

**FACULTY OF FINE ARTS**

TO: Members, Fine Arts Faculty Council

FROM: Tristan Khaner, Secretary, Fine Arts Faculty Council

DATE: September 4, 2026

---

Please be advised that the next meeting of the Fine Arts Faculty Council will be held on  
**Friday, September 11, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in EV 2.776**

**AGENDA**

- |                                                                                                                                                           |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Call to Order                                                                                                                                          | Quorum Required |
| 2. Agenda for the Meeting of September 11, 2026                                                                                                           | For Approval    |
| 3. Minutes of Meeting of May 15, 2026                                                                                                                     | For Approval    |
| 4. Business Arising from the Minutes of May 15, 2026                                                                                                      | For Information |
| 5. Chair's Remarks                                                                                                                                        | For Information |
| 6. Appointments (FFAC-2026-06-D1)                                                                                                                         | For Approval    |
| 7. Faculty of Fine Arts Resolution on the Creation of a Department of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies (Name to be confirmed). (FFAC-2026-06-D2) | For Approval    |
| 8. FoFA Strategic Plan Action Report 2025-2026                                                                                                            | For Information |
| 9. Academic Programs and Pedagogy                                                                                                                         |                 |
| 9.1 Report of the Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Pedagogy (FFAC-2026-06-D4)                                                                        | For Information |
| 10. Research, Graduate Studies and Faculty Development                                                                                                    |                 |
| 10.1 Report of the Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies and Faculty Development (FFAC-2026-06-D5)                                                   | For Information |

**FACULTY OF FINE ARTS**

- |                                                     |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 11. Advancement Activities Report (FFAC-2026-06-D7) | For Information |
| 12. Questions                                       | For Information |
| 13. Other Business                                  | For Information |
| 14. Next Meeting – October 9, 2026                  |                 |
| 15. Adjournment                                     |                 |

An update with documents not included here will be sent prior to the meeting.  
Faculty Council documents are uploaded on the [Fine Arts Faculty Council web page](#).

**Concordia University**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty of Fine Arts Council**  
**May 15, 2026**  
**9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**EV2.776**

**Present:** A. Gérin (Chair), P. Barr, J. Berzowska, H. Brousseau, C. Bruce, J. Carmichael, A. Cappelluto, M. Evans, G. Dimitrov, D. Douglas, S. Janssen, C. Keegan, M. Lefebvre, D. LeRue, H. McLaughlin, P. McLelland, E. Murphy, N. Pezolet, C. Ready, S. Romano, B. Singh

**Regrets:** J.F. Bourgault, S. Ghosh, J.R. Giersdorf, T. Khaner, H. Wasson

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**2. Approval of the Agenda for the meeting of May 15, 2026.**

**MOTION:** (M. Lefebvre / P. Barr)

“that the agenda for the meeting of May 15, 2026, be approved.”

**CARRIED**

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of April 17, 2026**

**MOTION:** (D. Douglas / H. McLaughlin)

“that the minutes of the meeting of April 17, 2026, be approved.”

**CARRIED**

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes of April 17, 2026**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**5. Chair’s Remarks**

- The Dean discussed FoFA’s strategy for addressing the budget situation at the well-attended April 24<sup>th</sup> townhall. She will be holding another townhall in the Fall to continue updating the community on the faculty’s multi-pronged approach for resolving the budget situation, which includes cutting expenses, reorganising work, and growing revenues where possible, the latter being the least painful and most impactful approach.
- The Dean reminded Council that although it has been a challenging year, there have been many moments of joy and pride:
  - Concordia’s new [School of Performance was launched on May 4<sup>th</sup> at Place des Arts](#) and it was a successful event. Three groups of students presented amazing performances. Among those in attendance were [Martha Wainright](#), [Louise Lecavalier](#), [Annabel Soutar](#) and [Dawn Tyler Watson](#) along with several other celebrities from the Montreal cultural community. Students seem enthusiastic about the opportunities for greater collaboration across the School’s areas and the development of interdisciplinary courses. Much remains to be completed before September particularly in relation to administration and governance. The Dean hopes that the new school will help strengthen recruitment and increase visibility.
  - The [French immersion program in Baie Saint-Paul](#) which was developed in collaboration with the [Musée d’art contemporain de Baie Saint-Paul](#), started this week and MJ Thompson is leading an interdisciplinary studio course there. Students will have French courses every morning and the cultural program will give them the opportunity to practice their French language skills, explore the region and meet local artists.
  - [Zachary Lagha](#), a third-year [Contemporary Dance](#) student, competed in ice dance at the Winter

Olympics this year.

- Visual artist [Abbas Akhavan](#), who completed his BFA at Concordia in the Department of Studio Arts is currently [representing Canada at the Venice Biennale](#). The Faculty of Fine Arts is also proud to partner with the [National Gallery of Canada](#) and other institutions in support of Canada's participation at La Biennale.
  - The [NFB](#) film [The Girl Who Cried Pearls](#) won Best Animated Short at the Oscars. One of the co-creators of the film, [Maciek Szczerbowski, is a Concordia alum](#) as are most of the other professionals who worked on the film.
  - [Vincent Leclerc, the Computation Arts alum who founded PixMob](#), animated the crowds with his technology at the Olympics, the Superbowl, the Lady Gaga concert and other events.
  - [Martha Langford, Professor Emerita in Art History](#), and Reesa Greenberg, also former Art History professor, have been named [Members of the Order of Canada](#).
  - The [Société de développement des entreprises culturelles \(SODEC\)](#) announced the recipients of the inaugural Prix SODEC in December, which supports emerging filmmakers in Québec and a Concordia alumna's project was selected; her name is [Sophia Chan Kong Randriamalala](#). The project will enter SODEC's emerging creation development support program in partnership with an eligible production company.
  - Four Fine Arts alumni, [Po B. K. Lomami](#), [Sierra Barber](#), [Miri Chek](#), and [Myriam Simard-Parent](#), have been selected for the inaugural [Habiter le MAC](#) residency at the [Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal](#) (May–December 2026). The program offers them studio space, mentorship by the MAC curators, and professional development opportunities.
  - At the [2026 Nuit Blanche](#) festival in February, Fine Arts students collaborated with the National Film Board of Canada to create a special interactive installation [Archives: Remixage / Re:Archive](#) bringing together students from Film and Moving Image Studies, Curatorial Studies and Practices, and Music students from Université de Montréal.
  - The [Art Volt Collection](#), Concordia's juried sales and rental platform supporting recent graduates in Fine Arts, experienced a banner year in 2025–2026 following a [\\$1 Million donation from Power Corporation of Canada](#) last June. The program expanded its mentorship, training, and visibility initiatives while strengthening professional pathways for emerging artists. It also marked its debut at [Art Toronto](#) where multiple works were sold and acquired by institutional collections.
  - The works of the 14 new artists joining the [2026–2027 Art Volt Collection](#) cohort will be on display at the [FoFA Gallery this summer from June 2 to June 30, 2026](#). [The vernissage is on June 2](#).
  - The [2026 Sobey Art Award longlist](#) was recently released and includes a strong representation from Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts with 8 alumni among the 30 nominees.
  - Dominique Fontaine, who is [scholar-in-residence in the Certificate program in Curatorial Studies and Practices](#) received the [Grand Prix des arts visuels de la Fondation Dynastie](#) this April.
  - [John Latour](#), the faculty's beloved Teaching & Research Librarian who supports students and faculty in Art Education, Art History, Creative Arts Therapies, Design and Computation Arts, and Studio Arts, is the recipient of the [Distinguished Service Award](#) which is the highest honour of the [Art Libraries Society of North America](#).
- The Dean thanked all of those who take on leadership roles in the Faculty for their exceptional contributions: associate deans Haidee Wasson and Shauna Janssen, all the undergraduate program directors, graduate program directors, area heads and coordinators and the department chairs.
  - She underscored that department chairs play a particularly crucial role in universities by bringing departments together for the purpose of collegial governance, building departmental cultures, defining visions, directing curriculum change, and mentoring colleagues. It is a demanding but rewarding job in normal times. In difficult times, such as it has been this year, chairs must show great resilience and leadership. She praised the departmental chairs at the Faculty of Fine Arts as being an exceptional group:
    - The Dean is thrilled to continue working with the three continuing chairs:

- Cynthia Bruce (Department of Creative Arts Therapies)
  - Martin Lefebvre (Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema)
  - Nicola Pezolet (Department of Art History)
- Six chairs are outgoing and the Dean thanked them for the huge impact they have had on their department during their tenure:
- Surabhi Ghosh, who entirely reshaped the department's governance structure and greatly strengthened collegial governance as well as the technical operations. She will be succeeded by Kelly Jazvak.
  - Pippin Barr, under whose leadership the Department of Design and Computation Arts grew its research importantly by taking up donor funded opportunities. The department also shifted for the better the way it interfaces with the Core Technical Centres, and grew student cohorts at the graduate and undergraduate levels. He will be succeeded by Jonathan Lessard.
  - MJ Thompson, led an important curriculum review of the PhD in Art Education, and has been working very hard with Cynthia Bruce to bring about the merger between the departments of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies. She will be succeeded by Cynthia Bruce who will chair both departments in 2026-2027.
  - Ana Cappelluto, Jens Giersdorf and Joshua Rager, who worked tirelessly on building the School of Performance. Their leadership has brought together the community of students, faculty and staff. They imaginatively responded to the students' needs and to the direction the art world is headed. There were also major curriculum reforms in dance and music. They will collectively be succeeded by Julie Burelle as the new School of Performance launches. Julie will be joining on August 1<sup>st</sup> and Robert Reid will be interim chair during of July.
- Faye Diamantoudi, who has been at Concordia for 15 years and has been in the role of interim provost since September 2025, is beginning a five-year term as the [new provost and vice-president, academic](#) on May 1, 2026. Her background as an economist prepares her well for the challenges the university is currently facing but what stands out is her deep commitment to Concordia. The Dean wished her success in her tenure.
  - The President is launching Concordia 2030, a consultation that is meant to help shape the university's priorities, and ensure the long-term sustainability of its academic mission for teaching and learning, and research. An invitation to the first consultation on May 26, was emailed to academic leaders. Other consultations for other groups to join will be announced later.
  - [Convocation is on June 15<sup>th</sup>](#) and the Dean hopes many will join to celebrate the graduation of Fine Arts students.
  - To conclude her remarks, the Dean underscored that the Habs are in the playoffs!

