

Imagine a completely accessible space

We, as members of the community at McMaster University recognize that we are currently on the traditional territory shared between the Haudenosaunee confederacy and the Anishanabe nations, which was acknowledged in the Dish with One Spoon wampum belt. That wampum uses the symbolism of a dish to represent the territory, and one spoon to represent that the people are to share the resources of the land and take only what they need. This acknowledgement is one step, of many, toward our reconciliation.

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Defying Barriers Workshop

The objective of this workshop is to inform the design of accessible creative environments, contribute to research and develop partnerships that reflect the diversity of our communities. Topics will include adaptive technologies, identifying needs and deficits in current public spaces, wayfinding and navigation technology, design retrofit of existing production spaces (community studios, labs, educational spaces, etc.), and accessibility of academic arts disciplines.

Through this workshop, we wish to facilitate the discovery of various opportunities to collaborate with commu-

nity and engage in research that is informed by all perspectives and guided by the following questions and ideas:

How do current artistic spaces, practices and infrastructure exclude participation from some people? How can we break these barriers?

How would our creative culture be expressed and manifested if we have production, exhibition and performance spaces that are inclusively designed?

How can we work collaboratively and equitably through various lenses to ensure all voices are respected and reflected in this collaboration?

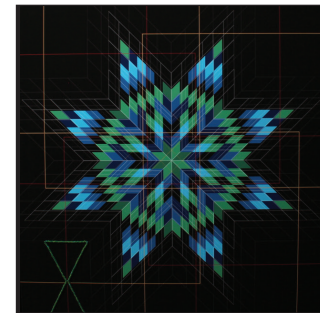
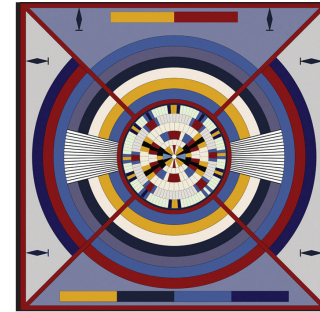


Rebecca Baird

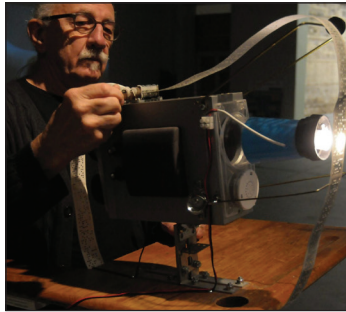


Rebecca Baird's art has drawn from her Cree/Metis Indigenous background, focussing on dispelling media propagated stereotypes of the First Nations community and drawing attention to the long-rooted cultural history of her community. She creates her art on various types of media ranging from sculpture/installation to 'constructions with found objects and braided sweetgrass with quillwork', and has been presented with many awards and inter-

national recognition. Her work has been displayed in various prodigious exhibitions such as From Sea to Shining Sea, Power Plant, 1987 and Indigena, former Museum of Civilization, 1992 (a collaboration with her brother, artist Kenny Baird). Various collections are in the Canada Council's Art Bank, the Museum of Civilization, the ROM, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, and the Canadian Embassy in Geneva. She is also a founding member of the touring exhibition of the Sweetgrass Collective, an exhibition and publication of archive photography selected, captioned and produced by First Nation visual artists entitled, EveryDay Light: First Nations History As Seen Through The Family Photograph Album.

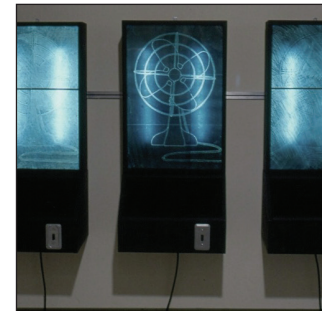


David Bobier



David Bobier is a self-identified hearing disabled artist who has created performance and interactive art compositions with the help of vibrotactile technology and has garnered attention of prominent touring national exhibitions. His art explores a multi-sensory method of bridging the ways of communication and language through more than medium, expressed through tactile expression. He collaborated

with the Inclusive Media and Design Centre at Ryerson University to create the VibraFusionLab (VBL) in 2014 with the objective “...to provide access to emerging inclusive or adaptive technology and design to artists of all disciplines and abilities, will be illustrated in the upcoming retrospective: VibraFusionLab: Bridging Practices in Accessibility, Art and Communication.” The works displayed investigate ‘vibrotactility’ as a creative medium, combining visual, audio and tactile elements through wearable devices and various new art-making techniques into an emotional and sensorial art practice.



