



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Oshawa, ON – April 11, 2016

The Robert McLaughlin Gallery Celebrates Volunteer Accomplishments

The Robert McLaughlin Gallery (RMG) is thrilled to celebrate our volunteers' commitment to the gallery during National Volunteer Week Canada. The RMG thrives because of the essential team of volunteers, who logged an impressive 2,703 volunteer hours in 2015. On April 17, 2016 the RMG will celebrate and thank our volunteers with a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon and Membership Event from 12:30pm to 4pm. Special guests for the day will include Mayor John Henry and art consultant, educator and photographer Charlotte Hale.

In the past year, volunteers have been critical to the success of various events such as the popular RMG Fridays and OPG Second Sundays events. The RMG is also grateful to volunteers for their support in installing exhibitions, photographing events, researching and archiving, welcoming guests, leading gallery tours, facilitating art classes and camps, as well as selling goods in the RMG Shop. The gallery strives to incorporate educational opportunities for volunteers and be a resource for all ages and skills levels to foster a welcoming and positive experience. In May, 2015 the RMG hosted the Volunteer Youth leaders Symposium - a one-day event for volunteer coordinators and administrators in the Durham Region. The day featured an innovative keynote speaker, panel discussions, workshops and networking opportunities for attendees.

"I see firsthand what the commitment of community members does for our programming," says Carla Sinclair Manager of Community & Volunteer Development. "The gallery is becoming a hub for talent, with every volunteer incorporating their own unique abilities to make one fantastic team"

A monthly group orientation session to eager volunteers has been critical to the success of growing the volunteer program. The introductory sessions welcome prospective volunteers to the gallery and introduce the range of opportunities available. The volunteer program continues to grow, and the gallery was pleased to welcome 38% new volunteers in 2015/16.

The RMG values the importance of volunteerism and makes it a priority to ensure all volunteers have an enriching and satisfying experience, as they help to fulfill the needs of the gallery. Please join us in recognizing the contributions of our volunteers to the community on April 17 from 12:30pm to 4pm.

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The Robert McLaughlin Gallery

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Connect with us! twitter.com/theRMG | facebook.com/theRMG | instagram.com/rmgoshawa

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Directions: 401 to Oshawa, exit Simcoe St, North to Bagot St. Turn left at Bagot, 2 blocks to Gallery.

Gallery Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Thursday: 10:00 am - 9:00 pm Saturday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm; Sunday: 12 pm - 4:00 pm.

Admission by donation. Parking available. Accessible location.