## 6. Appointments (FFAC-2026-05-D1)

**MOTION:** (D. Douglas / J. Carmichael)

"that the appointments listed in document FFAC-2026-05-D1 be approved"

**CARRIED**

**7. Resolution to Adopt the Guidelines and Criteria for Granting Tenure in the Faculty of Fine Arts (for Departments and Faculty Committees) (FFAC-2026-05-D3)**

**MOTION:** (C. Bruce / P. Barr)

“that the resolution to adopt the Guidelines and Criteria for Granting Tenure in the Faculty of Fine Arts FFAC-2026-05-D3 be approved”

**CARRIED**

The guidelines and criteria for granting tenure were developed to provide a clearer framework and shared language for interpreting the CUFA collective agreement and they are intended for use by faculty members applying for tenure and promotion, Department Tenure Committees, Faculty Personnel and Tenure Committees. This is in line with what other faculties and departments are doing across the university. Departments and units may further interpret the CUFA collective agreement for their particular disciplines, by adding an addendum to the guidelines.

**8. Academic Programs and Pedagogy**

**8.1. Curriculum Dossier for the Department of Art History (FA-ARTH -6028) (FFAC-2026-04-D2)**

The Associate Dean presented, for Council’s information, the proposed changes to the Art History dossier, which reflect a more inclusive and dynamic curriculum in the undergraduate program. There are three updated course titles and descriptions and three new courses:

- ARTH 203 Introduction to Curatorial Practices
- ARTH 269 Studies in Material Culture and Design History
- ARTH 273 Art History and Black Studies in Canada

**8.2. Report of the Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Pedagogy (FFAC-2026-05-D4)**

Report submitted. Questions/comments may be directed to [Shauna Janssen](#).

The Associate Dean announced that the two-year MFA in Studio Arts has been approved by the Ministry of Education. She congratulated the Chair, Erika Adams and thanked Christopher Cooke and the School of Graduate Studies for all their work.

**9. Research, Graduate Studies, and Faculty Development**

**9.1 Report of the Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies, and Faculty Development (FFAC-2026-04-D5)**

Report submitted. Questions/comments may be directed to [Haidee Wasson](#).

**10. Proposal to Create Practical Workshops for Students**

The Dean first proposed the idea of creating credited practical skill-development workshops for students at the April 17 Council meeting. The workshops would be worth 1 or 1.5 credits and could be bundled to count towards a 3-credit elective requirement. They would be taught by faculty members and would complement course offerings rather than duplicate existing ones. S. Janssen invited Council members to provide their feedback and suggest topics and areas of skill development that could be of interest to students. Implementation of the workshops would require curriculum changes and the processes are already in place to support their

development. It was suggested that the workshops could be housed within FFAR or departments, be evaluated on a pass/fail basis and be offered in flexible scheduling formats that benefit students, including evening, weekend, and intensive-session options. Some of the proposed ideas by Council members included:

- Theatre workshops providing 12–18 hours of hands-on technical training in lighting to be applied towards students' artistic and creative work.
- Cinema workshops focused on cinematography, camera operation, and sound to strengthen students' technical skills within their programs.
- Workshops that address business and communication skills, business plans, budgeting, and grant writing.
- Workshops related to pedagogy and teaching for graduate students.
- Workshops in the [Core Technical Centre \(CTC\)](#) to improve access to the facilities.

Council members were encouraged to reach out to S. Janssen and C. Cooke to share their ideas or any concerns they may have. S. Janssen will continue to investigate the backend processes and the matter will be brought to Deans and Chairs in September and possibly to Faculty Council in the future.

#### 11. Advancement Activities Report (FFAC-2026-04-D7)

Report submitted. Questions/comments may be directed to [Marc Wieser](#).

Advancement is centered on growth, expansion and prosperity through meaningful donor engagement and it celebrates the generosity of donors. M. Wieser presented on a multi-leveled approach to fundraising emphasizing the importance of having ongoing conversations with department chairs, faculty members and student groups to better align fundraising efforts with the faculty's strategic needs. The most impactful donations often result directly from these collaborative discussions and M. Wieser encourages everyone to reach out.

#### 12. Questions

It has been reported that McGill Health Services has denied medical aid to some US trans students because of a US executive order. There have been no reports that Concordia Health Services has been doing the same. The Dean will nonetheless enquire about this.

#### 13. Other Business

- The Dean and V. Hauguel, Fine Arts Communications Advisor, are looking into platforms for publishing the Faculty of Fine Arts accomplishments, such as the ones shared in the remarks.
- S. Janssen highlighted the recipients of the Distinguished Teaching Awards 2026 that are listed in her report:
  - o *Established Award for Full-time Faculty:*  
**Linda Swanson**, Associate Professor, Department of Studio Arts
  - o *Emerging Award:*  
**Cindy Coady**, Lecturer, Department of Creative Arts Therapies

Council members were encouraged to read the recommendations in the report and to send their nominations for next year's Distinguished Teaching Awards.

- S. Janssen thanked the Dean for her leadership during this exceptionally difficult year.

**14. Next Meeting**

The next meeting in September 2026.

**15. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

[Fine Arts Faculty Council](#)

Submitted by E. Murphy

## **Appointments for approval**

### **Board of Governors**

- Martin Lefebvre, Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema  
(repl. L. Caminati) Oct. 1 2026 – June 30, 2027

### **Faculty Elections Committee (FEC)**

- Jonathan Lessard, Department of Design and Computation Arts July 1 2026 – June 30, 2028

### **Fine Arts Faculty Council**

#### **Five (5) Undergraduate Student Representatives (FASA)**

- Claire Lamarre-Niemi Sept. 1, 2026 – May 31, 2027
- Laurence Lawlor Sept. 1, 2026 – May 31, 2027
- Arden Miller Sept. 1, 2026 – May 31, 2027
- Shaun Polanco-Simmons Sept. 1, 2026 – May 31, 2027
- Océane Pomerleau Sept. 1, 2026 – May 31, 2027

### **Sustainability of Fine Arts**

- Alice Jarry, Department of Design and Computation Arts Nov. 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028

### **Senate**

- Meghan Gilhespy, School of Performance July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029

### **Senate Library**

- Maya Oppenheimer, Department of Studio Arts July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029

## **Appointments for Council's Information**

### **External Competitions, Graduate Awards (SSHRC Vanier, Trudeau, PBEEE)**

- Chih-Chien Wang, Department of Studio Arts July 1 2026 – June 30, 2029

### **Faculty Student Request Committee**

- May Chew, Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema July 1 2026 – June 30, 2027

### **Open Access Working Group**

- Deanna Bowen, Department of Studio Arts July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028

### **SSHRC Doctoral Committee**

- Cynthia Hammond, Department of Art History July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029

### **University Appeals Board (UAB)**

- Roy Cross, Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027
- Mark Sussman, School of Performance July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027

### **University Research Committee (URC)**

- Gabrielle Moser, Department of Art History July 1 2026 – June 30, 2029

## Faculty Council

### Faculty of Fine Arts, Concordia University

#### Resolution on the creation of a Department of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies (name to be confirmed)

*Whereas:* The Department of Art Education and the Department of Creative Arts Therapies train students in fine arts pedagogy; community-based practices; teacher training and qualitative research; and art therapy, drama therapy, music therapy, and play therapy practices; and, their faculty members and students are active practitioners and researchers in their respective disciplines;

*Whereas:* Three consultation sessions opened to students, faculty and staff from the two aforementioned departments were conducted on February 18, 2026, February 24, 2026, and March 11, 2026 to seek input about maintaining the visibility and identity of the programs housed within each department; about how student experience could be enriched with exposure to students and curriculum from different disciplines; about how a culture of collaboration across disciplines could be fostered for teaching, learning and research;

*Whereas:* Three consultation sessions opened to students, faculty and staff from the two aforementioned departments were conducted on March 17, 2026, April 17, 2026, and April 22, 2026 to seek input about the name for the proposed department and to identify further issues that will need to be collectively discussed and addressed in the academic year 2026-2027, such as governance, staffing, infrastructure, curriculum, student experience, accessibility and so on;

*Whereas:* The proposal to merge the department of Art Education with the department of Creative Arts Therapies, and establish a department of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies (name to be confirmed) was endorsed unanimously by the department councils of the departments of Art Education (June 2, 2026) and of Creative Arts Therapies (June 22, 2026);

*The Faculty of Fine Arts Council recommends that:*

- Concordia University create a department of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies (name to be confirmed) by merging the Department of Art Education and the Department of Creative Arts Therapies, to be launched in the summer/fall of 2027;
- The new Department maintain, once formed, all current disciplinary academic programs, but increase opportunities for collaboration in teaching, learning and research.

- Further consultation happens in the academic year 2026-2027, on issues such as governance, staffing, infrastructure, curriculum, student experience, accessibility and so on.

Date: September 11, 2026

Unanimous, or # For / Against / Abstention

## Department of Art Education

## Faculty of Fine Arts, Concordia University

## Resolution on the creation of a Department of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies

*Whereas:* The Department of Art Education trains students in Fine Arts pedagogy; community-based art practices; teacher training and qualitative research; and the Department of Creative Arts Therapies trains students in art therapy, drama therapy, music therapy, and play therapy practices; and their faculty members and students are active practitioners and researchers in their respective disciplines;

*Whereas:* Three consultation sessions opened to students, faculty and staff from the two aforementioned departments were conducted on February 18, 2026, February 24, 2026, and March 11, 2026 to seek input about maintaining the visibility and identity of the programs housed within each department; about how student experience could be enriched with exposure to students and curriculum from different disciplines; and about how a culture of collaboration across disciplines could be fostered for teaching, learning and research;

*Whereas:* Three consultation sessions opened to students, faculty and staff from the two aforementioned departments were conducted on March 17, 2026, April 17, 2026, and April 22, 2026 to seek input about the name for the proposed department and to identify further issues that will need to be collectively discussed and addressed in the academic year 2026-2027, such as governance, staffing, infrastructure, curriculum, student experience, accessibility and so on;

*The Department of Art Education recommends that:*

- Concordia University create a department of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies (name to be confirmed) by merging the Department of Art Education and the Department of Creative Arts Therapies, to be launched in the summer/fall of 2027;
- The new Department maintain, once formed, all current disciplinary academic programs, but increase opportunities for collaboration in teaching, learning and research.
- Further consultation happens in the academic year 2026-2027, on issues such as governance, staffing, infrastructure, curriculum, student experience, accessibility and so on.

