

# Young Curators Project

- Museums/art galleries from across Canada work with high school students to create a virtual exhibition



# Young Curators Project

- Theme of Exhibition:  
“The Living City”
  - Creative
  - Inclusive
  - Sustainable



# Young Curators Project

- Students create “responses” to selected Museum London artwork including:
  - Text (biographies of artists & critiques of artwork)
  - Visual (painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, etc.)



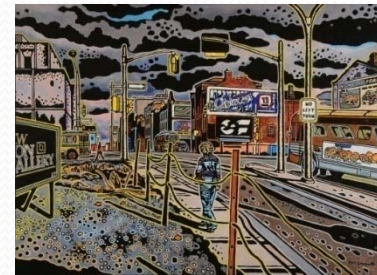
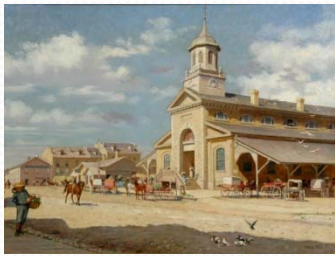


# Young Curators Project

Process

# Young Curators Project

Select Museum London Artwork & Seek Copyright Permissions  
London Artists – London Scenes – Historical & Contemporary



# Young Curators Project

## Presentations by Curators

### Role of a Curator



# Young Curators Project

## Visiting Museum Vaults



# Young Curators Project

## Viewing Artwork





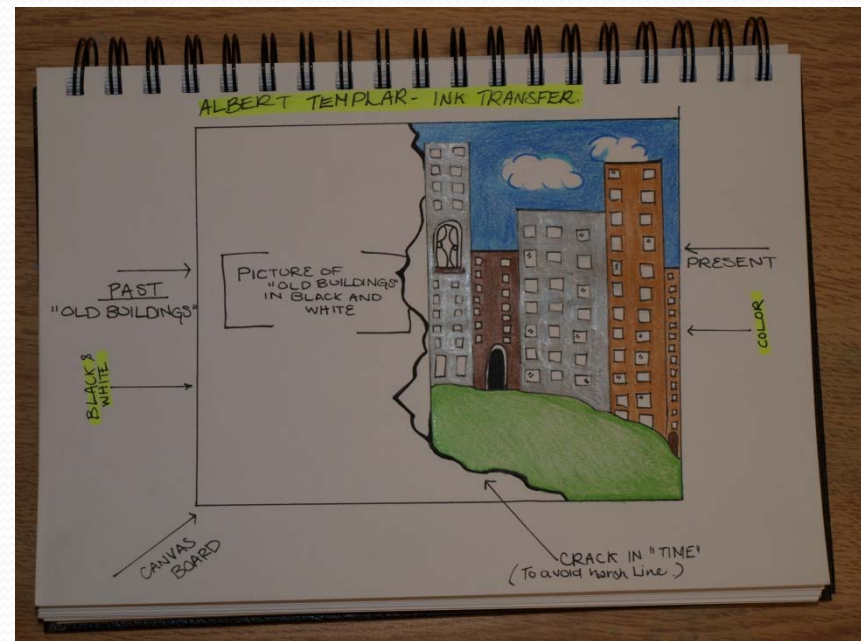
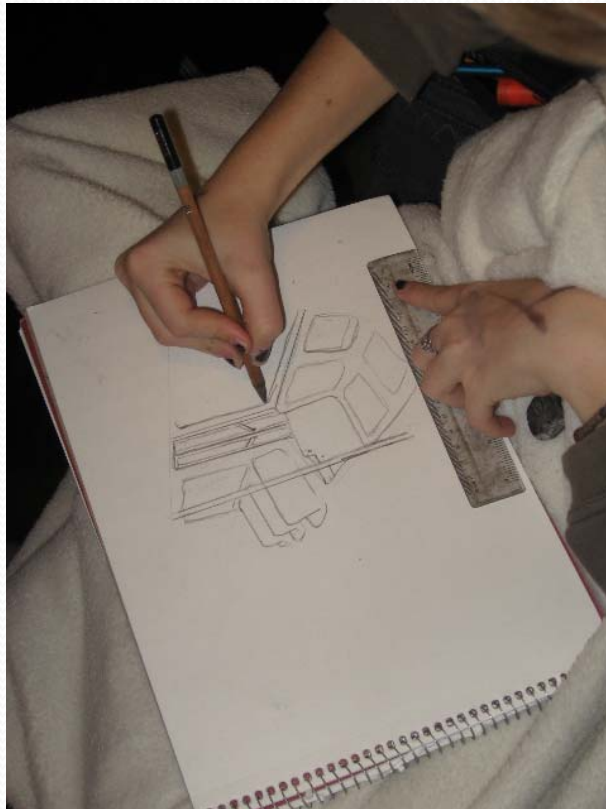
# Young Curators Project