Centre 3



Centre[3] for Print and Media Arts is a philanthropic artist-run centre that “connects, educates, and collaborates with people on local, regional, national and international levels”. This centre is based in Hamilton, Ontario and aims at combining art and culture to improve the lives of its students

in the community. The students that attend this education centre come from various underprivileged communities in Hamilton, who use the art space to express their identities and grievances through their artworks. Centre3’s philanthropic initiative to empower its students’ lives through art education is funded by donor support and carried out by its own community’s generous volunteers.

Centre 3 Floor Plan



McMaster University: Faculty of Humanities

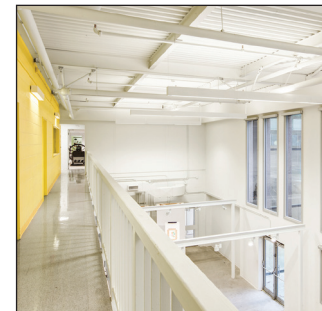
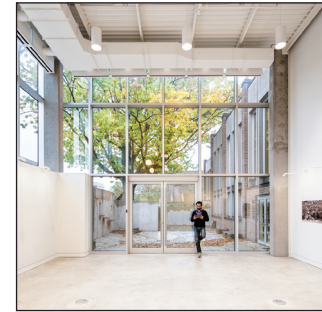


HUMANITIES

The McMaster University Humanities was launched as its own separate faculty as a result of The McMaster University Act, 1976. This faculty's vision is to create a "cultivating a teaching and research environment which reflects the highest standards of our disciplines, and to undertaking ventures in new areas of interdisciplinary inquiry and

pedagogy." The mission of this faculty advocates for a inclusive humanistic inquiry and exchange through various research initiatives for scholars, students and passionate learners.

The School of the Arts (SOTA) under the Faculty of Humanities which offers comprehensive programs in Studio Art, Art History, Music & Music Cognition and Theatre & Film Studies. SOTA envisions a society that incorporates art to promote exemplary artistic production in all its diverse forms.



McMaster University: Institute for Research on Aging

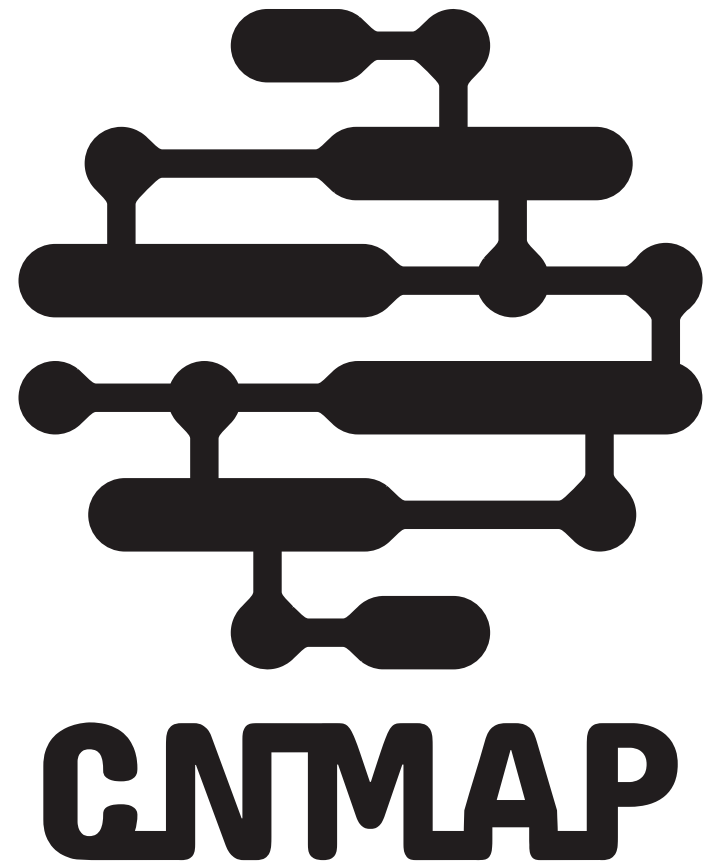
McMaster's Institute for Research on Aging, or MIRA, is a "cross-faculty research institute for advancing the science of aging." It aims at utilising the input of various complementary areas of research to apply their expertise to engage the older adult community, their families, health-care providers and other key stakeholders. This research initiative came into being from the realisation that the "complex facing an aging population was as an organized, inter-disciplinary team that integrates the input of older adults and multiple perspectives." It aims at supporting the older adults in Canada, who have increased in number due to accomplishment of longer life expectancy, but require support in developing more policies and solutions to combat the challenges that that impact their lifestyle.