Date: June 22, 2026



Signature (Chair, Department of Art Education): MJ Thompson

**Unanimous:**

(Jessie Beier, Juan Carlos Castro, Sandra Huber, Dave LeRue, Aileen Pugliese-Castro, MJ Thompson, Kathleen Vaughan)

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Department of Creative Arts Therapies, Department Council

Faculty of Fine Arts, Concordia University

Resolution on the creation of a Department of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies

*Whereas:* The Department of Art Education and the Department of Creative Arts Therapies train students in fine arts pedagogy; community-based practices; and art therapy, drama therapy, music therapy, and play therapy practices; and, their faculty members and students are active practitioners and researchers in their respective disciplines;

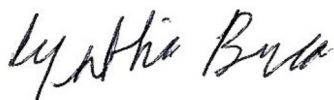
*Whereas:* Three consultation sessions opened to students, faculty and staff from the two aforementioned departments were conducted on February 18, 2026, February 24, 2026, and March 11, 2026 to seek input about maintaining the visibility and identity of the programs housed within each department; about how student experience could be enriched with exposure to students and curriculum from different disciplines; about how a culture of collaboration across disciplines could be fostered for teaching, learning and research;

*Whereas:* Three consultation sessions opened to students, faculty and staff from the two aforementioned departments were conducted on March 17, 2026, April 17, 2026, and April 22, 2026 to seek input about the name for the proposed department and to identify further issues that will need to be collectively discussed and addressed in the academic year 2026-2027, such as governance, staffing, infrastructure, curriculum, student experience, accessibility and so on;

*The Department of Creative Arts Therapies recommends that:*

- Concordia University create a department of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies (name to be confirmed) by merging the Department of Art Education and the Department of Creative Arts Therapies, to be launched in the summer/fall of 2027;
- The new Department maintain, once formed, all current disciplinary academic programs, but increase opportunities for collaboration in teaching, learning and research.
- Further consultation happens in the academic year 2026-2027, on issues such as governance, staffing, infrastructure, curriculum, student experience, accessibility and so on.

Date: June 2, 2026



Cynthia Bruce

Chair, Creative Arts Therapies

Unanimous:

Full-time faculty: J. Bleuer, A. Brault, S. Brodie, C. Bruce, K. Grabner, B. Harnden, H. McLaughlin

Part-time faculty representative: S. Cooke

Student representatives: S. McKenna, T. Stacey

For: 10

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

## Report on the Faculty of Fine Arts Strategic Plan for the 2025-2026 academic year

The Faculty continues to implement its 2022–2027 Strategic Plan, fostering a vibrant ecosystem of learning, research, and creation. In 2025–2026, our departments have demonstrated excellence through initiatives that prioritize equity, sustainability, and collaboration, while engaging diverse communities both locally and internationally. This report highlights major achievements, reflecting our commitment to innovation, inclusivity, and social impact through the arts.

### [Faculty of Fine Arts 2022-2027 Strategic Plan](#)

**What We Aspire Toward:** To be a model of excellence in the Fine Arts by collectively developing innovative approaches to learning, research, creation, and work, empowering our community to be agents of positive change

**Our Mission:** To foster a vibrant learning, research and creation ecosystem committed to critical engagement with knowledge-making, art practices, and social transformation

## Contents

|                                                                                                                                                                               |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 1: To <b>prioritize equity practices</b> in how we build community, support students, faculty, and staff, and improve diversity and accessibility ..... | 2  |
| STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 2: To <b>engage with diverse perspectives</b> and with the Indigenous Directions Action Plan to shape our processes and curriculum .....                | 4  |
| STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 3: To mobilize expertise across the Faculty in <b>sustainable and collaborative practices</b> for how we create, study and work. ....                   | 6  |
| STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 4: To improve our <b>capacity to be agile, embrace renewal and lighten administrative burden</b> where possible, in order to focus on our mission ..... | 9  |
| STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 5: <b>To serve our community</b> by building a culture of reciprocity, accountability, rigor, and excellence .....                                      | 13 |

**FACULTY OF FINE ARTS**

## STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 1: To **prioritize equity practices** in how we build community, support students, faculty, and staff, and improve diversity and accessibility

The **Department of Creative Arts Therapies** established an **equity and sustainability working group** that was comprised of faculty and student representatives from all modalities. Initial discussions have been productive, highlighting the importance of fostering community through arts-based activities and informal opportunities for connection. The Department will continue to build upon this work in 2026-27.

Contact: [Cynthia Bruce](#), Chair, Departments of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies

**FOFA Gallery's** spring exhibitions included a dedicated **Accessibility Project**, funded by a microgrant from the Canada Council for the Arts and offering a full afternoon of programming centered on Deaf and low-vision audiences, with ASL and LSQ interpretation provided for both anglophone and francophone communities. The initiative featured guided tours with artist Sendy-Loo Emmanuel and a public conversation between Po B. K. Lomami and eunice bélidor. It was held alongside the launch of *Esse arts + opinions* Issue 117: *Crip/handi*. By integrating audio signage, braille exhibition texts, and touch tours, the Gallery expanded its knowledge of inclusive curatorial practice and reinforced its commitment to accessibility in contemporary art spaces.

Contact: [María Andreína Escalona De Abreu](#), FOFA Gallery Exhibitions Coordinator

The **FOFA Gallery** also supported an exceptional cohort of four interns — three FRQ and one Young Canada Works — each leading a distinct strand of gallery activity: Black Arts Series coordination, public outreach, accessibility programming, and sustainability. These positions represent meaningful, paid, skills-building opportunities for emerging arts workers that are rare in the current landscape, and reflect the gallery's commitment to mentorship as a core part of its mandate.

Contact: [Gwynne Fulton](#), Administrator of the FOFA Gallery

Concordia students are supporting youth creative development through the [Press Start Art and Social Transformation Mentorship Program](#), a community initiative based in Montreal's Pointe-Saint-Charles neighbourhood. Supported by Concordia's Office of Community Engagement, the program pairs **Fine Arts student mentors** with racialized and queer youth to explore artistic practice, leadership and social transformation through hands-on, collaborative learning. Grounded in a cooperative model that emphasizes shared decision-making and horizontal learning, Press Start fosters skills

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

development, confidence and community connection, while reinforcing reciprocal exchange between Concordia students and local youth.

Contact: [The Office of Community Engagement](#) or [Press Start](#)

The Faculty of Fine Arts continues to play an important role in **Concordia's Black and African Diaspora Studies program**. This year, the University expanded the program with the introduction of a new Certificate in Black and African Diaspora Studies in the Canadian Context, building on the success of its pioneering minor. Through Fine Arts courses in music, literature and the arts, the program enriches interdisciplinary learning by centering Black histories, cultural production and creative practice. The expansion reflects Concordia's commitment to equity, accessibility and decolonial learning while broadening opportunities for students across faculties, alumni and non-degree learners.

Contact: [Christiana Abraham](#), Senior Lecturer, Communication Studies & Program Director, Black and African Diaspora Studies in the Canadian Context

The School of Performance is **expanding access to contemporary music creation** with the launch of a new [Microprogram in Songwriting and Music Production](#) this fall. Offered in the evening, the flexible 12-credit program helps remove barriers for students with work, family or other daytime commitments, while providing emerging artists and working professionals with accessible, portfolio-based training in songwriting and music production. By combining creative and technical skills within a cohesive curriculum, the microprogram responds to the changing landscape of independent music production while creating pathways for a diverse range of learners. Credits may also be applied toward existing Fine Arts degree programs, supporting academic progression and lifelong learning. The initiative builds on recent curricular renewal in Music and demonstrates the Faculty's commitment to innovative, student-centered programming that advances equity, accessibility and inclusion.

Contact: [Georges Dimitrov](#) Associate Teaching Professor, Music, and Undergraduate Program Director at the School of Performance

## STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 2: To engage with diverse perspectives and with the Indigenous Directions Action Plan to shape our processes and curriculum

The Department of **Art Education** **furthered its commitment to decolonizing education and pedagogy** through targeted participation in online learning modules, instructional workshops and conferences offered by the Centre for Teaching and Learning and the Indigenous Decolonization Hub. Faculty members subsequently shared insights and strategies with the department to support ongoing efforts toward decolonization. Events attended included:

- Online study of the Primer Course: “History, Resilience and Continuance of the Rotinonhsión:ni Confederacy;” and inclusion of the Primer Course on our syllabi
- November 14, 2025: “Mitigating the Impacts of Climate Change: Insights on Environmental Protection and Restoration led by the Kanien’kehá:ka Community”
- January 8, 2026: “Pedagogical Strategies to Integrate the Modules of the Primer Course”
- March 26-27, 2026 (4<sup>th</sup> Space and online): Indigenous Land-Based Educational Practices Conference/Perspectives on Climate Change.

Contact: [MJ Thompson](#), Professor and former Chair, Art Education

[Indigenous Special Projects Grants](#) continue to support student-led initiatives at all degree levels, providing awards of \$1,000 each. In 2025-2026, grants were awarded to Grace Clark (Jazz Studies and Vocals, BFA) to record an EP featuring songs she wrote about navigating growth and transition entitled *Sweet Talk*; and to Milo Puge (Print Media / Anthropology BA) to develop a ‘zine exploring his personal connection with Métis dogsledding culture. Grace will use her professionally mixed EP to further her professional singing career, while Milo intends to continue his studies in our MFA Print Media program, with this completed zine being a key component of his application.

These grants support the [Indigenous Directions Action Plan](#) by contributing to a more inclusive cultural climate within the Faculty of Fine Arts for Indigenous people and by facilitating Indigenous student-led activities through new funding opportunities.

Projects can take a number of forms, such as individual student or student group special projects, curated exhibitions organized by or for students, screenings, performances, conferences and lectures, guest artist or expert fees, travel for curricular or

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

extracurricular invitations to present student projects, and community-based events. Projects may be student-directed or initiated by Indigenous faculty or staff members in collaboration with Indigenous students, particularly in the case of larger group activities.

Contact: [Tricia Middleton](#), Student Life Coordinator, Fine Arts

Through their research, creative practice and leadership, Faculty of Fine Arts members are advancing the University's commitment to engaging diverse perspectives and **implementing the Indigenous Directions Action Plan**. Their work strengthens Indigenous approaches across research, artistic creation, teaching and community partnerships. Recent examples include:

- Jason Edward Lewis (Design and Computation Arts Professor): Through his leadership of the Indigenous Futures Research Centre, the Abundant Intelligences Partnership and Aboriginal Territories in Cyberspace, [Lewis integrates Indigenous perspectives into artificial intelligence](#), digital media and emerging technologies. His interdisciplinary collaborations and mentorship of emerging Indigenous scholars demonstrate how Indigenous knowledge can shape research, innovation and academic partnerships.  
Contact: [Jason Edward Lewis](#), Professor of Computation Arts, founder of the Obx Laboratory for Experimental Media and co-director of the Indigenous Futures Research Centre
- Hannah Claus, MFA 04 (Studio Arts Professor) presented an exhibition at the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery that invited audiences to [experience Tiohtià:ke through Kanien'kehá:ka perspectives on land, water and sky](#). By centering Indigenous relationships to place within contemporary artistic practice, her work contributes to broader conversations about Indigenous knowledge, creative research and teaching.
- Hannah Claus, along with Kaia'tanó:ron Dumoulin Bush, was also selected to create *Teionihhtiohtià:kon*, [the inaugural mural for Concordia's Indigenous Public Art Mural Program](#). Through the **partnership with MU**, Indigenous art students are also being hired and mentored as part of the mural's creation, including Concordia alumna Diane Roe, who has worked with MU for the past eight years. The mural, to be unveiled in September 2026, will strengthen Indigenous visibility and representation in public spaces across campus.

