradition in our exhibition season that honours this relationship, and we couldn’t be happier to see this year’s artists return to the Gallery for the first time since 2019. We are proud to collaborate with schools, parents and teachers to provide this outstanding opportunity for our young artists.”

*Expressions 47: Look Up* is supported by the Waterloo Region District School Board and the Waterloo Catholic District School Board. The Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of CIBC Private Wealth – Allan Bush Investment Team as our Premier Exhibitions Sponsor.

## 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 4300 works is located within Centre In The Square.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery respectfully 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

Stephanie Vegh, Manager, Media & Communications

E: [svegh@kwag.on.ca](mailto:svegh@kwag.on.ca) T: 519-579-5860 x 218

### KITCHENER-WATERLOO ART GALLERY

101 Queen Street N, Kitchener

kwag.ca | 519.579.5860

### HOURS AND ADMISSION

KWAG is open to the public Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30am-5:00pm, Thursday from 9:30am-9:00pm, Saturday from 11:00am-5:00pm and Sunday from 1:00-5:00pm. Extended evening hours are also in place during select performances at Centre In The Square.

We encourage visitors to familiarize themselves with our [COVID-19 Visitor Policy](#) when planning their visit.



Admission to KWAG's exhibitions is free, courtesy of Sun Life Financial.