INTERACTIVE SCHOOL TOURS AT THE MACKENZIE ART GALLERY

An exciting opportunity for students and educators to discover, explore and make the MacKenzie Art Gallery a memorable part of your school year!

MacKenzie School Tours are designed to support provincial curricula, and includes a two hour hands-on learning experience complete with an interactive guided tour and studio activities.

FEATURING

THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

What the Bat Knows


BOOK YOUR TOUR TODAY

Book online or call Nicole Little, Program Assistant
E nlittle@mackenzie.art  T 306 584 4250 EXT 4292
OR May Ngui, Visitor Services Coordinator
E mngui@mackenzie.art  T 306 584 4250 EXT 4257

Book online at mackenzie.art/learn/tours-groups
WELCOME TO THE MACKENZIE ART GALLERY

We are very excited to welcome both you and your students to the gallery this fall for in-person interactive tours. Experience artworks in our Permanent Collection and explore story, narrative, and unconventional voices in the exhibition *The Permanent Collection: What the Bat Knows.*

Our two-hour tours include one hour of exploring the exhibition and engaging with artworks through interactive, multisensory activities, followed by one hour of artmaking in our studio.

Masks are encouraged for all tour participants and teachers/supervisors.

Tours can accommodate up to 40 students ($150) and can be increased to 60 ($175). Tour maximums will be strictly observed in order to help us to follow COVID safety protocols. We request that there be at least 1 adult supervisor per 20 students. Maximum group sizes are 20 students per Gallery Facilitator.

ENGAGE WITH ART

Engagement with art supports the building of curiosity, empathy, collaboration, and communication. Our interactive tours will encourage your students to participate in complex and critical conversations around important issues and histories that shape our shared communities. Enjoy a selection of curriculum linked, age appropriate interactive tours and art workshops and let art be at the heart of your classroom learning.

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ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

What the Bat Knows

1 SEPTEMBER 2022 – 28 MAY 2023
TOURING DATES
CURATED BY
CRYSTAL MOWRY
ORGANIZED BY
THE MACKENZIE ART GALLERY

ARTISTS IN THE EXHIBITION

Some stories live a different life in the dark. What the Bat Knows looks at how unexpected and overlooked voices can change our understanding of the stories shared in museums or galleries.

What the Bat Knows is part of a series of Permanent Collection exhibitions that highlight artworks from the MacKenzie Art Gallery’s vaults. It takes inspiration from speculative fiction; a genre of storytelling that takes place in a world or reality different than our own. These settings allow the reader or viewer to examine questions in a new way.

In art galleries, we usually assign the role of the narrator to the artist or a curator. How can an artwork perform this role? What the Bat Knows re-examines permanent collection artworks from the perspective of three porcelain bat sculptures by artist Shary Boyle. What information can we trust them to share? What can we learn from what this narrator doesn’t know, or what they choose not to tell us?

FEATURED EXHIBITION
(Images: left to right) Shary Boyle, Handflatterer (Bat 4), Handflügler (Bat 2), Fledertiere (Bat 3), 2008, porcelain. Collection of the MacKenzie Art Gallery, purchased with the financial support of the Canada Council for the Arts Acquisition Assistance Program. Photo: Don Hall.
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This exhibition will have three phases:
In the first phase, this exhibition will look at invisible networks, or how things connect in unseen ways. It will focus on networks where humans aren’t placed at the centre. This phase will run until October 31.

The second phase considers what human activities take from our world. It features works such as George Hunter’s look at mining operations. This phase will run from November 4th to February 5th.

The last phase looks at theories of an elsewhere. It investigates ideas around the afterlife, dream worlds, and even parts of the real world that are difficult for us to learn about. Some of the works included are Liz Magor’s uncanny sculpture, and Leland Bell’s painting in which a void, an ocean floor, and a night sky appear to be one and the same. This phase will run from February 10th to May 28th, 2023.

What the Bat Knows invites visitors to consider how a museum collection is much like a slow-moving story—one that can be reinvented with each retelling. Sometimes a new perspective can turn a story we thought we knew upside-down!

TOUR OUTCOMES

Students will experience the MacKenzie’s Permanent Collection through story and narrative.

Students will examine and celebrate unconventional voices within gallery collection and exhibition practices.

Students will explore the genre of speculative fiction through visual art and think about the impacts of humans on the world.

STUDIO ACTIVITY

Students will elaborate on their experience of stories within the exhibition and artworks through the creation of shadow puppets.

CLICK HERE
For further information, including teacher resources.

CROSS-CURRICULAR COMPETENCY TO DEVELOP THINKING

The gallery experience confronts students with multiple contexts that shape artistic practice and experience.

The gallery experience allows students to understand the creativity of others, inspiring their own creativity.

The gallery methodology challenges students to critically engage with works of art through peer discussion, analysis, and interpretation.

CROSS-CURRICULAR COMPETENCY TO DEVELOP IDENTITY AND INTERDEPENDENCE

The gallery experience introduces students to artists who explore their individual and collective identities through a variety of artistic contexts.

The gallery experience engages students with art objects, which affect students’ senses, thinking skills, memory, and identity.

The gallery experience teaches students the cultural and environmental responsibilities of artists as well as their own individual impact.

CROSS-CURRICULAR COMPETENCY TO DEVELOP LITERACIES

The gallery methodology stimulates students to reflect on visual literacy through peer discussion, interpretation, and analysis.

The gallery experience introduces students to new visual literacies, inspiring students to create art and conversations with their new knowledge.

CROSS-CURRICULAR COMPETENCY TO DEVELOP SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

In addition to the exploration of art objects, the gallery experience offers a space for social context, engagement, and change.

The gallery experience supports the role of artists and students as socially responsible leaders in our city, province, and country.

SCHOOL TOURS GENEROUSLY PRESENTED BY

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