



Membership Benefits

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Welcome New CCBC Member!

Here is a brief synopsis of all the great features we are able to offer you as valued craftspeople in our community. We hope that you actively participate in all of the benefits to ensure you get the most out of your membership. Good luck on all your endeavors and don't hesitate to get familiarized with our online presence at www.craftcouncilbc.ca

Growing Your Practice

Scholarships and Awards

Our awards program is designed to further education in technical or design skills at institutions as well as to recognize excellence, innovation, and leadership in the BC craft community.

Why: To support members in growing their practice we give out monetary awards that can be used to learn new skills. We have 3 internal awards that are given out to CCBC members on alternating years. The Grace Cameron Rogers Award was in 2014 and will be awarded again in 2016. In 2017 the [Hilde Gerson Award](#) and the [Filberg Professional Development Bursary](#) will be awarded.

Emerging artist awards are given out each year. Emerging artists are selected by professors at institutions with craft media programs. The emerging artist is given:

- a two-year membership with Craft Council of BC
- the opportunity to learn about jurying practices within craft;
- to jury an online exhibition of their peers and
- the opportunity to participate in a group exhibition in the CCBC Gallery.

How: All applications for awards are done through our Online Application Program – Slideroom. This online system is used for exhibition, awards and procurement jurying.

Opportunities to Exhibit

The intent is to create opportunities for craft artists/curators to experiment freely, beyond their usual craft custom or practice. Experimentation may be in the areas of style, technique and/or concept. Artists/curators will not be expected to work outside their area of expertise (although they may choose to do so) but will be given the opportunity to present work which may not be easily presented in conventional craft venues. Thus the definition/expectations of fine craft may be further explored and investigated, and challenging conversations may ensue.



An exhibition at CCBC is recognized by the Canada Council for the Arts and BC Arts Council as a professional exhibition thereby contributing to your eligibility for some grants.

How: Exhibition proposals will be done online through the Online Application Program, Slideroom, and will be evaluated by the Curatorial Committee, which is comprised of craft artists and/or curators from within our membership. If you are interested in exhibiting your work, we have an exhibition space on Granville Island that is open from 10:30 am to 5:30 pm daily. The space is 250 square feet. Current deadlines for exhibition submissions and an overview of our curatorial intend can be found [here](#). You can apply via [Slideroom](#)

Mentorship

CCBC runs 2 types of mentorship programs, one for practicing craft artists and one for students. Our mentors are master craft artists from within the CCBC membership. Mentorships terms occur twice a year and last 5 months. This program aligns mentees and mentors across all media types and aims to support artists around their practice. We launched this pilot program with 14 mentors in Metro Vancouver last fall and soon to be partnered with KPU (Kwantlen Polytechnic University) for student mentorships. Upon completion of the program mentor and mentee may submit a proposal to exhibit their work together at the CCBC gallery. We are currently looking for funding to support our mentors to take time away from their practice to help their community in this way.

Why: It is invaluable experience learning from the best in BC! For mentors this is a great opportunity to give back to the craft community and challenge yourself to think in new ways about craft with your mentee.

How: Those interested in applying to be a mentee or in acting as a mentor please email Raine at raine.mckay@craftcouncilbc.ca

Standards of Quality (SOQ)

CCBC strives to maintain a standard of excellence in craftsmanship. As such, all items that will be for sale through any of the CCBC offered social enterprises are required to submit their work to the SOQ for jury. This is a hands on jury that assesses craftsmanship not salability. All members selling work through CCBC's social enterprises will need to go through the SOQ every 5 years.

Why: This is a way for CCBC to maintain standards of quality on works that sell through our social enterprises. The SOQ also provide an opportunity for our members to get feedback on their craftsmanship from master craftspeople even if they are not interested in selling through the Crafts Council.



How: Information about the upcoming SOQ and a checklist for the application can be found [here](#). To apply to the next SOQ please [login](#) into our member portal and complete the [Standards of Quality](#) form.

Building your Business

Selling Through Our Social Enterprises

Currently we have 3 ongoing locations for selling our members work – Craffhouse Granville Island, Craffhouse YVR and LS Travel Store at the Victoria Airport. We also co-host a summer market and are always on the lookout for other opportunities to promote our members work. Because all of the commissions that CCBC earns from the sale of our member’s work flows back into CCBC programming, these activities are called social enterprises. We have a base policy of ensuring that the artist always receives the wholesale cost of their work – usually 50% of the retail price – or more.

Consistency throughout all of our platforms is key. In order to have all of the members’ information aggregated onto one platform and easily accessible we require all artists selling work through the Council to upload their product lines to [Slideroom](#). This allows the Council to have an online catalogue of all the work for sale in one place.

