

Programming

Policy

MAWA programming is ever-evolving to serve the ever-changing needs of membership.

MAWA provides a wide range of programs that reflects the wide range of visual arts practitioners in the community. These programs are of different durations, of interest to artists at different stages of their careers, and applicable to those practising in different artistic media. Although some programming decisions are made far in advance, MAWA strives to remain flexible to be responsive to opportunities that may arise spontaneously.

Procedures

Programming decisions at MAWA are made by the Executive Director and staff with the input of the Programming Committee. Some programming decisions, such as the launch of a large-scale new initiative, are approved by the Board of Directors. Because of the core nature of MAWA's Foundation Mentorship Program, the selection of mentors for this annual program is also brought forward to the Board of Directors for approval.

To enact programming, MAWA hires visual arts practitioners for fees at or above levels set by Canadian Artists Representation (CARFAC). MAWA prioritizes the hiring of women and non-binary artists to help redress historic and present-day economic inequality. MAWA also strives to hire women and non-binary artists of a variety of cultural backgrounds, particularly Indigenous women, to redress historic and present-day racism, and to make MAWA welcoming and inclusive to all.

Professional artist fees are paid for exhibitions and screenings, however not for uncurated showcases of members' work.

The Programming Committee meets with the staff quarterly and makes decisions by consensus. Its role is:

- to develop programming philosophy, policy and guidelines (for Board approval)
- to bring forth programming ideas and initiatives for discussion
- to set programming priorities
- to critique past programming
- to contribute to significant programming decisions
- to approve the selection of Foundation Mentorship Program mentors prior to ratification by the Board of Directors

Mentoring Artists for Women's Art (MAWA) – approved September 1, 2011, revised and reapproved November 23, 2018, revised and reapproved January 10, 2019.

Programming ideas and critique are encouraged from MAWA members and the community-at-large through:

- surveys
- questionnaires
- focus groups
- AGM and town hall meetings

Informal feedback, both written and verbal, is welcomed from the MAWA community on an ongoing basis.

In any given year, MAWA programming may include:

- Foundation Mentorship Program
- Focused Mentorships
- Rural and Remote Mentorships
- Master Classes
- First Friday Lectures
- Wendy Wersch Memorial Lecture
- Artist Boot Camp Workshops in professional practices
- Skills based workshops
- Visiting and Local Artist talks
- Studio visits
- Craft Workshops
- Tiny Gallery showcase
- Critical writing
- Critical reading and discussion groups
- Publications
- Field trips
- Exhibitions and screenings
- Symposia
- Artist residencies and exchanges
- Common interest groups
- Special projects
- Partnerships with other organizations