

the reach

Call for Emerging Artists: CITI/SEEN Public Art Mural in Downtown Abbotsford

Application Deadline: March 15, 2020

The Reach is currently accepting applications for artists **between the ages of 18 and 35** to work on a public mural in Downtown Abbotsford. We are assembling a reliable team of emerging artists to work with mentor artist Sean Karemaker.

This opportunity is ideal for emerging artists based in the Fraser Valley who are looking for public art experience. The application deadline is **11:59 pm (PST) on March 15, 2020**.

The mural project is part of The Reach's *Emerge* program which functions as an incubator for creative talent in the Fraser Valley, offering mentorship and professional opportunities to aspiring artists and arts professionals in this region. The program is designed to allow participants to gain professional experience and practical skills in the arts and culture sector.

Successful applicants will be expected to commit to up to 50 hours of work, beginning in late April. Participants will be paid for their work, and attend the mural launch event scheduled for May, 2020.

Application Guidelines:

- **In order to apply you must be between the ages of 18 and 35**
- A short bio (max. 50-100 words)
- A brief statement (max. 250 words) outlining your artistic background and experience, including any public art experience
- CV (max. 2 pages) outlining your education, any exhibition or publication history, and creative accomplishments
- Up to 10 images of your artwork
- In the body of your email include a checklist of all the documents and image files you have attached, with "**Your Name_Emerge Application_Mural**" in the subject line
- Incomplete applications will not be considered

All applications must be in pdf format and emailed to kbradford@thereach.ca by **11:59 pm (PST) on Sunday March 15, 2020**.

For more information contact Assistant Curator Kate Bradford at kbradford@thereach.ca or 604-864-8087 x. 116.

Emerge is generously supported by the RBC Foundation Emerging Artist Project.



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About the Mentor Artist

Sean Karemaker (seankaremaker.com) is known for his unique form of panoramic, sequential art stories that take various forms, including graphic novels, paintings, dioramas and virtual reality. His work is an intersection of personal expression in storytelling and cutting edge technology. Sean harnesses the technical knowledge and production experience from over 10 years of art production for video games for use in his independent art projects. Sean has authored two graphic novels and his published work has been recognized by The Shuster Awards 2018, Best American Comics 2018, CBC's Best Canadian Comics 2018, and the Alcuin Society Book Design Awards. Sean's graphic sensibility translates to unique, immersive public art projects and he has been commissioned for several mural projects. Teaching is a passion for Sean who hopes to continue to share his skills and experience with a generation of aspiring artists.

About the Emerge Program

Emerge is a program of The Reach Gallery Museum designed to give aspiring artists and arts professionals from the Fraser Valley aged 18-35 access to mentored, real-world opportunities as they transition toward established careers.

A suite of focused initiatives provide emerging artists and curators with the opportunities that matter most to their professional portfolios. These include the cornerstone exhibition series "Art on Demand" which presents four exhibitions annually, and the CITI/SEEN project which pairs a team of emerging artists with a professional artist to create a public mural in historic Downtown Abbotsford.