Why: By selling your work through CCBC ensures that your work will be exposed to a consistent, wide and diverse audience. Also you can always be sure that the work for sale alongside yours will be of the highest craftsmanship. Selling through CCBC also supports the programming and services of the Council, which enables CCBC to support a wider array of artists, to advocate on behalf of the craft sector and to promote excellence in craft.

How: Once you have passed the SOQ you will need to submit your product lines to be assessed by the Procurement Jury. This jurying is done through our Online Application Program, [Slideroom](#) by experienced craft retail jurors. Because the craftsmanship has already been established, the criteria used by the jurors for selection is salability and venue suitability. This online system allows all store buyers to have access to your work.

For more information on how to submit your work, please read this [overview](#). You will need a computer, access to the internet as well as a digital camera. These have to be high quality images in order for the work to be assessed to its full potential. If you do not have a camera or need assistance with photography our team at CCBC will offer a helping hand.



Targeted Partnerships for Selling and Exhibiting

The exhibiting and /or vendor possibilities at the council are not limited to the spaces in the gallery and CCBC social enterprises. In the past we have worked together with different parties who were able to provide unique audiences for our artists to sell their creations.

One of our ongoing partnership programs is *Take-Off-Fridays* which affords CCBC members with the opportunity to sell and demonstrate their craft at various locations around YVR airport. This is a great opportunity to access the over 20,000 employees at YVR and the thousands of travelers making their way through the airport on any given day.

Why: The benefits of participating in these opportunities is really two fold – exposure to a larger audience and an opportunity to sell your work and make some money! Also through your participation, CCBC is able to concretely demonstrate what excellence in craft really is thereby raising the bar for the whole craft sector.

How: The process for applying to participate in these programs is varied and done online. Check out our website and enews for deadlines.

Online Member's Portfolio

We encourage every member to have an online artist portfolio on the CCBC website. Each portfolio contains the artist's bio, media, contact information, where works can be viewed, website link and up to 5 images of the artist's work.

Why: This will allow you to get more exposure and align yourself alongside other master craftspeople. If you don't have a personal website this is a great resource for artists wishing to forward a bio and example of their product to respective parties of interest. If you have a website being able to link to the Council's Members Portfolio establishes you as a viable part of the craft sector.

How: [Login](#) to our member portal and complete the [Portfolio Submission Form](#). Your information will be uploaded by our team shortly after. To see an example of the existing membership portfolios have a browse at our online link [here](#).

Opportunities for Selling, Exhibiting and Keeping Connected

We have two ways for you to keep up to date – our bi-weekly electronic enews which is sent directly to you and for all those items that don't make it into the enews, the [Happenings](#) page of our website.



Both sites contain loads of information on funding for artists, exhibitions, calls for entries, craft market opportunities, studio space, and much more. Packed with fabulous happenings and events specifically for artists, we hope that our continually updated links and resources will be a great help in connecting you with like-minded creatively inspired groups of individuals.

Keep us updated at what you are doing – exhibitions, awards, new selling opportunities and such at enews@craftcouncilbc.ca – and we will spread the word!

Studio Magazine

Studio Magazine is a national publication that is dedicated to contemporary craft in Canada. Well designed and packed with sophisticated photography, the magazine features articles by leading craft and design writers from Canada and around the world. The magazine comes out twice a year - once in spring/summer and once in fall/winter. A subscription to Studio is included with your membership.

Citizens of Craft Locator Website

As a member of Craft Council of BC you automatically become eligible to post your profile on this national locator site. This site lists over 3000 craft artists from across Canada and is access by international curators, travelers from all across the world as well as international trade, conference organizers and buyers.

The site allows you to upload your profile and any events that you want to promote. Go to [Citizens of Craft](#) to start building your international profile today!

Craft Council Social Media

Instagram, Twitter and Facebook are where you find all things related to craft as well as announcements for maker opportunities, finance assistance etc. If you have events, products, reviews or news that relates to craft and you would like us to promote through our social media feeds, the best way is to follow us at:

[Instagram](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

then we will follow you and repost and retweet your events.

Etsy Team

Etsy is a worldwide marketplace where makers go to sell their products, connect with local groups and events and scope out the market environment. If you want to promote some sellable works through the council or follow what others are doing this is a great way to engage with the craft community locally and on a greater scale. Follow us on [Etsy!](#)



Pintrest

Pintrest is a pinboard-style photo-sharing website that allows users to create theme-based image collections. It is a great tool for creating a visual catalogue of your thoughts, sharing photographs of your craft and getting engaged in the craft community on a global scale through community boards. We promote our members' work on our boards and seasonal works such as Christmas, Valentines and Summer Markets. Other boards include different types of media, ideas, DIY and community boards in which all people of the craft community can contribute to. You can follow on Pintrest [here!](#)

Discount on Supplies

To support our member's ability to secure the raw materials and services needed to create their craft are currently working to try and expand our arrangements with suppliers. Currently our members can receive a 10% discount in the Craffhouse Shop as well as 10% off at OPUS Art Supplies Opus has locations all across the province. To view locations and ordering information click [here](#). You will need your CCBC membership card ready at checkout.

