

Koffler Gallery High School Co-op Placement

The mandate of the Koffler Gallery is to offer a dynamic forum for the presentation of contemporary art, developing a year-round program of exhibitions, publications, public programs and educational initiatives, and fostering the production of new works by Canadian and international artists in all stages of their careers. Reflecting diverse cultural, material and aesthetic orientations, the program highlights the contemporary Jewish experience in a unique framework that invites a comparative examination of narratives among people of varied heritages within a larger discussion of identity, memory and place.

High school co-op students interested in visual arts are invited to apply to the Koffler Gallery to gain valuable work experience and assist the gallery in fulfilling its goal of providing accessible and engaging programming for audiences of all ages, cultural backgrounds and walks of life. Core duties include gallery monitoring, public engagement and assistance with educational programs.

Duties:

- Assistance with the supervision of the Koffler Gallery during public hours. This involves greeting visitors and providing general information about the gallery and its exhibitions.
- Assistance with the preparation and delivery of workshops for school programs. This includes assistance in the preparation of workshop art materials and helping ensure educational programs run smoothly.
- Providing assistance during Gallery receptions, public programs and other Koffler events, as needed.

Benefits:

Before working with visitors, students will undergo docent training to learn about various gallery education strategies, the Koffler's programming and exhibition content, and various elements of art history. Training will help students develop reading, research, and analytical skills in addition to becoming more effective communicators and educators. Once training is completed, students will take on a leadership role in leading tours for other youth from surrounding high schools, and community organizations such as SKETCH and West Neighbourhood House. They will be mentored in art writing exercises in which they will reflect on the works in the exhibition and write about their favourite pieces. Their reflections will be shared on social media.

Training will include:

- The study of historical and cultural context in which exhibition artworks are created
- In-gallery discussion and facilitation techniques
- Practice tours and presentations designed to promote effective interactive touring skills

For more information contact:

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