

NSCAD/TD Centre for Community Service Learning

TD Bank Financial Group is supporting the establishment of the new NSCAD/TD Centre for Community Service Learning. The Centre, the first of its kind among visual arts universities in Canada, will integrate community service learning (CSL) principles into the NSCAD curriculum while promoting partnerships between the community and the university.

The following list provides an overview of our Community Service Learning partnerships available for students at NSCAD.

Do you have an organization you'd like to work with that isn't listed below?

Please contact Joann Reynolds Farmer, Coordinator of Community Service Learning to establish a new partnership
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Healthcare

APSEA

The Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority works with children learning to live with hearing or sight impairment. The programs offered range in age from birth to young adult and cover the basics of occupational therapy as well as career counseling.

Cancer Care Nova Scotia

Working in consultation with the coordinators at the Cancer Care Centre students can form projects for patients who use the facility while they are undergoing cancer treatment. Through art and hands on activities patients have the benefit of doing something creative during a time when it may be difficult to focus on other tasks. Art and the creative process is a form of release of stress for many people.

Capitol District Health Authority

Projects have been ongoing over the years with the CDHA including design projects in the IWK Palliative Care Unit. Proposed courses like "Healthcare by Design" have allowed both NSCAD and CDHA to think outside the box. CDHA is keen to continue collaborating with NSCAD and project ideas are always welcome.

Dalhousie Medical School *"Art in Medicine"*

Over the past number of years Dalhousie has hosted an Artist in Residence for the Dalhousie Medical School / Medical Humanities. This opportunity could mean working with the resident artist on projects with the medical students and patients. Dalhousie Medical School has a strong history of supporting students and faculty in their artistic pursuits and has hosted exhibitions of their work. It is well known that medical students who have an opportunity to explore a creative practice in tandem with their studies fair better on visual approaches to medicine. Projects could include working with the students on their own skill development and broadening their understanding of contemporary art through hands on activities or it could include working with the medical students on projects with patients in senior complexes who may no longer have access to the creative practice.



Education and Childcare

Peter Green Hall (Daycare)

Peter Green Hall Children's Centre (PGHCC) is a non-profit child care centre. It operates on the ground floor of the Peter Green hall Building, which is a student family residence building serving the local universities and community colleges. The programs presented to the children are planned to facilitate, stimulate and maximize intellectual, physical, social and emotional development. PGHCC is a progressive child care facility which works with parents, teachers and community members to provide quality child care in a safe, healthy, enriched environment.

St. George's Youthnet

St. George's YouthNet is a non-profit organization that serves the North End of Halifax. St. George's offers free programs and drop-in opportunities for the youth in the area. Students interested in working with youth ages 4-12 during lunch and after school programs would find this a great opportunity.

Point Pleasant Daycare

Point Pleasant Child Care Centre is a not-for-profit charitable organization administered by a volunteer Board of Directors. Saint Mary's University works with both the Point Pleasant Child Care Centre facilities (one at the Ogilvie Street location and one on campus at Saint Mary's University). This unique daycare works closely with parents to expand the children's understanding of their world from all aspects. The Centre is very interested in working with NSCAD on possible class collaborations and / or individual students who may be interested in doing a community service learning project with the group.

School Arts

This volunteer group has been working in Halifax schools over the past few years. The initial project was created by a group of King's University students who thought there needed to be more art in the schools. Working with the classroom teachers, volunteers propose a class project and work collaboratively with the students to create an artwork.

Community Based Organizations

Phoenix House Project

Phoenix House is a non-profit, community based organization located in Halifax. They offer at-risk and homeless youth, ages 12 - 24, the opportunity to break the cycle of homelessness and find a path from the street. Since its inception in 1987, they have developed an extensive variety of programs and services to address the individual needs of each client. One program that has been ongoing through the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is a drop in art night. Working with artist Miro Davis the youth have used art as a means of self-expression and development of skills to build confidence. Students interested in working with youth at risk should seriously consider this opportunity.

Common Roots Urban Farm

Created by the volunteer group "Partners in Care" who work with the Capitol District Health Authority, this group is working on creating an Urban Farm site located in Halifax where the former Queen Elizabeth High School was located. Over the next few months the 3 acre site will be transformed into an urban farm that will have plots dedicated to community interest groups. Some partners that Common Roots have been working with include Dalhousie University's Planning Department, the North End Clinic Greenhouse Project and Citadel High School. Partners in Care are very interested to work with NSCAD on projects that could be either class driven or collaborations by other artists.

Veith Street Gallery / Visual Connections Project

Veith Street Gallery Studio Association is an educational organization based in north end Halifax that supports artists with disabilities and related challenges. The association supports these artists through several programs and services such as the Creative Spirit East artist collective. Along with these programs Veith Street Gallery Studio Association also supports The Visual Connections Project, which offers educational programs for persons with disabilities and community service providers who want to engage and explore the visual arts.