Institute for
Research on Aging

Centre for Networked Media & Performance

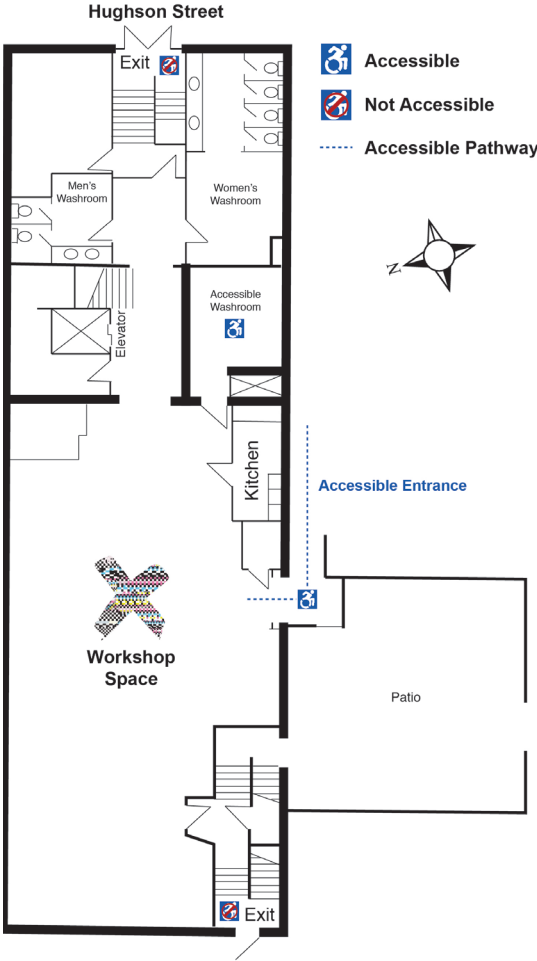
The centre for Networked Media and Performance envisions “the production, exploration and analysis of new forms of expression, communication and collaboration enabled by networks and networking techs.” The creation of this initiative comes forth in today’s day and age with the accelerated growth and assimilation of a lifestyle dependant on technology in the wake of the technological revolution with little consideration for impacts of its use. CNMAP has been organising workshops, conferences and interdisciplinary collaborations and other forms of artistic-centre research using the black box theatre in L.R. Wilson and networked imagination laboratory, a network music and live coding research centre.



Special Thank you

List of people
to thank
goes here

The Spice Factory Floor Plan



Lunch Menu

List of
food and
drinks
go
here

Itinerary

9-9:45 am | Centre 3 (173 James St N)

Centre 3, an artist run print studio, facilitates both professional artists and community programs for a diverse group of users. This tour will allow you to engage in an art based production and exhibition space.

9:45-10 am | Spice Factory (121 Hughson St N)

A brief 3 minute walking distance from Centre 3 to the Spice Factory.

- (1) Head south on James St N toward Cannon St E for 47 meters
- (2) Turn left onto Cannon St E for 110 meters
- (3) Turn right onto Hughson St N for 65 meters
- (4) Destination will be on the right

10-10:45 am | Spice Factory: Guest Speakers

Our guest speakers, Rebecca Baird & David Bobier, will be discussing their practice and experiences as artists.

10:45-11 am | Coffee Break (15 minutes)

11-12 pm | Breakout Sessions

Attendees will be assigned to a table to explore specific topics surrounding accessibility barriers.

12-1 pm | Lunch

