Position title: Student Docent

Supervisor: Shannon Brown, Program Coordinator; Charlotte Gagnier, Program Assistant

Description: Agnes Student Docent is a volunteer position at Agnes Etherington Art Centre. Student docents deliver educational school programs for students in grades 1–8; this includes a gallery tour and an art activity. Please note, the fall 2021 school program and student docent training may be delivered online.

The Student Docent program is a great opportunity for students to:
- hone presentation skills;
- gain experience in arts education and working with children;
- increase visual literacy and knowledge of art history;
- work in a team environment; and
- meet with peers and individuals in the art sector.

This fall, student docents will lead grade 5–8 students through a program based on the exhibition Humour Me. In this interactive program, students will practice decoding historical caricature and contemporary media to identify underlying messages, values, intended audience, missing voices and their own bias.

Term of placement: September 2021–March 2022

Time requirements: Student docents attend weekly two-hour training meetings on Friday afternoons (2–4 pm) from mid-September to mid-March (excepting reading weeks and exam periods). Depending on scheduling, docents contribute two hours approximately every second week delivering school programs and supporting other Agnes programs.

Qualifications: Students from all academic backgrounds are encouraged to apply. We welcome those who are interested in and want to learn more about visual arts, creativity, education and public speaking. Experience working with children ages 6–13 is an asset. Undergraduate and graduate students are welcome to apply.

Application requirements: To apply, please send a short response (1 page/1 minute) to the following prompt. Your response may take any creative form: written response, video, artistic creation, etc.

Tell us a bit about who you are, the experiences you would bring to this role and what you would like to learn.

Please send your application to aecpa@queensu.ca with “Student Docent Application” in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. The deadline to apply for the 2021–2022 academic year is 30 April 2021.
About Agnes: Situated on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Territory, Agnes is a curatorially-driven and research intensive professional art centre that proudly serves a dual mandate as a leading, internationally recognized public art gallery and as an active pedagogical resource at Queen’s University. By commissioning, researching, collecting and preserving works of art, and through exhibiting and interpreting visual culture through an intersectional lens, Agnes creates opportunities for participation and exchange across communities, cultures, and geographies.

AGNES is committed to anti-racism. We work to eradicate institutional biases and develop accountable programs that support and centre the artistic expression and lived experience of Black, Indigenous and People of Colour.