Community Building Opportunities

The Council continually works to increase the audience for of craft and craft artists within the general public as well as with the key decision makers in our communities.

Craft Heritage & Me

CCBC's Youth Program offers the exciting opportunity for youth to come together and learn about contemporary craft. Led by local artists working in our communities and designed especially for youth aged 12-17, our Craft, Heritage and Me program gives participants the space to explore the value of craft while learning about the relationship between the artist's work and their cultural and heritage experiences.

Through semi-structured studio interactions guided by a facilitator, small groups of youth and the artist(s) collaboratively give voice to their experiences to support the participants in situating themselves within the craft milieu and improving their ability to interpret craft media.

Key Learning Goals:

- Introduce participants to contemporary craft in a welcoming environment outside of traditional gallery and museum spaces, and to artists working in their communities.
- Provide participants with knowledge of the craft mediums and their processes, and the wide range of possibilities each offers.



- Include participant's voices in the exploration and discussion of the definition of craft, the role it plays in our everyday lives and the links it makes to our cultural and heritage experiences.
- Generate an appreciation of the handmade, artistic intent and the design process when producing objects.
- Strengthen the participant's ability to interpret craft media

How Craft, Heritage, & Me Benefits Everybody!

The arts, regardless of the medium, can act as a platform for people to interact and find pleasures in art making they may not have known they had. The process of art making brings people PLEASURE; it provides them with an environment that allows them to express their creativity.

By creating an environment where artists can teach and share their experiences while the students can learn about craft and the artist's stories, the pleasure behind the making of the works and learning about them can only flourish. Hopefully motivating more individuals to experiment with their interest in craft making.

In addition, the studio-tours allow for positive SOCIAL INTERACTION, in that the environment is a safe and relaxing one where people can only learn from one another through the process of exchanging ideas and information.

There are two ways you can become involved in the program – as a participating artist or as a facilitator.

Artist

If you are an artist practicing in a studio space that can accommodate up to 10 people, and are interested in sharing your work with young people please contact us at chm@craftcouncilbc.ca

Benefits:

- Expose your work to a new audience
- Concretize the influence of heritage on your work
- Develop a youth audience, and understand what they are interested in learning and seeing in contemporary craft



Facilitator

Are you enthusiastic and passionate about contemporary craft and education? Our *Craft, Heritage and Me* facilitators play an important role in delivering the program, as they guide the discussion throughout the studio interactions. CCBC will provide training in the different craft mediums, history of craft making and about the participating artists prior to their first studio tour. Additionally, Facilitators will meet with the students before leading the tour in order to share information about craft and the artists they will be visiting.

Skills & Qualifications:

- Experience within an educational environment
- Background in art history / fine arts / art education preferred
- Strong oral and written communication abilities
- Good organization skills

If you are interested in becoming a tour facilitator, please contact us at chm@craftcouncilbc.ca

Volunteering

We are always welcoming Volunteers to help support our endeavors here at the council. If you would like to be involved in assisting the CCBC we have opportunities in retail sales, office support, exhibition support (including curatorial), as well as many more imperative roles that help keep the organization afloat with fresh perspectives and increased people-power. As a member you can become more involved with the development of programs and activities by volunteering some time. This can also be beneficial to craftspeople for developing a good business practice.

How: Opportunities are also available for members to participate in CCBC's social enterprise program - Crafhouse GI (store); education, newsletter, special events and marketing, as well as the Board of Directors. If you are interested in volunteering, please submit your contact information on the [CCBC Volunteer Application](#).

Current Volunteer Opportunities

Awards Jury

CCBC has an ever growing roster of jurors to jury candidate applications and nominations for the various awards.

Why: This is a great opportunity as it expands your experience around the various jurying processes, which comes in handy when applying for grants, exhibitions or markets. Having this experience on your resume helps to demonstrate your connection to and participation in



the greater crafts community – some of the info granters look for when making their decisions.

How: Submit this [online form](#) and you will be contacted once your applications has been processed.

Curatorial Committee

As a member if you are interested in the curatorial process itself, you may be eligible to join our curatorial committee. The committee will be responsible for curating the annual exhibition series at the Craft Council of BC Gallery based on the following curatorial intent: *to exhibit craft that demonstrates a significant departure from the artist/curator's current craft practice and that strengthens craft's role in culture creation.*

Why: This is a great opportunity as it expands your experience around various curatorial practices, which comes in handy when applying for grants, exhibitions or markets. Having this experience on your resume helps to demonstrate your connection to and participation in the greater crafts community – some of the info granters look for when making their decisions.

How: To join the committee please send your current resume to curatorial@craftcouncilbc.ca