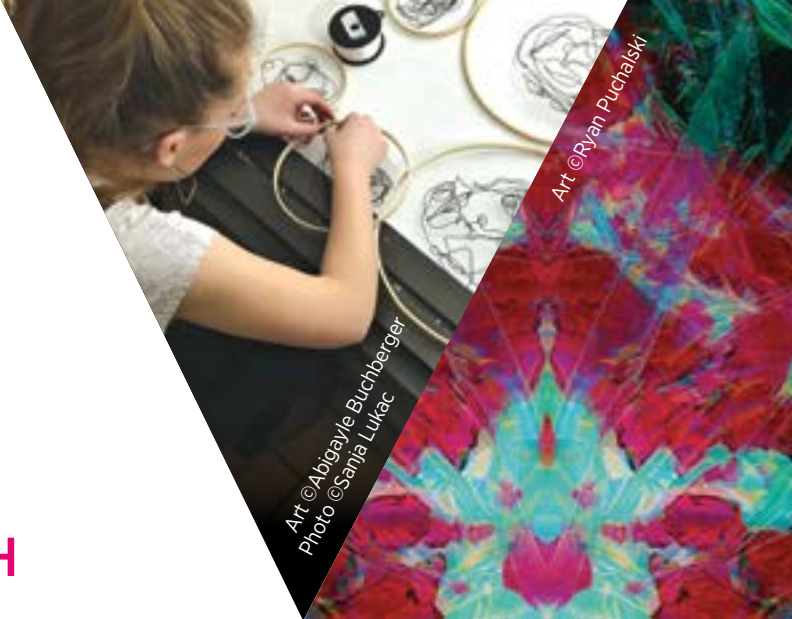




BE SEEN, BE HEARD,
BE EXPERIENCED THROUGH
THE RBC
EMERGING
VISUAL ARTISTS
PROGRAM



Art © Abigail Buchberger
Photo © Sanja Lukac



Art & Photo © Avril Lopez



Art & Photo © Mabel Tan

NAMING PARTNER



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What is the RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program?

Be seen, be heard – be experienced through the RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program at Arts Commons. This program is an exceptional opportunity for emerging visual artists in Calgary, Alberta, to develop their artistic practice and showcase their work to the public in exhibition spaces that are visited by more than 600,000 people annually.

Through one-on-one mentorship opportunities, exhibition opportunities, professional development sessions, and networking and social events, emerging visual artists who have been chosen to showcase in **Ledge Gallery**, **Lightbox Studio**, and **Window Galleries** will be provided with the resources to enter into the next phase of their career.

Becoming a successful artist is about more than innate ability; it is a purposeful combination of opportunity, meaningful hard work, and mentorship. The RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program at Arts Commons helps bridge the gap between emerging to established.

Emerging artists who have been selected for the Ledge Gallery, Lightbox Studio, and Window Galleries will be provided with:

- Four professional development sessions (such as financial planning, grant writing, how to improve artist statements and bios, networking, etc.).
- One-on-one mentorship opportunities with Arts Commons' Visual and Media Arts Curator.
- Group mentorship sessions with established artists and curators.
- Two panel discussion events that connect emerging artists with local galleries and arts professionals.
- Access to a private Facebook group for sharing resources, discussion, and networking.
- CARFAC standard artist fee for your exhibition.

Who is this program for?

The RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program at Arts Commons focuses on supporting visual emerging artists across all art forms who generally:

- Self-identify as emerging or are between the ages of 18 and 35.
- Are in the early stages of their career, in their art form, usually within the first few years.
- Are demonstrably committed to devoting more time to their artistic activity.
- Are involved in their creative community.
- Have not yet been showcased outside their primary country of residence.
- Devote a minimum of 24 hours per week to their art.
- Make a financial commitment to their practice and seek their primary income from their artistic work.
- Have little presentation or publication history.
- Are enrolled in, or have recently graduated from, a related degree/diploma program.

