

KINGSTON ARTS COUNCIL

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KINGSTON ARTS COUNCIL LAUNCHES THE KINGSTON PRIZE FOR CONTEMPORARY CANADIAN PORTRAITURE 2005

Kingston: The Kingston Arts Council announced today that it is launching a national competition for portrait painting. The Kingston Prize for Contemporary Canadian Portraiture will be awarded for the first time in the fall of 2005. A jury will select from the entries a number of paintings to be exhibited, and will award the Prize of \$3,000. It is intended that the Prize will be awarded annually.

The rules limit entries to portrait paintings by Canadian artists of Canadian subjects. The paintings must have been painted from life, within 24 months prior to the closing date of June 30, 2005. Entry will be by slide, and the paintings selected by the jury will be exhibited in Kingston in October. The full rules and other information is available at:

<http://www.artskingston.com/kingstonprize/main.html>

Canada has an abundance of talent in the visual arts, including many portraitists, but has not yet entered the world of national portrait competitions. Greater recognition of the visual arts through prizes is long overdue, and this initiative of the Kingston Arts Council is intended to attract the interest of all Canadian artists.

"Contemporary portraits often attract the attention of the public", said the chairman of the Steering Committee, Julian Brown. "We hope that this exhibition of portraits from across Canada will attract not only art lovers but also people who rarely go to art exhibitions."

An annual event focused on Canadian portraits will, over the years, build a public record of Canadians as seen by contemporary artists. In addition to those portraits that subsequently go into public galleries and corporate collections, many others will be treasured in private homes and collections, enriching the lives of those who see them.

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