



NIAGARA FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

4848 Victoria Avenue, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 4C5 | 905 356 8080

For Immediate Release

Celebrating Sports and Art at the Niagara Falls Public Library

Community engagement art project to be displayed all summer

Niagara Falls, Ont. - Young artists can see their artwork displayed at the Niagara Falls Public Library this summer thanks to a special initiative led by Brock University students.

PARTicipation Niagara 2022: A Celebration of Sports and Art through the Eyes of Niagara's Young Artists will run until August 30. It features artwork by students from eight school sites across Niagara, including youth involved in programming at the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre (FENFC). The art is being displayed at six locations across Niagara, including the Niagara Falls Public Library. The Library will host art from students from Simcoe Street Public School and A.N. Myer Secondary School.

Each student made a piece of art based on a specific, and relevant, theme: sports and art. The theme was chosen to celebrate the upcoming Niagara 2022 Canada Summer Games. The artwork was created during workshops held this spring and led by undergraduate Concurrent Education Visual Arts (VISA) students from Brock University and VISA majors in the Teacher Education Program in the Faculty of Education.

"This project truly is a community initiative," says Library CEO Alicia Subnaik Kilgour. "For organizations like the Niagara Falls Public Library, this is a chance to become further involved with our local partners, like Brock University and the school boards, to celebrate the accomplishments of our community."

The art project allowed Brock students to gain valuable teaching experience and elementary and high school students were able to express their creativity and can see their works displayed in a public forum in their own community.

"This project enabled students to reflect on artmaking around a national event coming to their own backyard," says Dr. Peter Vietgen, **PARTicipation 2022** Project Coordinator and Associate Professor, Brock University. "It was created to build bridges between schools and their local communities and to showcase how the power of art can create agency and a voice for our young people at a time when we need to hear their views and opinions now more than ever."

PARTicipation Niagara 2022 is the latest exhibit to be on display in the Rosberg Gallery, which regularly features art by the community, for the community. The Gallery is located at the Victoria Avenue Library, 4848 Victoria Avenue, and this exhibit will be displayed until August 30.

About the Niagara Falls Public Library:

The Niagara Falls Public Library is a free, inclusive community space open to all. Residents of the City of Niagara Falls are invited to register for a free library card to access all of our resources, both physical and digital. The Niagara Falls Public Library dates back to 1878, and today has three library locations serving the City of Niagara Falls - Victoria Avenue Library, Community Centre Library, Chippawa Library as well as the Stamford Centre Library which is currently closed for construction. Please visit our website at my.nflibrary.ca for more information.

For more information, please contact:

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