



GONZAGA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Changing Lives – Fulfilling Potential

Young Artist Opportunity at Gonzaga Middle School

Updated Deadline: March 15, 2017

Gonzaga Middle School and its community partners invite young artists in the North East Downtown, Point Douglas and North End communities in Winnipeg to help create a public art work recognizing and respecting the history of residential schools and reconciliation in Canada.

Information

In co-operation with community partners, Gonzaga Middle School invites young artists in the North East Downtown, Point Douglas and North End communities in Winnipeg to help create a public art work recognizing and respecting the history of residential schools and reconciliation in Canada. This is one of four commitments the school and community partners have made as a part of the recently signed “**Agreement to Encourage Reconciliation and Positive Relationships.**”

Young artists under the age of 18 are invited to create a piece of visual art on one 8.5x11-inch (letter size) piece of paper and submit these for curation and the creation of a large canvas production that will be installed on the exterior brick wall of the school’s gym (facing Maple Street). Children, grandchildren, and intergenerational survivors of residential schools are specifically encouraged to participate.

Artists are encouraged to embody and reflect any aspect of their own, their family’s or any other aspect of the history of residential schools and reconciliation in Canada. Artists are also encouraged to include information found in Gonzaga Middle School’s Statement on Reconciliation (see <http://www.gonzagamiddleschool.ca>) and may draw inspiration from any other contribution by Indigenous peoples to Canada’s history. Artists may also embody Calls to Action #79-83 from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada regarding “Commemoration”.

Artist submissions will be reviewed and selected for curation by a committee of qualified persons from Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in the North East Downtown, Point Douglas and North End communities in Winnipeg as well as representatives from the Board of Directors of Gonzaga Middle School. The project will then be displayed in Spring 2017. All contributing artists will require an agreement signed by a parent or guardian and an address to which an honorarium can be mailed. Agreement/permission forms will be available for download from the Gonzaga Middle School website. Selected artists will receive an honorarium of \$40.00 (in the form of a gift card or certificate from a business in the the North East Downtown, Point Douglas and North End communities in Winnipeg).

Questions about this call may be addressed to Project Coordinator Niigaan Sinclair at niigaan.sinclair@umanitoba.ca or Executive Director and Principal Tom Lussier at: tlussier@gonzagamiddleschool.ca.

About Gonzaga Middle School

Gonzaga Middle School (GMS) is located on Treaty One territory, the original lands of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples and the homeland of the Metis Nation.

Located at 174 Maple Street, Gonzaga Middle School (GMS) provides an enhanced, holistic, Manitoba Education approved, co-educational, culturally sensitive middle school education to Grade 6-8 students from low-income families in the Point Douglas and North East Downtown neighbourhoods of inner-city Winnipeg. It uses the unique middle school educational framework and best practices from Jesuit Nativity model schools and the NativityMiguel Coalition of Schools, adapting them to the community served in Winnipeg. The school is overseen by a committed Board of volunteers and an Advisory Committee as well as involved staff and parents.

GMS lowers barriers to educational advancement and success through its strong academic program, longer school day, before and after school programming, extended school year (including summer camp weeks), enrichment activities, and mentoring and graduate support programs. The school will also provide a nutrition program (breakfast, lunch and two snacks), transportation to and from school, technology and other supports.

GMS seeks to develop “men and women for others” while preparing students for success in high school and post-secondary study. It will strive to graduate students who are loving, intellectually competent, open to growth, spiritually alive and committed to doing justice. GMS will support its students of all cultural and faith backgrounds in their growth toward becoming hopeful, confident, morally responsible leaders for love and service of their families and communities.

The Boards, staff, and volunteers of Gonzaga Middle School profoundly respect the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and acknowledge the sorrowful legacy of residential schools with respect to Indigenous peoples, cultures, spiritualities and families. The decisions, policies and actions which led to the legacy of residential schools must never be repeated in this country. The Commission calls institutions and Canadians from all walks of life to take actions that contribute in a practical way to reconciliation of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians. Gonzaga Middle School is committed to doing its part. Gonzaga Middle School is working hard to be sensitive to this historical context and to build trust with all communities with whom we will work. We are committed to participating in meaningful and lasting change and creating a peaceful and respectful relationship with parents, students, and communities while building a better Canada.

Complete artistic submissions and permission forms must be received on or before **March 15, 2017**.

E-mailed submissions are acceptable but must be in high resolution.

Please send complete artistic submissions and permission forms to:

Gonzaga Middle School

Tom Lussier, Executive Director and Principal

174 Maple Street North, Winnipeg, MB, R2W 3L4

email: tlussier@gonzagamiddleschool.ca