

DAVID GARNEAU: DARK CHAPTERS | MARCH 22 TO JUNE 28, 2025
PHOTO: "EXPOSURE" ACRYLIC ON PANEL, 46 X 61 CM, 2022



NM
AG NELSON MUSEUM
ARCHIVES & GALLERY

Educational Programming

2024/25 ACADEMIC YEAR

We're engaging with students through immersive experiences.

At the Nelson Museum we support BC curriculum by creating thought-provoking environments and encouraging critical conversations.

The rotating gallery exhibitions, 2nd floor museum, *The REDress Project* installation, Cold War Bunker, Shawn Lamb Archives, the Nelson Sports Collection, and the brand new installation *Kootenay Pride: We Love a Parade!* offers one-of-a-kind opportunities for educators to deliver unique experiences that augment classroom lessons, bringing your teaching plans to life!

The programs developed at the Nelson Museum integrate seamlessly with the BC school curriculum while providing opportunities for subject enhancement. Tours include lesson plans to complement learning from K to 12, and are delivered by passionate and knowledgeable museum staff.

In the spring of 2024 we launched the permanent installation of the 2021 exhibition *Kootenay Pride: We Love a Parade!* which tells a localized history of the LGBTQ2S+ movement in the Kootenays. The exhibition was based heavily on the archives donated by volunteer Michael Wicks, and features a film component as well as 10 custom-designed lesson plans, which were developed in partnership with filmmaker Amy Bohigian and SD8 District Indigenization Coordinator Jesse Halton.

As both an art gallery and the local history museum and archives, the Nelson Museum offers a special opportunity to engage students in history and contemporary art, and often how the two can converge to tell a more complete picture through many different lenses. The gallery exhibitions change throughout the year, and as such, programs are regularly refreshed and suited to enhance learning and progress in core competencies, key subject areas, and student research projects.

Each tour booking includes a one-hour tour with one of our museum guides, as well as pre- and post-visit activities to enrich your experience. Each student will also receive a Kid Curator pass — *FREE admission for a parent or guardian* — encouraging them to return and share their experience even further beyond the classroom.

Visit nelsonmuseum.ca for more information.

The Nelson Museum is proudly a Rainbow Registered® organization. We work within Memorandums of Understanding with the Sinixt Confederacy, the Ktunaxa Nation Lower Kootenay Band, and the West Kootenay Métis Association. We continue to work every day toward a more diverse and equitable organization.

Booking a Tour

Please email tours@nelsonmuseum.ca, or visit our website at nelsonmuseum.ca/school-tours to fill out the online booking form.

School tours are offered weekly throughout the school year and are available Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Please contact us at tours@nelsonmuseum.ca to schedule your tour.

Program fees are \$80+GST for classes of 15-30 and \$60+GST for classes under 15 students. Please contact us for groups of 30+.

The Nelson Museum, Archives & Gallery is a safe and inclusive space for all, and is wheelchair accessible. We are proudly Rainbow Registered®!

2024/25 EXHIBITION SCHEDULE



Within this Earthen Vessel: Stories of India & Community

Community curated
Oct 19, 2024 to Feb 1, 2025

Within this Earthen Vessel grows from place-based conversations, connected to peoples' lived experiences, voices, and artistic expressions. Guest curator Lucy Carver-Brennan and artist Surya Sameera bring together local voices by combining historical photos, personal stories, artwork and contextual texts. These components come together into the space with celebratory colour in a living document of the important presence of the South-Asian Community in this area.



ਸ਼ੀਸ਼ੇ 'ਚ ਤਰੇੜੇ | *sheeshe 'ch tharer* | a crack in the mirror

Simranpreet Anand
Touring from the Reach Gallery
Oct 26, 2024 to Feb 15, 2025

Anand's practice engages materials and concepts drawn from the histories of Punjab and its diasporas. The title of the exhibition captures the fissures emerging from the artist's ongoing encounters in our globalized world. Anand's work often deals with difficult subjects, including racism, Sikh material culture, the environment, and colonization.

ਸ਼ੀਸ਼ੇ 'ਚ ਤਰੇੜੇ examines a synthetic, plastic-laden, material culture, relating and comparing it to the fabric of life and the gendered constructs of the division of labour.



Vessels

Amelia Ford
February 15 to May 24, 2025

Amelia Ford is an emerging artist born and raised in Nelson and an LV Rogers graduate. In *Vessels*, objects such as glasses, fruit, flowers, and tchotchkes take on figurative roles to represent their latent symbology. In some paintings these objects are center stage in the form of a classical still life, in others they warp and overshadow bodies as a looming reminder of their constant presence. These paintings make direct references to the work of prominent male artists such as Rodin and Titian, to challenge their gaze but more so to reconsider our own gaze and our expectations of depicted women.



