

City issues call to artists for 2020 juried exhibit

April 13, 2020 – The City of St. Catharines is encouraging artists to take action through their art and engage with the truths of indigenous experiences in Canada and address meaningful reconciliation as we move forward together as a community.

The City has launched a call to artists for its 2020 City of St. Catharines Annual Juried Exhibit. This year's exhibit, presented in partnership with the Niagara Regional Native Centre, aims to educate and inspire both artists and the community to move from the written words of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada to the actions needed to effect change.

Artists are being asked to consider the process of healing relationships through sharing truths, apologies, and acknowledgements and being asked: What does reconciliation mean to you? And, what does action look like? Is it abstract and complex, a representation of healing, and/or something that can be practiced in our everyday lives?

“One of the actions identified by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada asks for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists to undertake collaborative projects and produce works that contribute to the reconciliation process,” says Kathleen Powell, the City's acting cultural services supervisor. “We're excited to work with the Niagara Regional Native Centre and continue to add a voice to the discussion of cultural diversity, truth and reconciliation.”

Submissions of original artwork created within the past three years will be considered from professional, student and amateur artists. Artists will be paid an exhibition fee and their work will be considered for acquisition into the City of St. Catharines' Civic Art Collection. The submission deadline is Monday June 22, at 4:30 p.m.

As the City continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in keeping with its efforts to protect the health and wellbeing of staff and the public, applications are being accepted by email at this time. One to four digital images should be included in the initial submission along with an artist biography or resume, a completed entry form and an artist statement. Please do not submit any original works of art. Visit www.stcatharines.ca/callstoartists for more information.

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