Where does this opportunity take place?

The RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program at Arts Commons is currently seeking submissions for the **Ledge Gallery**, **Lightbox Studio**, and **Window Galleries** in Arts Commons for September, 2022 through to August, 2023.

Please see the following pages for more information on these gallery spaces.

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Ledge Gallery (two – three months in duration)

This unique space is located in the +15 walkway system and overlooks Centre Court from the second floor of the building. The gallery has windows on two sides, a cement floor, and track lighting.

The Ledge Gallery is most conducive to sculpture, installation, and artist-in-residence style projects. Please note that the work is viewed from outside of the windows looking in unless the artist is present (performative piece). Exhibitions, projects, and residencies in this location will run from one to three month intervals depending on the nature of the proposal. CARFAC standard artist fees are paid for this exhibition space.



Artist: Megan Dyck



Artist: Sasha Foster



Artist: Sarah van Sloten

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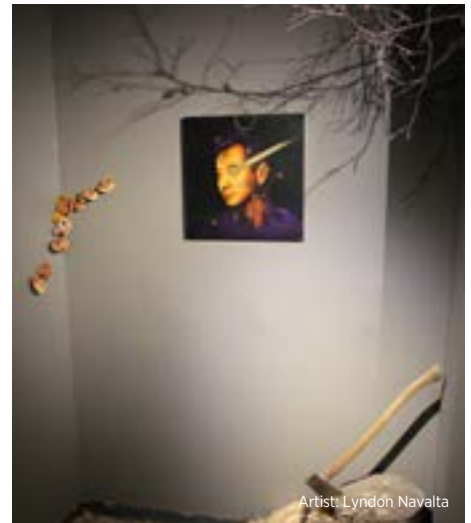


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Lightbox Studio (one – three months in duration)

Lightbox Studio is a 17'x9' site specifically for artists, designers, writers, and cultural producers to exhibit works in progress, ideas that are in the middle stages of development, or to experiment with visual culture. These works in progress take form through an artist-in-residence format where the space provided is to be used as a studio and exhibition space. The space provides the artist an opportunity to expand upon their research and development, and generates dialogue between artists and audiences about the work. Artist honorariums are paid for the Lightbox Studio. Please note that all artist fees and honorariums are contingent on current levels of funding.