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

Contact: [Hannah Claus](#), Co-Director of the Indigenous Futures Research Centre at Concordia, and Associate Professor in the Department of Studio Arts.

- Nadia Myre, MFA 02 (Studio Arts Professor): Through her internationally recognized artistic practice, community-engaged research and leadership of the Kinawind Lab, Myre **advances Indigenous material research and decolonial approaches to art**. Her work strengthens Concordia's commitment to integrating Indigenous perspectives across research, creation and pedagogy. Myre was awarded Quebec's highest distinction in visual arts, the [Prix Paul-Émile-Borduas](#), recognizing her transformative contributions to contemporary Indigenous art and cultural dialogue. And in May 2025, Myre opened the major solo exhibition *Waves of Want* at the [National Gallery of Canada](#). Bringing together more than two decades of her practice, the exhibition was particularly significant as one of only three solo exhibitions by living Indigenous women artists produced by the National Gallery in its history.

Contact: [Nadia Myre](#), Associate Professor, Studio Arts

## STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 3: To mobilize expertise across the Faculty in **sustainable and collaborative practices** for how we create, study and work.

The Faculty of Fine Arts launched a dedicated [Sustainability webpage](#) featuring work and resources developed by the Sustainability of Fine Arts (SOFA) Committee to support students, staff and faculty in **adopting more sustainable practices**. Rooted in the Faculty's Sustainability Action Plan and aligned with Concordia's broader sustainability, Indigenous Directions, and equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) frameworks, the pages provide practical guidance and resources across key areas, including knowledge sharing, curriculum development, research and innovation, community wellbeing, and resilient infrastructure.

Contact: [Kelly Jazvac](#), Chair and Professor, Department of Studio Arts, former chair of the SOFA Committee

In collaboration with Volt Age, the Dean's office helped develop and launch the **pilot edition of the new [Spark Fellowship](#)**. This one-year fellowship will support two recent graduates from Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts, each receiving a total value of approximately \$50,000. The Fellowship initiative brings together artists, researchers and

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

community partners through interdisciplinary collaboration, reinforcing the Faculty's commitment to sustainable practices and demonstrating the vital role of artistic research in addressing complex environmental challenges, notably the energy transition.

Contact: [Volt-Age](#), or [Haidee Wasson](#), Associate Dean of Research, Graduate Studies and Faculty Development in the Faculty of Fine Arts

Through its collaboration with the [Grantham Foundation for the Arts and the Environment](#), the Faculty supported Concordia students' participation in the **New Horizons Prize**, which recognizes emerging visual artists whose practices engage with environmental issues. The initiative provides valuable professional development opportunities while reinforcing the Faculty's commitment to sustainability through creative practice.

Contact: [Fannie Gadouas](#), Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Industry Engagement

Concordia researchers partnered with the **Society for Arts and Technology (SAT)** to develop [open-source, artist-centered AI and digital creation tools](#) that give creators greater control over their data, workflows and creative processes. Through collaborative research spanning design, computation, and media arts, the initiative advances ethical, accessible and sustainable approaches to AI while providing new opportunities for students and artists to explore emerging technologies through research-creation.

Contact: [Fannie Gadouas](#), Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Industry Engagement

The Department of **Studio Arts** continues to develop **innovative sustainable practices**:

- The **Sculpture** Area established a collaboration with Concordia's engineering department to recycle their aluminum waste in the Sculpture Program's foundry. This free resource results in recycled aluminum casts for Studio Arts students at no cost. From a pedagogical perspective, systems for material circularity were developed as part of the new sustainability courses, including recycling waste materials into new natural plaster recipes.

Contact: [Kevin Andres-Teixeira](#), Technician, Department of Studio Arts regarding the aluminum waste project and [Kelly Jazvac](#), Chair and Professor, Studio Arts regarding the new plaster recipes

- The **Printmaking** Area is advancing non-toxic processes in the intaglio lab, researching water-washed photo-based etching to reduce acid-based processes for students. With the Graphics Lab (Hewitt Foundation Master Printer) project,

**FACULTY OF FINE ARTS**

the Printmaking Area is also working to reduce plastic waste from the process of plate exposure in both photo-intaglio and photo-lithography processes.

Contact: [Catherine Wild](#), Professor, [Mitch Mitchell](#), Associate Professor, or [Erika Adams](#), Associate Professor, Department of Studio Arts

Concordia partnered with Montreal theatre company **Porte Parole** to present [The Assembly – Energy in Canada](#), a documentary theatre production that brings together activists, policymakers and industry professionals to explore tensions surrounding Canada’s energy transition. Staged at the Hall Auditorium as part of Canada Climate Week Xchange, the performance blended journalism, storytelling and live dialogue to examine how differing perspectives on climate and sustainability intersect. Through this collaboration, the Faculty mobilizes artistic practice as a tool for interdisciplinary exchange and public engagement with complex environmental issues.

Contact: [Shauna Janssen](#), Associate Dean, Academic Programs & Pedagogy, Fine Arts & Associate Professor, Theatre, School of Performance

In 2025, Concordia’s [Centre for Creative Reuse](#) (CUCCR) launched a **satellite space** in the VA Building, **expanding access to free, reclaimed art materials** for Fine Arts students. Located in VA 012, the new hub offers a rotating selection of donated supplies such as paper, fabric and studio offcuts, helping students source materials directly within their building. The initiative builds on CUCCR’s broader sustainability mandate to divert usable materials from landfill and support more circular creative practices across campus. Alongside the Grey Nuns depot and EV satellite, the VA space strengthens a growing network of student-driven reuse sites, encouraging hands-on engagement with sustainability while reducing waste in artistic production.

Contact: [CUCCR team](#)

Now in its second year, the **FOFA Gallery's Sustainability Project** (supported by a \$250,000 Canada Council Cultivate Grant) reached new milestones in 2025–2026, as they produced sustainable signage for nine exhibitions across FOFA, the Leonard & Bina Ellen Gallery, and the Guido Molinari Foundation. They developed a prototype signage robot prototype scaled for larger institutions; and established a pilot rooftop natural dye garden with the Molinari Foundation. Sustainability co-curators Joé Côté-Rancourt and Joshua Jensen received Concordia’s Sustainability Champion Award in April 2026 and presented their research at Le Labo (Toronto) and Universidad Iberoamericana (Mexico City).

Contact: [Joé Côté-Rancourt](#) and [Joshua Jensen](#), Sustainability Co-Curators, FOFA Gallery

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

The Tenure Guidelines for CUFA members were ratified by Faculty Council on May 15, 2026. The guidelines outline performance markers for successful tenure dossiers, within the parameters of the CUFA Collective Agreement, and establish essential baseline elements across the three areas of faculty responsibilities: teaching, research and service. They recognize the disciplinary diversity across our Faculty, allowing for differences in teaching environments and pedagogies, research practices and outputs, forms of service, and the varied individual and collective impacts of academic labour. While the guidelines are intended to support consistent and sound decision-making through the implementation of Fine Arts norms, they provide a flexible framework that reflects the diverse practices and contributions of faculty members across the Faculty.

Contact: [Haidee Wasson](#), Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies, and Faculty Development

### Strategic orientation 4: To improve our capacity to be agile, embrace renewal and lighten administrative burden where possible, in order to focus on our mission

Concordia officially [launched the new School of Performance](#) on May 4, 2026 at Place des Arts; featuring performances by students and acclaimed alumna Dawn Tyler Watson. As Quebec's first interdisciplinary hub of its kind, the School brings together the departments of Contemporary Dance, Music and Theatre under a single structure within the Faculty of Fine Arts. This new model **streamlines academic leadership and administration, strengthens collaboration across disciplines, enhances performance training and research-creation, and reinforces Concordia's leadership in interdisciplinary performing arts** education and innovation.

Contact: [Shauna Janssen](#), Associate Dean, Academic Programs & Pedagogy, Fine Arts & Associate Professor, Theatre, School of Performance

The Departments of Art History and Design and Computation Arts began **implementing a shared administrative model**, establishing a more resilient and integrated administrative structure while maintaining high-quality support for students, faculty, and academic programming.

Contact: [Danielle Miles](#), Administrator, Art History and Design and Computation Arts

To support **merger planning between the Departments of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies**, faculty members participated in two rounds of consultations during Winter and Spring 2026. A total of six meetings were held, with strong participation and constructive discussions focused on the opportunities, added value and potential challenges associated with the merger. These initial "getting-to-know-you" sessions laid

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

the groundwork for the next phase of planning, including a 4TH SPACE Study Day scheduled for November 2026 to explore approaches to research and teaching, as well as the creation of working groups to advance the process throughout 2026–2027.

Contact: [Cynthia Bruce](#), Chair, Departments of Art Education and Creative Arts Therapies

In a workshop for Fine Arts leadership hosted by the Office of the Dean and led by Rosemary Reilly (Chair, Applied Human Sciences in the Faculty of Arts and Science), **academic and administrative leaders in the Faculty of Fine Arts developed their understanding of change and transitions leadership**. Each participant brought a real-life change project relevant to their context to explore, and the workshop demonstrated collaborative approaches while providing opportunities for colleagues to interact and engage with the material.

Contact: [Tristan Khaner](#), Director, Office of the Dean and Faculty Operations.

To help staff make **better use of the growing range of digital automation tools** available at the university, the Office of the Dean hosted a **digital skills-sharing session**. The session highlighted practical workflows, key considerations and lessons learned through three real-world demonstrations. Presenters included Marie-Christine Lavoie (Student Academic Services), who showcased an appointment-booking system supporting frontline academic advising; Jules Beauchamp Desbiens (Core Technical Centre), who demonstrated a real-time data management dashboard for Digifab project tracking and planning; and Gabriel Desjardins (University Secretariat), who presented an automated Access to Information workflow integrating Microsoft Forms, Outlook, SharePoint, OneDrive, Word and Excel. The initiative fostered knowledge sharing and encouraged the adoption of digital tools to streamline administrative processes and improve efficiency across the Faculty.

Contact: [Jen Cressey](#), Supervisor, Administrative Services, Office of the Dean

For the second consecutive year, the Office of the Dean partnered with **departments to review and improve administrative processes**. This year's initiative focused on the role of Graduate Program Assistants (GPAs), whose work is essential to supporting graduate students and faculty. Through a series of workshops facilitated by Miguel Del Pino, Process Analyst in the Digital Transformation Office, GPAs from across the Faculty collaboratively mapped their core processes and developed a standardized operating procedure for graduate admissions. The initiative supports greater consistency, knowledge sharing and operational efficiency across the Faculty.

