

Education & Community Engagement Internship

Status: Full time Contract (35 hours per week)

Supervisor: Assistant Director

Pay: \$19/hr

Start Date: March 2024

End Date: 12-month from start date (contract position with possibility of extension/permanent)

Application Deadline: February 23, 2024

The Opportunity

The Thunder Bay Art Gallery offers specialized arts education and engagement programming for all ages and abilities both on and offsite, curriculum linked programming for local schoolboards, and virtual tours that are accessed regionally and beyond. To support the growth of these popular programs the Gallery is seeking a candidate with teaching experience who is enthusiastic and interested in building the skills necessary to design meaningful and engaging arts education programming to meet the needs of diverse communities.

The Thunder Bay Art Gallery is uniquely positioned in Northern Ontario as a cultural institution with significant regional, provincial, and national profile. The Gallery has grown steadily over the last 45 years and is at a crucial stage of growth and advancement as we prepare to move into a purpose designed facility on Thunder Bay's beautiful waterfront that will more than triple our operating and programming space.

Primary Areas of Responsibility

1. Design & deliver tours and public outreach that allow meaningful interactions with art, including the planning of art making workshops related to exhibitions through researching artists, mediums, and intentions of exhibitions.
2. Actively communicate with organizations throughout the region to identify trends, issues, needs and potential collaborations, building audience and cultivating new public engagement for the Gallery.
3. Liaise with the curator and programming staff to gather information on exhibitions and speak with guest curators, makers, and artists.
4. Collaborate on planning and facilitation of community-based activities and projects related to exhibitions and programming while connecting with people of all ages and cultural backgrounds with emotional intelligence, understanding, and sensitivity.
5. Support the research, planning, and execution of curriculum-based tour activities and art workshops for students Grades 1-12 and provide opportunities to respond to artwork directly through observation and experiential activities.

6. Assist in developing an annual program of art education, implemented in response to the seasonal interests/needs of the community.
7. Coordinate and organize community art and related public events including the Annual Secondary School Art and other local interest shows in the community gallery space.
8. Contribute to the marketing and registration process to promote programs and ensure successful registration.
9. Assist in planning a program of adult art workshops & support the education coordinator in recruitment of artists to lead classes and workshops.

Essential Skills

Some technical knowledge of visual arts mediums and practices.

Experience in planning and delivering engaging educational programs.

Comfortable with the public and able to lead large tours and art making workshops for groups of different ages and abilities, adapting the approach to the art experience as required.

Strong oral and written communication skills for engaging with program participants, educators, and others in a clear and appropriate manner.

Ability to collaborate and develop relationships with other organizations and community partners.

Excellent organizational skills.

Knowledge of digital platforms used to connect with audiences and deliver programming.

Flexibility, work on evening and weekends, may be required.

About Thunder Bay Art Gallery:

The Thunder Bay Art Gallery gratefully acknowledges that we are located on the territory of the Anishinaabe peoples of Northwestern Ontario. We work and live on the lands of the Fort William First Nation who are signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850.

As the public art gallery for Thunder Bay and Northern Ontario, the Thunder Bay Art Gallery exhibits, collects, and interprets art with a focus on the work of contemporary Indigenous and Northern Ontario artists. The Gallery nurtures a life-long appreciation of the visual arts by:

- presenting exhibitions of artistic and educational value to cultivate a depth of visual arts experience for the public in Thunder Bay and the broader region of Northern Ontario;
- supporting and enhancing the development of contemporary Canadian artists with an emphasis on (but not limited to) contemporary Indigenous artists and artists from Northwestern Ontario;
- stewarding, conserving, and animating a permanent collection of art focused on the work of contemporary Indigenous artists and innovative cultural and artistic practice of Northwestern Ontario artists;

- and, presenting public programming and outreach activities in order to build audience, increase reception, and expand understanding of the visual arts.

For over 45 years the Thunder Bay Art Gallery has steadily grown and is now the largest art museum in Northern Ontario. Today, we have more than 1600 works of art in our world renowned permanent collection and welcome more than 30,000 people through our doors each year. Every day, the Gallery provides school tours, hosts free public programs, and shares our space with community groups. We are a bustling cultural hub committed to contemporary Indigenous, local, and regional art.

Finally, we are in the process of preparing for the transition to a new purpose designed facility on Thunder Bay's waterfront in late 2025. This new gallery will more than triple our exhibition and operating spaces. This significant addition to Ontario's cultural infrastructure will provide \$33 million in direct economic impact during construction. Once open, the Gallery's operations will generate \$2.2 million annually in direct and indirect impacts to the local and regional economy, as well as an estimated \$7 million in annual visitor spending.

How to Apply

Applicants who are Deaf, have an exceptionality or disability, or who need support expressing interest or applying for this opportunity are encouraged to contact *Valin Sacchetti, Administrative Coordinator* at administration@theag.ca or call 807.577.6427 by **Feb 12** to allow for appropriate accommodation of your needs and to discuss alternate formats for submitting your application.

To apply for this position, please send via email to administration@theag.ca, a letter of intent, a current resume and the names of two references, under the subject line "Education & Community Engagement Internship" addressed to:

Kamila Westerback, Assistant Director

**Thunder Bay Art Gallery
PO Box 10193
Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 6T7**

The Thunder Bay Art Gallery is committed to employment equity and diversity and encourage applications from all qualified candidates, including women, people of any sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; Indigenous peoples; visible minorities and racialized people; and people with disabilities. We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.