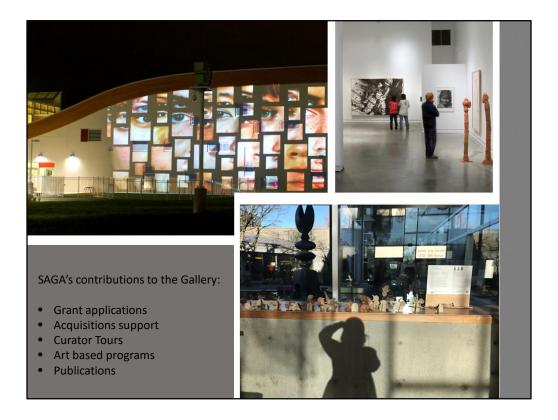


My name is Joanne Dennis, and I am the President of the Surrey Art Gallery Association, also known as SAGA. SAGA is a non-profit member-based society dedicated to supporting Surrey Art Gallery. Proceeds from our fundraising efforts contribute to Gallery exhibitions, publications, programs, and projects. We also raise funds through our Gift Shop and Art Rental programs, which are being updated to include an online platform to give you access to the works of our talented artist members. SAGA's membership is made up of artists and art interested people, and organizations throughout the lower mainland. As an advocate for the Gallery, we raise funds and operate programs which complement those presented by the Gallery.

To learn more about Surrey Art Gallery's exhibitions and programs, see their <u>2019 Annual</u> <u>Report</u> (I've copied a link to this report in the chat box).

Also, wanted to share that last December, the Interactive Art Museum (iAM)/Surrey Art Gallery 2.0 was supported in the <u>City's Captial Projects 5-year plan</u>. The Gallery is currently in the process of developing a 5-year Strategic Plan, including a Digital Strategy (supported through the Canada Council for the Arts), as well as a Development Plan and Building Plan.

We encourage you to share your thoughts about past experiences at the Gallery and help inform its future by taking their survey. (Link in the chat)



Part of our effort in raising funds for the Gallery is supporting grant applications for exhibitions, publications, programs and projects, including acquiring artworks for the permanent collection. SAGA has supported many developments for the Gallery such as expanding the art archives vault, and the creation of Gallery's TechLab and UrbanScreen.

We also partner with the Gallery to present Curator Exhibition Tours. These guided tours offer the public opportunities to learn more about the artists, and the ideas behind their work in the current exhibitions. We support the Surrey Art Gallery in arts programming as well such as the Art on the Loose, a family art scavenger hunt event.

These events offer the public opportunities to learn more about artists, and the ideas behind their work in the current exhibitions.



SAGA supports local artists and their work through our SAGA Gift Shop located in the Surrey Arts Centre, as well as our new online store on sagabc.com which launched in Sept 2020.

SAGA's <u>Online Gift Shop</u> is Surrey's local art market unique treasures and handmade gifts by local artists, and gift cards are available. We are currently including free shipping in Canada and can arrange for store to door pickup. By becoming a member of SAGA you can also receive 10% off purchases for your staff or friends. Now is the best time to support your local artists and show others how easy it is to shop from home.



In partnership with the Gallery, we organize a monthly program of illustrated Thursday Artists talks and demonstrations by artists in the GVRD.

These free talks provide an opportunity for artists to expose their work and ideas to the public. We are currently presenting these events online on Facebook @surreyartgalleryassociation, and our next artist talk will be featuring a local artist Lalita Hamill on Thursday March 4th at 7:30pm.

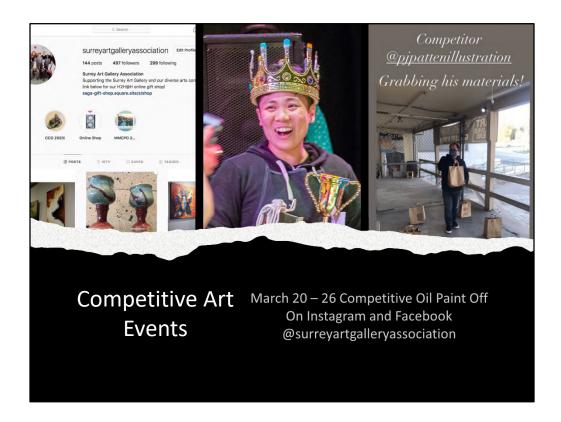
Now I will pass you over to Melissa Burgher, who will tell you about our art rental program and competitive events.



Hello, I am Melissa Burgher, SAGA's Art Rental Coordinator.

At the Surrey Arts Centre a hallway and rack system is dedicated to SAGA's art rental program which holds approximately 100 artworks. SAGA's art rental program is being updated to include an online gallery which is under construction. We are in the process of revamping our art rental program to support the presentation of fine art in series that can be used to curate offices with beautifully produced local artworks. Art is a popular type of investment as an asset that provides esthetic benefits to any office. Art on a business organization's walls influences how clients perceive your business, creates a custom vibe for your office, and creates an inspired workplace culture. Tax benefits for art assets exhibited in a place of business may also apply. Talk to your accountant for details.

If you would like to speak with me regarding curating your office with beautiful original local art on a rental or purchase basis, I can be reached by emailing artrental@sagabc.com.



Our most popular events are the Competitive Paint Offs, which are run twice a year with the visual art forms being varied by artistic mediums each time. We have done events where the artists produced works in oil sticks, sketching, acrylics, clay, and mixed media. We support our competing artists with honorariums to show that we value their efforts, and this is especially important during these Covid-19 times. These events are currently being held online on Instagram and Facebook @surreyartgalleryassocation. The next upcoming event is the online Competitive Oil Paint Off on March 20-26. Whereby the artists will be submitting their art process in stages on our Instagram feed.



As a non-profit society, Surrey Art Gallery Association is fully run by volunteers who live in the Surrey and surrounding area. We depend on the support of membership and volunteers for our operation and initiatives.

Having a membership in SAGA is a good way to support local artists and encourages public education in the visual arts. To learn more about our programs or to become a member, go to our SAGA website sagabc.com.

If you would have questions about SAGA or wish to discuss your ideas for art rental/purchase, feel free to contact us by emailing either or us artrental@sagabc.com or president@sagabc.com. We would love to connect with you. Thank you for listening to this presentation and thank you Anita for giving us the opportunity to present here today.