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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **\$67,800 Ontario Trillium Foundation Seed Grant Funds Children's Art Program**

**Toronto, June 18, 2019** – On Tuesday evening, June 18, 2019, the Koffler Centre of the Arts welcomed members of the community to the East York Town Centre for an exhibition opening featuring artwork produced by 30 grade-five students from Thorncliffe Park Public School, under the direct supervision of 15 professional artists.

Local MPP **Kathleen Wynne** (Don Valley West) attended the exhibition opening to congratulate the Koffler Centre of the Arts and to hear more about how the \$67,800 Seed Grant from the OTF has brought accessible contemporary arts programming to students living outside of the downtown-core.

"I was pleased to learn that the Ontario Trillium Foundation awarded this grant to the Koffler Centre of the Arts, enabling it to provide a multidisciplinary after-school arts program that features artist-lead workshops, age appropriate art history lessons, and giving them a chance to visit exhibits across the city," said Kathleen Wynne, MPP for Don Valley West.

"We are deeply appreciative of the support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation in piloting our Koffler Studio Off-Site program," said Executive Director Karen Tisch. "The Koffler is deeply committed to providing accessible and enriched arts education opportunities to children and youth across the city, and to dismantling economic and geographic barriers to arts participation. Our partnership with the Thorncliffe Park Public School community has been mutually rewarding; bringing professional artists to the school to lead workshops in multiple artistic media and introducing us to a community of extraordinary young artists and learners who have inspired us with their imaginations and original voices. We are excited to see how these young innovators will shape Toronto's future. Thanks to OTF for making this vital program possible."

The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations. OTF awarded more than \$108 million to 629 projects last year to build healthy and vibrant communities in Ontario.

### **ABOUT THE KOFFLER CENTRE OF THE ARTS**

The Koffler Centre of the Arts is a cultural platform that explores critical ideas and concerns of our time through exhibitions, publications, performances, literary events and digital initiatives. We examine complex issues through transformative art experiences that stimulate intercultural dialogue and position our Jewish identity in conversation with diverse perspectives and global voices. The Koffler Gallery and its administrative offices are located at Artscape Youngplace, in Toronto's vibrant West Queen West art and design district. For more information: <http://kofflerarts.org/>

### **For further information and high resolution images, contact:**

Tony Hewer

Director, Marketing, Communications & Archives

(647) 925-0643 ext. 224

E-mail: [thewer@kofflerarts.org](mailto:thewer@kofflerarts.org)

Web: <http://kofflerarts.org/>