



## KITCHENER - WATERLOO ART GALLERY

101 Queen Street North  
Kitchener, Ontario, N2H 6P7  
519 579 5860 [www.kwag.ca](http://www.kwag.ca)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September , 2011

### **Scotiabank Group Helps Create a Bright Future for Regional School Children**

Kitchener, Ontario September 2011 – The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery is pleased to announce a new partnership with Scotiabank Group that will provide thousands of Waterloo Region school children with inspiring opportunities to enhance their thinking skills and explore their own creativity. As KW|AG's School Programs Corporate Partner, Scotiabank is contributing to a well-regarded curriculum-based educational experience that teaches visual literacy, builds critical thinking skills and provides an opportunity for self-expression.

"At Scotiabank we believe in creating opportunities and experiences which encourage students to achieve their full potential. The influence of the arts on every aspect of a child's life and on the community of which they are a part should never be underestimated," says Elizabeth Heald, Director & Head, Scotia Private Client Group. "Scotiabank is proud to help the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery increase accessibility to the arts by literally bringing art into the classroom."

"This three part program focuses on carefully analyzing works of art, generating thoughtful discussion, and incorporating these observations into the students' own projects" says Kate Carder-Thompson, the Gallery's School Programs Coordinator. "Students will come away from every session with an amazing and original work of art and hopefully, a sense of themselves as an artist."

Sessions will take place both in schools and the Gallery allowing the Gallery's artist-educators to bring KW|AG's permanent collection right into the classroom.

"Art education is linked to what most of us want for our children and demand from the schools: academic achievement, social and emotional development, civic engagement, and equitable opportunity," says Shirley Madill, the Gallery's Executive Director. "Participating in art activities helps children gain the tools necessary for understanding human experience, cultivates a positive attitude, develops creative problem-solving skills and contributes to greater success in other fields, from math and science to language arts and geography. The intrinsic pleasure and stimulation of the art experience does more than sweeten an individual's life; it connects a child more deeply to the world, opening up new ways of seeing, and creating the foundation to forge social bonds and

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community cohesion. And strong arts programming helps close a gap that has left many a child behind.”

With the Gallery’s on-going commitment to presenting the best in art education, and thanks to support from Scotiabank, school children in our region will benefit from KW|AG’s specialized skills in visual arts education.

### **About Scotiabank**

The Scotiabank Group is one of North America’s premier financial institutions and Canada’s most international bank. Since welcoming its first customers in 1832 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Scotiabank has enjoyed continued success. Scotiabank Group serves millions of households, businesses, corporations and governments through a global network of branches and offices that span the Americas, the Caribbean, Europe and Asia Pacific. Scotiabank is focused on individual customers, employees, shareholders, and on building a strong community presence.

### **About the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery**

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KW|AG) connects people and ideas through art. The Gallery emphasizes contemporary art, has a 4,000 work permanent collection and offers experiences for adults, children and families. Established in 1956 and operating within Centre In The Square, KW|AG is the oldest and largest public gallery in Waterloo region: roots in the community, eyes on the world.

### **Gallery Hours and Admission**

M-W 9:30am-5pm., T 9:30am.-9pm, Fri 9:30am – 5pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1pm-5pm. Open before select Centre in the Square Performance. Please view our website for more information [www.kwag.ca](http://www.kwag.ca)

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Admission to KW|AG is free courtesy of Sun Life Financial. All are welcome.

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