Dark Chapters

David Garneau
March 22 to June 28, 2025

The *Dark Chapters* project encompasses the renowned career of Métis artist and educator David Garneau, through the dual lens of exhibition and publication. The book, *Dark Chapters: Reading the Still Lives of David Garneau*, invites 17 Canadian artists and academics to write a response - poetry, creative writing, critical essay - to one of Garneau's vast collection of still life paintings. The exhibition features works from the publication as well as additional pieces chosen by Garneau. *Dark Chapters* offers myriad ways to investigate how the written word can implicate, illuminate, and interpret artworks.



Forest for the Trees (working title)

Curated by JP Stienne
June 7 to Sept 13, 2025

Running in conjunction to the *WOOD* group exhibition, *Forest for the Trees* explores the regional history and relationship to the lumber industry. From the early settler days of logging down Kootenay Lake, to the Eddy Match Company's matchstick factory, to the Save Cottonwood movement, the show features themes of resource extraction, land use, environmentalism and climate change, homebuilding, energy use, wildfire mitigation, and more. The story is told through personal histories, photographs, and artifacts from the Shawn Lamb Archives.



WOOD

Group Exhibition feat. Peter von Tiesenhausen, Samuel Roy-Bois, Xiaojing Yan, Shayne Dark, Rita McKeough, Susan Point, Pat Bruderer and Nadia Myre
July 12 to October 18, 2025

WOOD is the fifth installment in the medium-centric group exhibition format, creating a curated and critical discourse with artists from across Canada. *WOOD* brings together eight Canadian artists whose work involves some iteration of wood. A collective conversation is created through the artworks themselves, through the narrative elements and representative place of artists within the country, within their careers, and through their respective work and perspectives.



(work in progress)

Hildur Jónasson
Sept 27, 2025 to Jan 10, 2026

Hildur describes herself as a multi-disciplinary artist with a printmaker's eye. She explores themes of our relationship to nature at the intersection of the climate crisis, natural phenomena, folklore/mythology, and the intangible powers of nature. Born and raised in Iceland, Jónasson grew up close to nature in a surreal landscape of volcanoes, geysers and glaciers. Jónasson's Nordic culture of folklore and mythology is deeply rooted in nature and has a strong influence on her art. Surreal artworks mingle with mythology, acting as a storyteller of the mysteries of the natural world and wild Icelandic landscapes.



Boat Without a Boat

Deb Thompson
Nov 15, 2025 to Feb 21, 2026

Boat Without a Boat captures local artist Deb Thompson's practice as she moves in two new directions: drawn and cut paper elements, and stop-motion animation works. Thompson explores the theme of regeneration through the metaphor of a boat, which has appeared in visual language for 10,000 years - as a vessel to the underworld, an ark of salvation, and containers of alchemical transformation. A literal boat never appears throughout the work, but the metaphor is ever-present. What is a metaphor? How does the meaning of a symbol change throughout history? How can symbols help transform from one way of thinking to a new perception?

Year-round access to some of our most popular programs.



NEW! Kootenay Pride: We Love a Parade! virtual tour

This FREE virtual program is based on the original exhibition and the *Queering the Interior* film which documents, examines, and celebrates queer history in the Kootenays using the stories and voices of community members and resources from the Shawn Lamb Archives.

Based on contemporary academic research, the lesson plans and resources in this program are for Grade 6 learners and above. We intend for this program to inspire inquiry, engagement, reflection, and sharing that creates safer spaces within schools and learning environments for students, teachers, and staff across the region.

THE PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- access to the full-length film *Queering the Interior*
- historical timeline with an emphasis on local events
- terminology chart and resource list
- 10 lesson plans with printable worksheets and connections to the BC curriculum

Contact tours@nelsonmuseum.ca for access to the program.



Nelson's Cold War Bunker

Explore the role of the bunker in the context of the extraordinary world wide tensions of the Cold War era. Who was the bunker built for? Who would have been excluded? How does today's political landscape mirror that of the 50s and 60s? History, politics, social justice - the bunker covers it all!



2nd Floor Museum Exhibit

The 2nd Floor is dedicated to the Museum Exhibition, which explores the region's expansive history. Students will learn about history from time immemorial, to the arrival of settlers and industry growth. See Jaime Black's *The REDress Project* and the *Red Ribbon Round It* tour, watch the *Missing Voices* film series, and so much more.



Exploring the Shawn Lamb Archives and Museum Collection

With over 7,000 items in the Museum Collection and millions of photographs, city records, and newspaper pages in the Archives, this is the perfect place to start a research project, dig deeper into local history, and find your own treasures. A visit to the Archives is never the same twice!