

Contemporary Art Gallery of Vancouver

555 Nelson Street
<http://www.contemporaryartgallery.ca>

The CAG is the longest standing independent art gallery in Vancouver

“...access to, enjoyment of and engagement with contemporary art and the surrounding debates should be available and open to all.” -CAG

History

1971 established as the Greater Vancouver Artist's Gallery, dedicated to commissioning artists within six month residencies

1976 established as a non-profit charitable society

1984 the CAG became an artist run centre

1996 it became an independent public art gallery

Mandate and Public Programs

The CAG is predominantly dedicated to the research, exhibition, education and documentation of contemporary visual art of several fields of work. Education and accessibility with the community at large is the strongest principle that the CAG strives to accomplish. Programs offered at the CAG are highly participatory, engaging a relationship between a diverse demography of the community with art, artists, and the community at large throughout the various programs and international scope that the CAG provides. The CAG presents a diverse body of exhibitions and publications both onsite and offsite, by both local and international artists.

- The CAG offers access to exhibitions to the entire community upon a by-donation policy.
- Learning and outreach programs, such as events and discussions with the artists, happen both in the gallery and on offsite locations.
- Tours of the gallery space are offered in various languages.
- Education resources, such as teachers guides, are created and made accessible on the CAG website.
- Other materials such as videos and podcasts about the exhibitions and artists are also made available on the CAG website.
- CAG has partnerships with local High Schools to engage with students in a number of different ways, promoting knowledge and understanding of artists and exhibitions.
- The CAG hosts Family Days every last Saturday of each month facilitating younger children and their parents to participate in fun activities inspired by the current exhibitions taking place.
- The CAG organizes an offsite artist residency space called the Burrard Marina Field House Studio, dedicated to supporting artists in creating new work outside of a gallery context. This space extends contemporary art projects into the community and offers alternative entry points for engagement.

The CAG works with several entry points to ensure that the knowledge of the contemporary art world is conveyed to the Vancouver community at large.

