

The **2017 Cultural Community Expo** is a unique opportunity provided to students by OCAD U's Centre for Emerging Artists & Designers. Through a series of guest panel discussion and experiential site visits to art studios, cultural organizations and production centres, the Cultural Community Expo highlights and demystifies potential future career paths for Fine Art students. By involving exemplary guests and OCAD U alum who embody a variety of successful choices in career direction, students will come away with a better understanding of how to make a living and sustain their personal art practice once they leave school, while at the same time remaining engaged in the cultural community, receiving mentorship, and gaining access to facilities and professional development opportunities.

In 2017, a focus will be placed on the tenants of 401 Richmond; a vital cultural hub in the heart of the city. The expo will intimately connect students to cultural organizations and practitioners, such as artist-run centres, festivals, production facilities, art-service organisations, co-working spaces, artists, designers, and recent OCAD U grads who are maintaining their professional practice. This access and opportunity to connect with organizations and individuals working within 401 Richmond will provide students with valuable insights into potential cultural career paths and means of sustaining one's practice after graduation.

On **March 3rd**, students in the Faculty of Art's Cross-Disciplinary Art Practice: Professional Practice course and Photography Thesis will take part in a series of conversations and site visits. A moderated panel discussion, followed by smaller breakout sessions will facilitate the sharing of personal insights on the afternoon's theme; the importance of community, facilities, place, and engagement.

LEARN MORE!

Career Development:

www.ocadu.ca/careerdevelopment

Experiential Learning Placement Program:

www.ocadu.ca/explearning

Student and Alumni Job Board:

www.ocadu.ca/talentnetwork

Email us: careerdevelopment@ocadu.ca

 www.facebook.com/OCADUCareerDevelopment

 twitter.com/ocadu_ceed

 [www.linkedin.com > Groups > OCAD U Career Development](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/OCAD-U-Career-Development)

 [instagram.com/ocaduceed](https://www.instagram.com/ocaduceed)

100 McCaul St, Toronto, ON M5T 1W1

CULTURAL COMMUNITY EXPO 2017

401 RICHMOND
THE TENANTS

SPEAKERS



MEG DEARLOVE

Meg Dearlove is a designer and recent **OCAD U** graduate currently working and residing in Toronto, Canada. Exploring a range of diverse media ranging from hand-dyed textile tapestries to painted small objects, Meg is always looking for an unexpected approach to her creative exploration.

JEAN deMERS

Jean deMers makes illustrations and comics in Toronto, with work full of surreal and fantasy-inspired imagery. After graduating from OCAD University's illustration program, he began working as a freelance storyboard artist and co-founded **Wavering Line Collective**, which works with local illustrators to publish a bi-annual arts magazine.



KELLY UYEDA

Kelly Uyeda is the current recipient of the **401 Richmond Career Launcher Prize**.

She graduated with distinction from OCAD University in 2015 where she received her BFA and the Evans Award.

Focused on patterns, textiles and textures, her work is a combination of minimalist collage and painting.



anahita azrahimi

anahita azrahimi is a visual artist and professional arts manager. She is the Executive Director of the **Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition**, Canada's largest, longest running juried contemporary outdoor art fair.

"As an independent artist who has worked to build her own business, I am as passionate as one can be about opportunities that celebrate artistic excellence, help nurture an artist's entrepreneurial spirit, and encourage public accessibility to fabulous art. It's even better if these opportunities don't cost an arm and a leg to participate in!"

anahita's paintings and video works have been exhibited in galleries, events and festivals in Toronto and are held in private collections across North America and Europe. She sits on the advisory board of the Arts Management program at Centennial College and Theatre Direct's International WeeFestival.

CHRIS GEHMAN

Chris Gehman is a filmmaker, curator, educator, critic and the current Finance Manager at **V Tape**, a distribution organization that represents an international collection of contemporary and historical video art and media works by artists. His film *Refraction Series* (2008) premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival, and won the Peter Wilde Award for Most Technically Innovative Film at the Ann Arbor Film Festival. Chris was the Artistic Director of the Images Festival from 2000 to 2004, and has also worked as a programmer for Cinematheque Ontario and the Toronto International Film Festival. As an independent programmer he has organized screenings for venues including Experimenta (Bangalore), B92/Rex Cultural Centre (Belgrade), the Winnipeg Film Group/Manitoba Cinematheque, Image Forum (Tokyo), and the Ann Arbor Film Festival.



SPECIAL TENANT HOSTS

A big thanks to our special tenant hosts:

THE COMMONS @ 401 RICHMOND

THE COMMONS is a custom-built facility like no other in Toronto, housing 5 organizations and festivals that each support a variety of artistic practices, including visual, media and performance art. THE COMMONS is a collaborative space for diverse artistic and cultural communities to come together for exhibition, presentation, learning and research.

THE STATION

Co-working Space for Creatives

The Station, by Good Gorilla, is a creative community that fosters ingenuity and design by offering temporary or permanent work space as well as ongoing lectures and events by leaders in the design and innovation industries. We offer rates that people can afford, and yes, free coffee.