Contact: [Jen Cressey](#), Supervisor, Administrative Services, Office of the Dean

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

Under the University's Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) framework, Student Academic Services (SAS) focused on three key priorities: **course optimization, student retention and recruitment**.

- **To optimize course offerings**, SAS implemented a proactive course enrolment review process with the Dean's Office, SAS and departments to identify low-enrolment classes early. This enabled timely adjustments including the reallocation of teaching resources and the cancellation or consolidation of under-enrolled sections, while preserving students' ability to remain on track with their degree requirements.
- **To strengthen student retention**, SAS Retention Advisor continued to implement **targeted interventions**, including one-on-one consultations with students on failed, conditional or in-jeopardy standing, as well as information sessions focused on academic recovery planning. These efforts helped identify service gaps, connect students with appropriate resources, and develop individualized success plans. Through continuous monitoring, follow-up and tailored student support, the proportion of students returning to acceptable academic standing increased by 75%.
- **To support recruitment**, SAS updated the **Faculty's recruitment plan** and collaborated with departments to develop strategies to support their enrolment goals.
- Concordia also continued to host **National Portfolio Day**, welcoming representatives from 15 North American and European institutions and prospective students to campus, increasing the Faculty's visibility. Campus initiatives, including facility tours and the **Student for a Day** program, were expanded in alignment with recruitment targets, alongside increased collaboration with departments to enhance on-campus recruitment events.

Contact: [Mary Laliotis](#), Manager, Student Academic Services.

The Office of the Dean led a cross-sector collaboration to transition more than 100 Faculty of Fine Arts **course and lab fees to the Student Information System (SIS) billing system**. This initiative streamlines fee collection and reduces administrative work for technical and teaching staff, freeing up dozens of hours annually that can be redirected toward higher-value activities and enhancing the student experience.

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

Contact: [Tristan Khaner](#), Director, Office of the Dean and Faculty Operations

The Faculty of Fine Arts Budget Office offered **small-group, hands-on Financial Services sessions** to Department Administrators, providing tailored training and support and contributing to the development of a shared knowledge base. This approach maximized engagement and created a forum for peer-to-peer learning that has continued to evolve beyond the training sessions.

Contact: [Susan Groff](#), Financial and Planning Officer

In the fall of 2025, the YMCA du Quebec announced that they would be closing all of their summer camp activities, marking the end of a longstanding and fruitful collaboration with the Faculty of Fine Arts. In response, the Office of the Provost, in collaboration with the Faculty of Fine Arts and other faculties, developed and rolled out an in-house **Concordia Summer Camp**. Ran as a pilot edition, the **camp is anticipated to become a new source of revenue generation** for the University, while allowing us to maintain important child-care services for our local communities.

Contact: [Fannie Gadouas](#), Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Industry Engagement

The Visual Collections Repository (VCR) and Centre for Digital Arts (CDA) collaborated on a **shared support model** for operating the VCR's screening and viewing rooms, and cross-training so that day-to-day technical operation does not rest on one person. This initiative extends the CDA's existing technical support model to VCR facilities and trains VCR staff and work-study students to operate and resolve common faults. It draws on existing technical expertise that the Faculty already holds rather than duplicating it, breaking down silos.

Contact: [Pamela Caussy](#), Manager, Visual Collections Repository and [Chris Ready](#), Supervisor, Audio Visual, Centre for Digital Arts

A detailed **governance document** was created for the department of Art Education, to be finalized and voted on in Department Councils, Fall 2026.

Contact: [MJ Thompson](#), Professor and former Chair, Art Education

**FACULTY OF FINE ARTS**

## STRATEGIC ORIENTATION 5: To serve our community by building a culture of reciprocity, accountability, rigor, and excellence

Concordia launched the inaugural [Studio Baie-Saint-Paul residency](#), offering Fine Arts students an immersive five-week **learning experience** in partnership with the Musée d'art contemporain de Baie-Saint-Paul, Réussir en français and the Département d'études françaises. Designed for anglophone and allophone students, the program integrates French-language learning into artistic practice through studio work, critiques, museum visits and community engagement in a fully francophone environment. By combining experiential learning with strong institutional and community partnerships, the residency strengthens students' professional development while fostering excellence, collaboration, and meaningful engagement with Quebec's cultural community.

Contact: [MJ Thompson](#), Professor Art Education, in charge of the first cohort.

**Art Volt** [celebrated a milestone year](#) in 25-26, expanding opportunities for emerging Fine Arts alumni through mentorship, residencies, professional training and national exposure. The program debuted at Art Toronto, achieved major institutional acquisitions at Plural Contemporary Art Fair, and continued to strengthen artists' transition into professional practice through a historic \$1-million donation from Power Corporation of Canada to expand Art Volt's mentorship, training, residencies and visibility initiatives, strengthening support for emerging artists as they transition from graduation to professional practice. These achievements reinforce the Faculty's commitment to fostering artistic excellence and supporting the long-term success of its graduates.

Contact: [Fannie Gadouas](#), Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Industry Engagement

In 2025-2026 the Faculty of Fine Arts signed **new Memorandum of Understandings** with the Museum of Contemporary Art, The Festival international du film sur l'art, and the McCord Museum. These agreements highlight the Faculty of Fine Arts commitment to building strong collaborative relationships within our local cultural ecosystem, as well as the continued engagement of leading cultural institutions in partnering with us.

Contact: [Fannie Gadouas](#), Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Industry Engagement

The Faculty of Fine Arts established a network of student mobility agreements with leading art schools such as OCADU, NSCAD University, Emily Carr University, York University, and Alberta University of the Arts. While student mobility agreements have traditionally focused on international exchanges, this initiative expands opportunities for students to study and build connections within Canada. The new network strengthens collaboration among Canadian art and design institutions while giving Fine

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

Arts students greater access to diverse learning environments, perspectives and creative communities.

Contact: [Amanda Holt](#), Advisor, Retention, Student Academic Services

Thirteen Concordia students received [Behaviour Interactive Scholarships](#) supporting innovative research-creation projects in game design, developed within a collaborative ecosystem spanning students, faculty and industry partners. Through mentorship and community-based practice, recipients explored new forms of interactive storytelling, including projects such as aging action-hero narratives and micro-games about everyday social encounters. The initiative reflects Concordia's commitment to mobilizing interdisciplinary expertise and fostering experimental, practice-based approaches to creative production in game studies and digital media.

Contact: [Jonathan Lessard](#), Professor, Design and Computation Arts, Behaviour Interactive Research Chair in Game Design, and Department Chair, Design and Computation Arts

The Faculty of Fine Arts launched [CTRL + AI – Human Creativity and Agency in the Age of AI](#), its inaugural **AI Expert-in-Residence program**, which includes public conversations, workshops and a for-credit course. Designed to help students critically and creatively engage with generative AI, the initiative connects leading practitioners with students and faculty, fostering ethical, collaborative and future-focused approaches to creative practice and technological innovation.

Contact: [Shauna Janssen](#), Associate Dean, Academic Programs & Pedagogy, Fine Arts & Associate Professor, Theatre, School of Performance

The [Travel Grants for Undergraduate Students](#) program was relaunched in 2024 after a four-year hiatus and continued strong throughout 2025-2026. The program offers financial support to Fine Arts undergraduate students who receive official invitations from recognized, professionally operated arts organizations to present their original creative or academic work outside of Concordia. It addresses a gap in undergraduate funding by supporting students who are increasingly invited to share their work in professional contexts beyond the University.

Contact: [Tricia Middleton](#), Student Life Coordinator, Fine Arts

The Department of Art History completed construction and activated the **Elsbeth McConnell Curatorial Laboratory**, a new teaching and research space made possible through philanthropic support by the Doggone Foundation. The Lab provides students with hands-on opportunities to explore curatorial practice through exhibitions, workshops, research activities, and collaborations with visiting scholars and cultural partners. Its inaugural programming represents an important investment in experiential

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

learning and interdisciplinary engagement, supporting the Faculty's commitment to innovative teaching and student success.

Research and public engagement flourished under the leadership of the new Director of the **Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art**, Dr. Gabby Moser. During her first year, the Institute delivered [an ambitious program](#) of lectures, workshops, exhibitions, research initiatives, and community partnerships. These activities significantly expanded opportunities for students and faculty while strengthening the Department's research profile and national visibility.

Contact: [Gabrielle Moser](#), Research Chair, Director of the Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art and Associate Professor, Department of Art History

A multi-year curriculum development and capital improvement project has transformed the Photography department's facilities, equipment and course offerings to better reflect contemporary practices in the field. The **Photo Digital Migration project** included a restructuring of entry-level courses and program requirements, alongside significant upgrades to equipment and technical spaces. The project introduced new cameras, computers and printers and transformed former analogue colour darkrooms and processing spaces into contemporary digital facilities. These changes align the curriculum and learning environment with evolving technologies, while maintaining support for historical silver-based processes and addressing the needs and interests of students and faculty.

Contact: [Noémie da Silva](#), Photo Technician

In Studio Arts, Print Media students benefitted from enhancements supported by the **Hewitt Foundation Master Printmaker Fund**. These included **equipment upgrades**, such as new rollers, ink jet printers, and a lithography press, as well as visits from guest artists. The program also continued to strengthen connections between students and the Montreal's arts community including through its annual undergraduate exhibition at Galerie Alain Piroir and a student residency hosted at Zocalo, an artist-run centre in Longueuil.

Contact: [Catherine Wild](#), Professor, [Mitch Mitchell](#), Assistant Professor, or [Erica Adams](#), Associate Professor, Department of Studio Arts

The Ceramics program developed **ongoing summer residency opportunities**, including one for graduate students at [1001 Pots in Val-David](#), and an award with the [Medalta International Ceramics Residency](#), targeted toward undergrads.

Contact: [Linda Swanson](#) or [Mat Karas](#), Associate Professors, Department of Studio Arts

## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

Concordia Fine Arts students **collaborated with the National Film Board of Canada (NFB)** and Université de Montréal musicians to create [Archives : remixage / Re:Archive](#), an interactive installation presented at Nuit blanche as part of Festival Montréal en Lumière. Developed across Film and Moving Image Studies and Curatorial Studies and Practices, the project invited audiences to actively remix archival footage in real time, transforming historical material into new collective narratives through sound, image and live editing. The initiative reflects Concordia's commitment to interdisciplinary practice-based collaboration that integrates research, creation, and public engagement.