## Researching Artwork



# Young Curators Project

## Sketches & Plans



# Young Curators Project

Work in Progress





# Young Curators Project

Using social media to share  
ideas & communicate with  
peers

<http://www.facebook.com/>



# Young Curators Project

**Digitize Student Responses**

# Young Curators Project

*The Covent Garden Market, London, Ontario, 1883*  
Paul Peel (Canadian, 1860-1892)



*The Covent Garden Market, 2009*  
Jessica Musialski, Gr.12  
Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School



# Young Curators Project

*Old Buildings, London, 1926*

Albert Templar (Canadian, 1897-1992)



*Untitled, 2009*

Kim Chambers, Gr.12

Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School



# Young Curators Project

*Royal Visit, London, Ontario, June 1939*  
Clare Bice (Canadian, 1908-1976)



*Untitled, 2009*  
Sara Lund, Gr.11  
H.B. Beal Secondary School





# Young Curators Project

*Site, 1976*

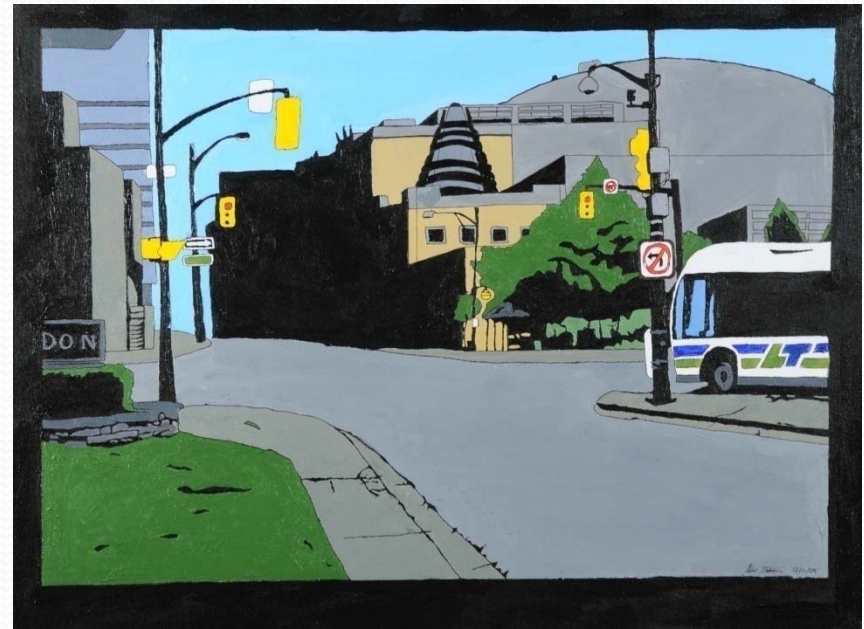
Clark McDougall (Canadian, 1921-1980)



*Untitled, 2009*

Alex Stehmann, Gr.12

Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School



# Young Curators Project

*Raking Leaves, 1978*

Brian Jones (Canadian, 1950-2008)



*The Subjectivist Theory, 2009*

Shanna Peters, Gr.12

Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School



# Young Curators Project

*Backyards, 1979*

Bernice Vincent (Canadian, 1934-)



*Untitled, 2009*

Shelby Kirk-Damm, Gr.12

Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School





# Young Curators Project

Final Young Curators On-line Exhibition  
available through the Virtual Museum of Canada

<http://www.museevirtuel-virtualmuseum.ca>

can be found under the “VMC Lab” link



# Young Curators Project

## Pros:

- 1.) Received money (\$15,000) from CHIN to participate in project
- 2.) CHIN provided technical expertise – Museum London access to its collections
- 3.) Opportunity to learn about software applications like “Word Press” & to experiment with the use of social media like “Face Book”
- 4.) Opportunity to collaborate with Art Galleries from across Canada on an innovative education program
- 5.) Provided an enriched learning opportunity to local high school students
- 6.) Increased profile of Museum London



# Young Curators Project

## Cons:

- 1.) Relatively small number of students benefitted from the experience (in comparison to other museum education programs – i.e. school programs)
- 2.) Considerable investment of Museum staff time (securing copyright, working with students, etc.)
- 3.) Technical challenges – Word Press & Facebook platforms not ready in time for students to fully utilize them
- 4.) Difficult to coordinate different schedules for students across Canada limiting collaboration



# Young Curators Project

## Lessons Learned:

- 1.) Students valued the “real” experiences that the project offered as much as the “virtual” ones (i.e. talks by Curators, tours of exhibitions, visits to vaults, viewing collections)
- 2.) Students have a different sense of the value of privacy than adults in terms of their on-line presence
- 3.) Need to have all technical platforms up and running before starting project
- 4.) Need to have commitment of both teachers & museum staff to project goals



# Young Curators Project

## Possibilities:

- 1.) Have students respond to museum collections (art or artifacts) in a variety of ways – create written work, artwork, videos, etc. and post digitally
- 2.) Use your own websites to present student work & partner with other museums in your community, region, province, or elsewhere and share responses/collections
- 3.) Target specific audiences that your museum may not be able to reach in other ways (i.e. at risk students, seniors, new Canadians, etc.)
- 4.) Seek government or corporate funding to support project