Artist: Lyndon Navalta



Artists: Daniel J. Kirk and Katie Green

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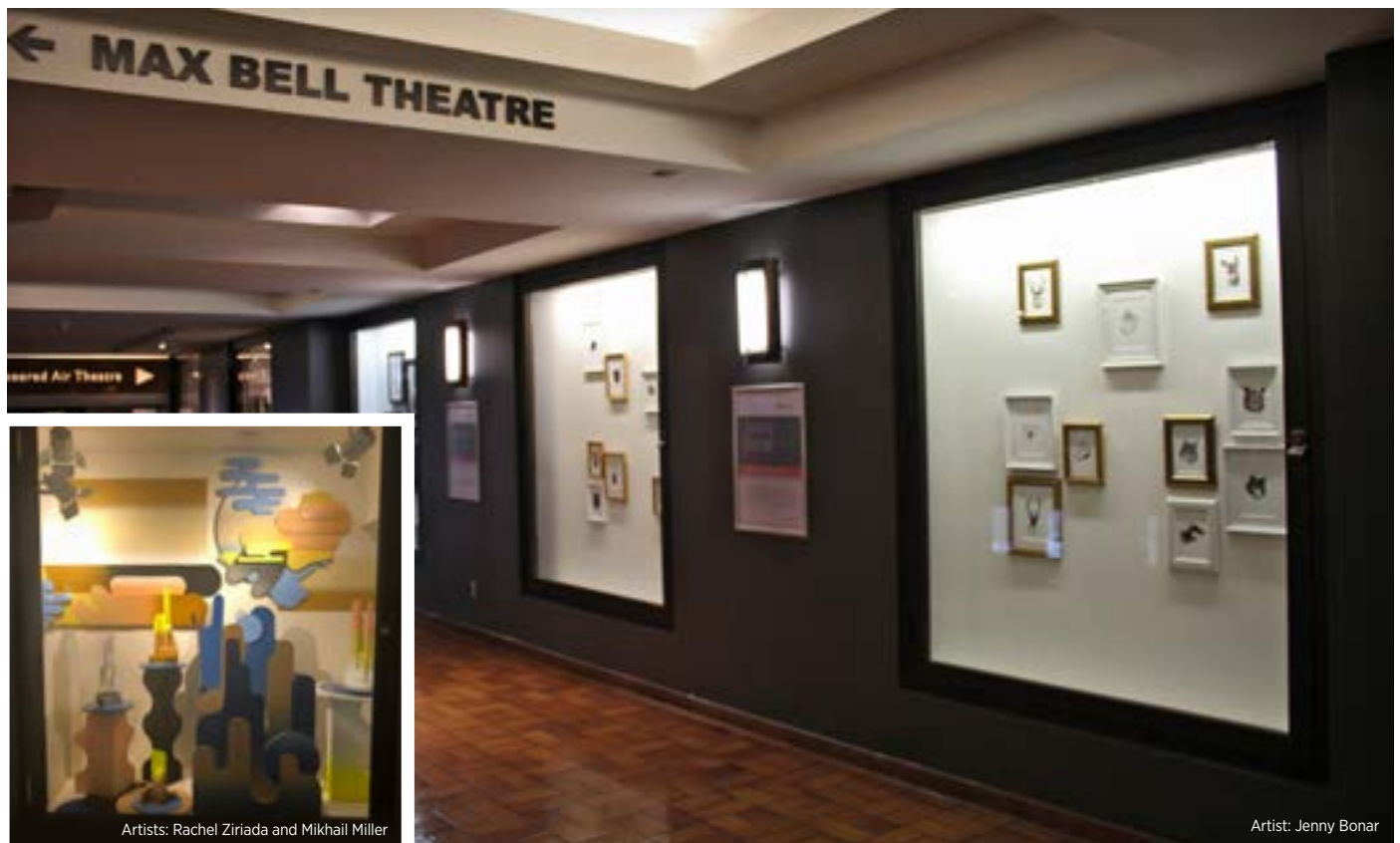
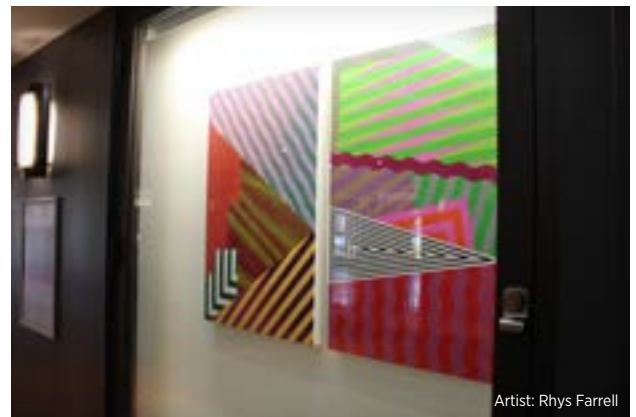
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Window Galleries

(one – three months in duration)

These seven window spaces are located across from the Max Bell Theatre. Four of the windows are conducive to sculptural/installation work, while the other three windows are more suited to 2D artwork (drawing, painting, photography etc.). Each window is painted white; all have varied measurements, and some are equipped with lighting and power sources. Exhibitions will run in three month intervals. Artist honorariums are paid for the Window Galleries. The CARFAC standard artist fees are paid for this exhibition space.