Contact: [Johanne Pelletier](#), Director, Public Engagement

The Faculty of Fine Arts partnered with the John Molson School of Business to develop a **new undergraduate Microprogram in Production Accounting for Film and Television**. The program combines expertise in film production and business administration to address the growing need for specialized knowledge in budgeting, financial management and production accounting within Québec's screen industries. This interfaculty initiative creates new opportunities for Fine Arts students to develop complementary production management skills while enabling business students to engage with the creative sector. By bridging artistic production and financial expertise, the microprogram will support Concordia's commitment to interdisciplinary and professionally relevant education.

Contact: [Shauna Janssen](#), Associate Dean, Academic Programs & Pedagogy, Fine Arts & Associate Professor, Theatre, School of Performance

Recent support from Bell Canada is **strengthening Concordia's Department of Creative Arts Therapies** within the Faculty of Fine Arts, [expanding community-based programs in art, music, drama and play therapy across Montreal](#). Led by the Concordia Arts in Health Centre, the initiative connects training with practice, allowing students to gain hands-on clinical experience while increasing access to arts-based mental health care for communities that might otherwise be underserved. Over the next two years, the funding will enhance partnerships with local organizations, support student supervision and help deliver thousands of hours of free, bilingual services in English and French.

Contact: [Marc Wieser](#), Principal Director of Development, Fine Arts

For more information on the Strategic Plan or to suggest highlights for next year, please contact: [Tristan Khaner](#), Director, Office of the Dean and Faculty Operations.



## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

### REPORT TO FINE ARTS FACULTY COUNCIL

SUBMITTED BY:

Shauna Janssen, Associate Dean, Academic Programmes and Pedagogy

PREPARED BY:

Christopher Cooke, Facilitator, Academic Programmes and Pedagogy

#### 1. Active Curriculum Dossiers

(For informational purposes of Faculty Council only)

No dossiers.

#### 2. Final Approval of APC/Senate

No dossiers.

#### 3. CTL Teaching Resources

The [Centre for Teaching and Learning \(CTL\)](#) continues to offer resources on course design, teaching strategies, inclusive pedagogies, decolonization of curriculum, and use of digital teaching tools, among others.

*Upcoming events of interest:*

September 15 [Faculty interest group: Alternative assessment and pedagogy](#)

September 21 [Teach with Generative AI \(GenAI\) Faculty Interest Group](#)

October 16 [Practical approaches of integrating Rotinónhsion:ni perspectives in sustainability](#)

CTL have developed and maintain a number of electronic resources that faculty may find useful, both in preparation for, and during the academic year. These include, but are not limited to:

- Assessment and Grading including resources on Navigating assessment design and GenAI
- Course Outline Guide
- Dealing with challenging moments in the classroom
- GenAI Quickstart: Foundations for Faculty (developed in collaboration with the Library, eConcordia and McGill)
- Guidelines on teaching with GenAI

The CTL team continue to be available for [one-on-one consultations](#). The [syllabus guide](#) is of particular use for new faculty and references the [Codes of Rights and Responsibilities](#) which defines Academic Freedom at Concordia.

#### 4. Blended/remote Teaching

Blended and remote courses will continue to be offered in the **2026-27** academic year.

Request forms for the **2027-28** academic year are available on [Carrefour](#).

The deadlines for submissions for **2026-27** were:

- **End of Fall 2025** session for FT faculty.
- **June 30, 2026** for PT faculty.

The deadlines for submissions for **2027-28** are:

- **End of Fall 2026** session for FT faculty.
- **June 30, 2027** for PT faculty.

Note that [\*blended teaching\*](#) is a combination of synchronous in-person teaching and a minimum of 25% asynchronous learning; while *remote teaching* is 100% online, synchronous and asynchronous.

## 5. Summer Field Schools 2027

The call for Summer 2027 Field Schools was sent out at the beginning of September with an **October 5, 2026**, deadline.

An information session for those interested in proposing a Field School will take place on [Zoom](#) on **September 28, 2026 at 11 a.m.**

## **Report of the Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies, and Faculty Development**

**Date of report:** Friday, September 11, 2026

**Submitted by:** Haidee Wasson, with contributions from Mary Di Pietrantonio, Marina Polosa, Johanna Mongraw, Nimalan Yoganathan, and Rebecca Logan

**Questions or comments:** Haidee Wasson at [adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca](mailto:adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca)

### **Research Awards, Funding, and Faculty Recognition**

#### ***Distinguished Professor Emeritus***

At its meeting of May 15, 2026, Daniel Cross (Professor, Film Production, Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema) was conferred the designation of Distinguished Professor Emeritus by the University Senate. The status of Distinguished Professor Emeritus recognizes outstanding contributions to his field, the School of Cinema, Faculty, and University.

#### ***Canada Research Chair (CRC) Renewal***

We are delighted to announce that the renewal term of Ishita Tiwary's (Associate Professor, Film and Moving Image Studies, Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema) CRC, Tier 2, *Media and Migration*, has been approved by the Canada Research Chairs Program Steering Committee. Congratulations, Ishita!

### **Research and Restricted Financial Management**

#### ***Report Approval Process***

The Research and Restricted Financial Management (RRFM) team has updated their report approval notification process. To avoid sending manual e-mails, Power Automate is being used to generate messages including links to review reports and request PI approval. These messages have understandably been mistaken for phishing by some PIs. Please see this generic message sent out by the RRFM team:

*Good day Professor,*

*Thank you for being vigilant and checking before addressing this.*

*Yes, indeed this is legitimate. We sent a communication to all Principal Investigator's back in March advising that we were updating the process we used to complete or grant financial*

*reports and obtain approval from PIs on these reports before providing them to the various sponsors.*

*The system used is a Microsoft product linked to your Concordia Team's/email account. Approval of the grant reports is done via this application. You can review the report in the notification below and provide your approval by selecting "approve" or reject it if you are not in agreement with the ending balance of the grant for the period ending March 31, 2026.*

*Thank you and best regards,*

If you have questions or comments, please direct them to: [fofa.rrfm@concordia.ca](mailto:fofa.rrfm@concordia.ca)

**Note:** While this email may seem suspicious (and you are always wise to double-check the source of an email), we can confirm that these are indeed safe emails. Please note that if you have ideas on how to help improve their communications and service to researchers, do not hesitate to send a note to the email address supplied above. I understand that a human will respond. If not, please let me know.

## Research Development

### ***Upcoming Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council funding webinars***

SSHRC will be holding a series of webinars for applicants and research administrators on upcoming competitions. The webinars will be held via MS Teams at the following dates and times:

| Webinar                                  | Date                                           | MS Teams Link                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partnership Development Grants (English) | September 24, 2026<br>11:00 am - 1:00 pm (EDT) | <a href="https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/f2e18669-70a6-4920-81b8-10c4b82c8b15@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65">https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/f2e18669-70a6-4920-81b8-10c4b82c8b15@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65</a>                                                                           |
| Partnership Development Grants (French)  | September 25, 2026<br>11:00 am - 1:00 pm (EDT) | <a href="https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/ebaca824-067b-43cf-b620-6af7f8ff6104@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65">https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/ebaca824-067b-43cf-b620-6af7f8ff6104@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65</a>                                                                           |
| Partnership Grants (French)              | October 15, 2026<br>11:00 am-12:30 pm (EDT)    | <a href="https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/4965f0e1-e442-4f30-a6bc-32922d92c3c0@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65?source=copyLinkLegacyShareLinkDialog">https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/4965f0e1-e442-4f30-a6bc-32922d92c3c0@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65?source=copyLinkLegacyShareLinkDialog</a> |
| Partnership Grants (English)             | October 15, 2026<br>1:30 pm - 3:00 pm (EDT)    | <a href="https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/c4ca5850-c45b-486d-866d-c7ff31bf93ec@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65?source=copyLinkLegacyShareLinkDialog">https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/c4ca5850-c45b-486d-866d-c7ff31bf93ec@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65?source=copyLinkLegacyShareLinkDialog</a> |

If you have technical questions, please contact the Helpdesk.  
Tel.: 613-995-4273

Email: [webgrant@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca](mailto:webgrant@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca)

For any questions, please contact us at the relevant email address for the funding opportunity:  
[http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/contact\\_us-contactez\\_nous/index-eng.aspx](http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/contact_us-contactez_nous/index-eng.aspx)

### ***Research Grant Development and Internal Review Processes*** (memo attached)

Research funding is increasingly competitive. Engaging an Advisor, Research Development early can strengthen the quality, clarity, and competitiveness of your application by ensuring alignment with agency expectations and identifying opportunities to enhance your proposal.

Early engagement allows time for:

- Strategic feedback and proposal refinement
- Coordination with relevant university units
- Identification of strengths, gaps, and opportunities for improvement
- Preparation of a strong, competitive application aligned with agency requirements

Early planning and collaboration are among the most effective ways to strengthen a proposal and improve likelihood of success. I encourage all faculty members to take advantage of the expertise available through our Research Development team to submit the strongest possible applications.

Faculty members are advised to engage their assigned Advisor **6-8 weeks before the agency deadline**, and no later than **12 business days before submission** for development review.

Please contact Nimalan Yoganathan: [nimalan.yoganathan@concordia.ca](mailto:nimalan.yoganathan@concordia.ca)

### ***Research-related resources***

Funding Opportunities Platform: The aim of this platform is to make funding opportunities more visible to our research community, in an easy and user-friendly format – including listing of deadlines, funding amounts, eligibility criteria and internal contacts.

New opportunities are added on a weekly basis. You can [sign-up](#) to receive notifications via email or check all available opportunities on the [main page](#). We encourage all researchers and research support staff to sign-up and explore the platform. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact Andrea Rodney via email: [andrea.rodney@concordia.ca](mailto:andrea.rodney@concordia.ca).

## Graduate Studies

### ***Update your faculty profile: graduate supervision status***

Concordia recently launched the [supervisor search tool](#), offering an easier way for prospective students to find supervisors that match their research interests. Critically, this supports Concordia's recruitment efforts as many prospective students look for supervisors as part of their application process. With this tool, it's more important than ever to have up-to-date supervisor status information listed on your faculty profile to properly populate the search results. Indicating that you are accepting students and ensuring your research areas are clearly defined will help prospective students find and connect with you.

If you aren't currently accepting students, updating your status will reduce unnecessary inquiries and help streamline your workload. Additionally, if you don't typically accept supervision as part of your role, you should indicate you are not a supervisor.

[Learn how to update your supervisory status](#) on your faculty profile in a few simple steps.

### ***Concordia University Award for Graduate Mentoring*** (application form attached)

This award is conferred for outstanding support of a graduate student or graduate students from course completion through research and placement. The nominee must have been a faculty member of the nominating institution for at least three years at the time of the nomination. Departmental Chairs, Graduate Program Directors, and Research Centre Directors are invited to submit nominations. More information can be found on the application below:

[click here to download the application](#)

Submission deadline: **October 23, 2026**

Nomination materials, collated as one .pdf document per nomination, must be submitted to Michael Jordan via e-mail: [Michael.Jordan@concordia.ca](mailto:Michael.Jordan@concordia.ca)

Questions?: [Michael.Jordan@concordia.ca](mailto:Michael.Jordan@concordia.ca)

### ***Donor Award Information Session for Graduate Students***

September 29, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm (EV 2.776)

An in-person information session for graduate students in the Faculty of Fine Arts, providing an introduction to donor awards, travel funding, Art Volt, post-graduate opportunities, and more.

### ***Teaching Assistant Orientations***

This is the third year of our collaboration with the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) to continue our funded, TA-training program, which is administered by Grad Pro Skills. Training continues to include tutorials in grading, EDIA, building good professional relations and

handling tough situations.

CTL is running two 2-hour online **Teaching Assistant Orientation** sessions in the **Fall term**:

- [Friday, September 11](#), 9:30 am – 11:30 am
- [Wednesday, September 23](#), 9:30 am – 11:30 am

If you have specific TA training needs or hear back from your Teaching Assistants about these sessions, please send feedback. We are always working to improve.

### ***Teaching Assistant Workflow***

Please note that the signing workflow for TA contracts has changed: contracts now require approval from the Chair, followed by the Dean's approval, before being sent to the TA for final signature (previously, the TA signed prior to Dean approval). Course supervisors are required to review duties and expectations directly with their TA before the contract is signed.

### ***School of Graduate Studies September Sessions for GPDs and GPAs***

The School of Graduate Studies (SGS) is offering Graduate Program Director (GPD) and Graduate Program Assistant (GPA) sessions specifically for each of the four faculties.

Session dates:

- **Faculty of Arts and Science:** September 16, 10:00 am – 11:30 am
- **John Molson School of Business:** September 16, 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm
- **Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science:** September 17, 10:00 - 11:30
- **Faculty of Fine Arts:** September 17, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm  
<https://concordia-ca.zoom.us/j/85140501441?pwd=RFJ6TO2GuiiY4zuxYl5wtFprJR2UqC.1>

GPAs and GPDs are welcome to attend their assigned session or, should they have a timetable conflict, one of the other sessions offered. The focus will be on common calendar regulations that fall under SGS.

Link requests for alternate faculty meetings, questions, concerns, or suggested topics for inclusion in the session can be e-mailed to: [kristen.dunfield@concordia.ca](mailto:kristen.dunfield@concordia.ca)

***FRQ /Tri-Agency Application Writing & Drop-In Session***

Cecilia Kramar, Advisor, Fellowship Application Development, School of Graduate Studies, organized and led these in-person sessions:

FRQ /Tri-Agency Application Writing & Drop-In Sessions covering:

- Tri-Agency Doctoral
- FRQ Doctoral
- Tri-Agency Master's
- FRQ Master's

Wednesday, September 9 (EV 2.776)

- 9:30 am – 12:00 pm
- 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

If you have questions for Cecilia or would like to put your students in touch with her, she can be reached via e-mail: [cecilia.kramar@concordia.ca](mailto:cecilia.kramar@concordia.ca)

***Inside the Reviewer's Mind – Q & A Roundtable***

In August, Cecilia Kramar, Advisor, Fellowship Application Development, School of Graduate Studies, organized and led these virtual sessions where faculty who sit on real review committees answer your questions, live.

- **SSHRC / FRQ–SC** (social sciences, humanities, arts)  
Monday, August 24, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
- **NSERC / FRQ** (natural sciences, engineering, health)  
Monday, August 24, 10:00 am – 11:30 am  
Wednesday, September 2, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

If you have questions for Cecilia or would like to put your students in touch with her, she can be reached via e-mail: [cecilia.kramar@concordia.ca](mailto:cecilia.kramar@concordia.ca)

**Award News: Undergraduate, Graduate, Post-Graduate*****Next-Generation Scholar Program***

Six undergraduate research projects received funding from the Office of the President, Research, Innovation, and Impact for Summer 2026: Marie-Rose Rodriguez-Bonilla (Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema); Sara Howie (Art History); Hailey Fraser (Studio Arts); Stella-Charles Fisher (Theatre); Lylou Savoie (Art Education); and Victor Savin (Mel Hoppenheim

School of Cinema). Congratulations to these students and their supervisors.

***Canada Graduate Research Scholarship – Master’s*** (CGRS M, \$27,000)

Ten graduate research projects received funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for the academic year 2026-2027: Elya Myers (Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema); Aaron Zeghers (Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema); Haley Kuchar (Art Education); Aliyah Clarke (Art History); Marco Amatangelo (Art History); Isabelle Hawkins (Art History); Francis Ouellette (Design and Computation Arts); Kamyar Karimi Ardestani (Design and

Computation Arts); Jennifer Kitagawa (Studio Arts); and Justine Bellefeuille (Studio Arts).

***2026-27 Susan Jeanne Briscoe Fellowship*** (\$35,000)

The Fellowship was awarded to writer, oral historian, interdisciplinary scholar and performer Kelly Norak Drukker, who completed her PhD in Humanities in June 2025. Over the course of the academic year 2026-2027, the Fellowship will provide financial support to develop her award-winning research-creation dissertation, *Naming the Traces: (Re)Constructing an Irish-Canadian Family Narrative of Emigration, Place-Making, and Return*, into a book. Her creative non-fiction project explores family, memory and migration.

***Volt-Age Spark Fellowships*** (\$50,000)

Launched earlier this year, the Spark Fellowship supports recent Fine Arts graduates in developing ambitious research-creation projects on the energy transition alongside researchers, students and community partners across the Volt-Age network.

Concordia has named the first recipients of the Volt-Age Spark Fellowship, the new research-creation award developed in collaboration with the Faculty of Fine Arts, supporting emerging artists whose work explores electrification, climate transition and broader socio-environmental change.

The inaugural fellows are Alexandre Franchi, MDes 24, and Pauline Batamu Kasiwa Lomami, GrDip Communication Studies 22, MFA Studio Arts 26. Each will receive approximately \$50,000 over one year to develop new artistic research while working within Volt-Age, Concordia's electrification research program, funded through the Canada First Research Excellence Fund.

Meet the [fellows](#).

## Research and Academic News

***Fulbright Research Chair in Indigenous Knowledges***

Dominick Porras, Concordia's 2026-2027 Fulbright Research Chair in Indigenous Knowledges,

has developed a research program for his Fall residency at the [Indigenous Futures Research Centre \(IFRC\)](#). His project, *Animating North America's Oldest Illustrated Book: The Rock Art & Paintings of The Pecos*, examines selected rock paintings which occurred during the Missionization of Texas Indians during the 16th and 17th Centuries. Through animation, Porras acknowledges these particular rock paintings as classical artworks that inform the social and ecological relations Texas Indians established with the land.

[Dominick Porras \(Coahuiltec/Chicano\)](#) is a multi-disciplinary and lens-based artist residing in

Northern California. For over a decade, Porras has worked in relation with California Miwok and Maidu Inter-tribal communities as a collaborative artist in new media storytelling. His current project in new media informs Coahuiltecan cultural recovery and vitality through animation and cyclical time. Porras also employs 35mm/digital photographic essays and sculpture works in conjunction with his research-based works.

Website: <https://dominick-porras.webflow.io/>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/celestial\\_coyotl](https://www.instagram.com/celestial_coyotl)

## Faculty Development News

The Faculty of Fine Arts extends warm congratulations to the following members who have achieved an important milestone in their career trajectory at the University. We wish them continued success at Concordia!

### ***Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor***

- Cáel M. Keegan (Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema)
- Ishita Tiwary (Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema)

### ***Promotion to Full Professor***

- Surabhi Ghosh (Studio Arts)
- Bonnie Harnden (Creative Arts Therapies)
- Joshua Neves (Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema)
- MJ Thompson (Art Education)

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Elaine Cheasley Paterson as Special Advisor to the Provost, Faculty Development and Inclusion. This appointment is for a term of 10 months, which began on September 1, 2026, and will end on June 30, 2027. Responsibilities include participation on behalf of the University in the Joint Union-Employer "Side Table" with

CUPFA to advance discussions; and participation in CUFA-related grievance files working alongside Human Resources, Legal Services, and Employee & Labour Relations.

### ***New Faculty Orientation and Support for Teaching***

On August 27, we hosted an afternoon of orientation and welcome events for new instructors (Part-Time and In-Residence appointees) to the Faculty of Fine Arts. Attendance was robust with more than thirty in attendance. This was divided into two halves. The session was devoted to “New Instructors” which included presentations by a team of fantastic Concordians working to support our classrooms, including our Accessibility Office, CDA, Core Technical Services, VCR, Student Service, Center for Teaching and Learning and others. As part of our ongoing efforts to more fully recognize and support instructors, we invited CUPFA members, including new

Part-Time and Reserve faculty to the first segment so that *all new instructors* could learn about the resources we offer to support our classrooms. We also invited our “in residence” artists and scholars. Thanks to those who attended! It was a great way to start the year.

## **CUFA Processes**

### ***Promotion and Contract Renewal***

Applications for Promotion to Professor are due on October 1, while applications for contract renewal are due on October 15. If you need administrative assistance or are unsure about where you stand in relation to these processes, please reach out to Mary Di Pietrantonio, Administrator, Academic Personnel ([mary.dipietrantonio@concordia.ca](mailto:mary.dipietrantonio@concordia.ca)).

### ***Performance Evaluation***

As this is an even-numbered year, the CUFA Collective Agreement requires that ongoing tenured members and ETAs holding 60-month contracts or contracts without an end date undergo a performance evaluation. However, as per the *Letter of Agreement Regarding the Renewal and Extension of the 2023-2026 Collective Agreement* signed on February 19, 2026, between the University and CUFA, the performance evaluation exercise of Fall 2026 has been cancelled for all members who were assessed as having satisfactory performance in each of the three categories of assessment (research, teaching, and service) in their most recent performance evaluation exercise.

Members whose performance in any of the three categories (teaching, research and service) was assessed as being unsatisfactory in their most recent performance evaluation exercise are required to submit a dossier for evaluation on or before October 1. Affected members were contacted individually by Mary Di Pietrantonio and received a workable WORD version of the guidelines to prepare their dossiers.

Mary Di Pietrantonio and departments have informed ETA members that they are not obligated to prepare a list of service activities for submission on October 1 in instances where their service profile has been established as normal.

### ***Graduate Supervision Remission Exercise***

This exercise will be launched next week to better support units with their timetabling and academic staffing processes. The memo inviting submissions will go out shortly with a deadline of October 1. For those of you with graduate supervision responsibilities, please watch for an email prompt and take note of the hard deadline for submitting completed assessment forms.