Artist: Jenny Bonar

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ARTS COMMONS STATEMENT

The RBC Emerging Visual Artists program at Arts Commons provides an exceptional opportunity for emerging visual artists to develop their artistic practice, to showcase their work to the public through exhibitions, open studio and speaking engagements, and hone their professional skills in order to build a solid foundation for a successful career. Through one-on-one mentorship opportunities, professional development sessions, networking social events and exhibition opportunities, these emerging visual artists will enter into the next phase of their career. Becoming a successful artist is about more than innate ability, it is a purposeful combination of opportunity, meaningful hard work, and mentorship.

Supporting emerging artists in Calgary, Alberta through the RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program at Arts Commons is an investment in our collective future and an opportunity to contribute to a growing cultural economy. The nature of our building and these non-traditional gallery spaces affords emerging artists to engage with a substantial audience of over 600,000 per year at Arts Commons.

Our mission at Arts Commons is “to bring the arts to life” which is why for the past 26 years Arts Commons has created space to support local emerging visual artists in our performing arts facility. Since 2006 Arts Commons has been growing our investment in Calgary’s visual arts community, today we curate the Lightbox Studio, the Ledge Gallery, the Window galleries and facilitate community programming in our eight (8) +15 Galleries. Since 1992, over 1079 artist exhibitions have been supported at Arts Commons.

Arts Commons is recognized for offering emerging artists with a uniquely supported experience that springboards them into the next phase of their creative career with new skills, new tools and a network of supportive peers. Our exhibitions and special projects enhance our patrons’ experience at Arts Commons while also promoting critical dialogue within the greater community. We strive to foster an inclusive community where emerging artists are empowered to engage and take risks. By doing so we are creating a meaningful experience that creates connection and collaborative relationships between artists and the community.

RBC FOUNDATION STATEMENT

Supporting the arts is a long-standing priority of RBC. We recognize the important role they play in building vibrant communities and strong economies. We also recognize the struggle many artists go through to gain the recognition they need to become successful in their practice. The RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program helps artists bridge the gap from emerging to established, and supports organizations, such as Arts Commons, that provide the best opportunities to advance artists’ careers.

Please apply by March 31, 2022

using the application form found below or at

For all inquiries about the RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program or Ledge Gallery, Lightbox Studio, and Window Galleries, please contact:

Sanja Lukac: Visual & Media Arts Curator
slukac@artscommons.ca | 403-294-7455 ext. 1905

RBC EMERGING VISUAL ARTISTS PROGRAM



Application Form

All submissions must include the following information to be considered and should be submitted in the form of a Word document or PDF file. Any artists needing assistance with their application are encouraged to contact Sanja Lukac, Visual and Media Arts Curator, at slukac@artscommons.ca.

Checklist

Letter of Intent (max. 150 words)

Discuss why being a part of the RBCEVAP would be beneficial to you as an emerging artist. How can it help you grow as an artist? How is your exhibition/project positioned in relation to your current artistic practice and what is its context to your work, research, and interests?

Exhibition Proposal (max. 150 words)

Clearly and briefly outline your proposed exhibition or project and include any special installation requirements.

Artist Statement (max. 150 words)

Discuss how your proposed exhibition/project is positioned in relation to your current artistic practice and the broader context of your work, research, and interests.

Artist Biography (max. 150 words)

Include information about you, how you got started, important accomplishments you would like to highlight and anything else you feel is necessary to explain who you are as an artist and your background.

Supporting Material: No more than 15 pieces of supporting material, including digital images, videos, or audio clips. Images must be 300dpi and submitted as JPGs.

Image list: Detailed list of each artwork's title, medium, date of completion, and any other necessary descriptors.

Link to artwork

Provide a link to Google drive, wetransfer or Dropbox

* *Please note that information submitted may be used for marketing material purposes.*

Please upload your submission to submissions@artscommons.ca and use the subject line "RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program Submission"

For all inquiries about the RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program or Ledge Gallery, Lightbox Studio, and Window Galleries, please contact:

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* *We thank all those who apply, however, due to high number of applications received, only successful candidates will be contacted.*

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