## **Academic Staffing for 2026-2027**

We are eager to collaborate and engage with new FoFA colleagues who were successfully hired to fill several positions across the Faculty:

- Julie Burelle, Professor and Chair (School of Performance)
- Delphine Hennelly, Assistant Professor in Painting (Studio Arts)
- Margot Klingender, ETA Lecturer in Painting and Drawing (Studio Arts)
- Iva Rešetar, Assistant Professor of Human-Centered and Sustainable Design in the Built Environment and Volt-Age Research Fellow (Design and Computation Arts)

It gives us great pleasure to welcome our new and returning In-Residence appointees who will be with us during the academic year 2026-2027:

- Raúl Antonio Aguilar Canela (Studio Arts)
- Pedro Barbachano (Studio Arts)
- eunice bélidor (Art History)
- Christian Beltrami (FFAR area)
- Shannon Black (FFAR area)
- Sofia Brockenshire (Cinema)
- Nathalie Claude (School of Performance)
- Dominique Fontaine (Art History)
- Christeen Francis (Studio Arts)
- Ileana Hernandez Camacho
- Lara Kramer (School of Performance)
- Francis Macchiagodena (Studio Arts)
- Dayna McLeod (FFAR area)
- Didier Morelli (Art History)
- Meghan Price (Studio Arts)
- Katherine Purswell (Creative Arts Therapies)

- Emma Tibaldo (School of Performance)
- Erin Weisgerber (Cinema)

## CUPFA Processes

### ***CUPFA Postings***

The Winter 2027 course postings for part-time faculty will open at **1:00 pm on September 17, 2026**. The internal departmental deadline to submit all CUPFA postings for the Winter 2027 term is **September 28, 2026**.

Application period starts/absolute posting deadline is **6:00 pm on October 1, 2026**.

If you have any questions regarding workload allocations or posting procedures, please contact the Dean's Office.

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** University Research Community  
**FROM:** Tim Evans, Vice-President, Research, Innovation, and Impact  
**DATE:** July 30, 2026  
**SUBJECT:** Research Grant Development and Internal Review Processes



As we begin the 2026 research funding cycle, I would like to highlight the proposal development support available through the Office of Research and remind faculty of key internal processes.

Research funding is increasingly competitive. Engaging an Advisor, Research Development early can strengthen the quality, clarity, and competitiveness of your application by ensuring alignment with agency expectations and identifying opportunities to enhance your proposal.

Early engagement allows time for:

- Strategic feedback and proposal refinement
- Coordination with relevant university units
- Identification of strengths, gaps, and opportunities for improvement
- Preparation of a strong, competitive application aligned with agency requirements

Early planning and collaboration are among the most effective ways to strengthen a proposal and improve likelihood of success. I encourage all faculty members to take advantage of the expertise available through our Research Development team to submit the strongest possible applications.

Faculty are advised to engage their assigned Advisor **6-8 weeks before the agency deadline**, and no later than **12 business days before submission** for Development Review.

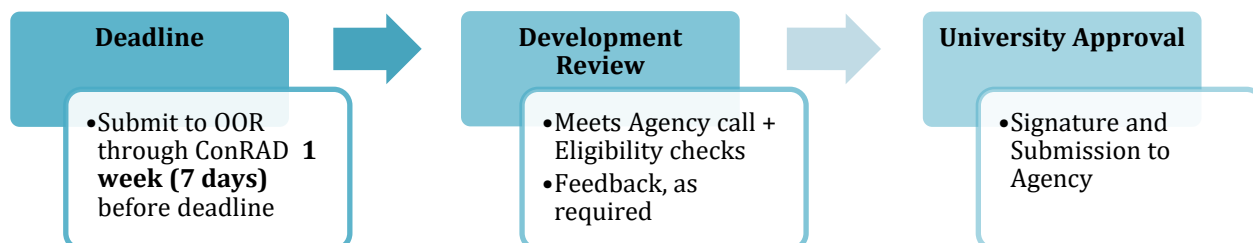
To support faculty, the Office of Research offers two review pathways:

- The **accelerated review process** is available exclusively to **tenured faculty**, allowing greater flexibility to finalize applications independently.
- The **standard proposal development and review process** remains available to **all faculty** and provides comprehensive support.

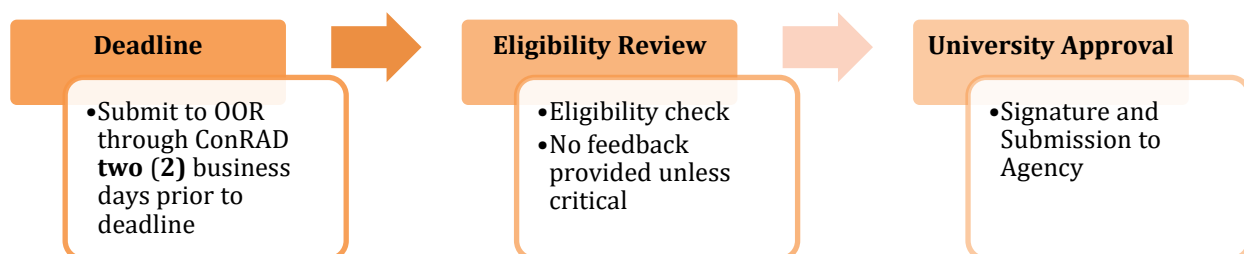
The timelines associated with each review process are outlined below. While every effort will

be made to accommodate late requests, shorter timelines may limit the level of developmental support and strategic review available.

### **Standard Proposal Review Process (Available to All)**



### **Accelerated Review Process (Associate + Full Professors Only)**



Please note that all grant applications must continue to be routed through ConRAD and approved by the **University signing authority** prior to submission to the funding agency.

Thank you for your continued collaboration. We continue to review and refine our processes to enhance efficiency and further shorten processing times, and we look forward to supporting your research success in the year ahead.

Questions regarding Research Development, proposal review processes, and internal grant deadlines should be directed to **Andrea Rodney, Director, Research Development** ([andrea.rodney@concordia.ca](mailto:andrea.rodney@concordia.ca)).

Questions regarding partnerships, intellectual property, and research security should be directed to **David Nguyen, Director, Partnerships, Intellectual Property and Research Security** ([david.nguyen@concordia.ca](mailto:david.nguyen@concordia.ca)).

**CC:** Emad Shihab, Associate Vice-President, Research, Policy, Entrepreneurship, and Impact  
Andrea Rodney, Director, Research Development  
David Nguyen, Director, Partnerships, Intellectual Property and Security  
Michael Guadagno, Manager, Research Grants

## Concordia University Award for Graduate Mentoring

The \$1,000 award of professional allowance will be presented by the Dean of Graduate Studies. The recipient will be invited to host a workshop on graduate mentoring to be organized by the School of Graduate Studies.

### Eligibility

This award is given for outstanding support of a graduate student or graduate students from course completion through research and placement. The nominee must have been a faculty member of the nominating institution for at least three years at the time of the nomination and demonstrate a sustained record of graduate supervision at the current institution no less than seven years.

#### Criteria

These criteria are not meant to be exhaustive, but instead to suggest activities that might be considered in a nominating letter.

- Provision of sound advice with respect to course of study
- Encouraging the best performance from students
- Generosity of time or other measures of effort at mentoring
- Assisting an unlikely or superficially unpromising student through to successful completion and placement
- Advice and other assistance regarding quality and quantity of student papers or other forms of publication and performance
- Extraordinary efforts or success with placement

#### Documentation

1. The nominee's CV
2. A substantial letter of nomination, signed by the nominator and the nominee's Department Chair, which clearly sets out the basis for the nomination
3. Two letters of support from faculty
4. Up to five letters of support from former students who have direct knowledge of the nominee's mentoring

Letters of support from current students will not be considered in the competition. A personal statement from the nominee is not encouraged. Letters and evaluations should not be mere testimonials, they should address specific examples of the nominee's mentoring.

Please note that the nomination and selection criteria are identical to those established for the Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools (NAGS) Geoffrey Marshall Mentoring Award. Therefore, the recipient of the Concordia University Award for Graduate Mentoring will be the nominee for the Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools (NAGS) Geoffrey Marshall Mentoring Award. In addition, the recipient will be Concordia University's candidate for the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS) Dr. Suning Wang Award for Outstanding Graduate Mentorship that recognizes graduate faculty members with a record of excellent mentorship of graduate students under their supervision.

### Deadline

Departmental Chairs, Graduate Program Directors, or Research Centre Directors are invited to submit nominations. The deadline to submit to School of Graduate Studies is **embedded in the call for nomination email**. A university committee will select the nominee.



DATE OF APPLICATION:

\_\_\_\_\_

NOMINATED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_

# CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE MENTORING APPLICATION FORM

---

---

Nominee's Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Last

\_\_\_\_\_

First

Department:

Email:

---

---

A biographical statement of 100 words:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Title of Nominee:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Doc 1**

## **The nominee's CV**

[insert on the following page]

## **Doc 2**

**A substantial letter of nomination,  
signed by the nominator, and the  
nominee's Department Chair,  
which clearly sets out the basis for  
the nomination**

[insert on the following page]

## **Doc 3**

### **Two letters of support from faculty**

[insert on the following page]

## **Doc 4**

**Up to five letters of support from  
former students who have direct knowledge of  
the nominee's mentoring**

**Letters of support from current students will  
not be considered in the competition**

[insert on the following page]

Faculty Council meeting  
September 11, 2026  
FFAC-2026-06-D7

## University Advancement Faculty of Fine Arts Development Update

Submitted by: Marc Wieser, Principal Director of Development

### 1. Department update

Upcoming events:

[Homecoming](#): September 17-19 includes a Rooftop Party, Alumni Zone tailgate at the Football game.

[Shuffle](#): Friday, September 25, 2026

General alumni events: in-person, webinars, regional events – see the [full schedule here!](#)

Wild Talks will continue in 2027 in collaboration with MUTEK featuring Rafael Lozano-Hemmer. Date to be confirmed shortly.

Art Volt Collection at Art Toronto: October 30 – November 1, 2026

**The 2026 Art Volt Collection** was launched on June 2, the vernissage. The Collection will also be featured at Art Toronto again this Fall at a dedicated kiosk. Marc will be travelling to Toronto to meet with donors and prospects.

---

### 2. Summary of gifts raised (FY27)

---

To date, we've raised approximately **\$183K** for initiatives in the Faculty of Fine Arts since the start of this fiscal year in May 2026.

---

We currently have \$9.45M in potential donations in active cultivation

### 3. New Gifts to the Faculty of Fine Arts

- I. Birks Family Foundation – \$100K to the Centre for the Arts in Human Development (CAHD).