



September 2018

Welcome to the monthly newsletter for the Vancouver Art Gallery's Weekly Family Programs. Every Sunday the Gallery offers unique activities geared towards 5 to 12 year-old visitors and their families. Throughout September we will be investigating the exhibitions *Cabin Fever* and *Ayumi Goto and Peter Morin: how do you carry the land?*

We gratefully acknowledge our privilege as we learn, create and live on the unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-waututh people.

All activities are free for children and members, or with Gallery admission.



Every Sunday, 12–4pm

Experience the Gallery with our team of curious, funny and informed Art Agents. They engage with the exhibitions through activities, questions and conversations relating to what your family notices.



Every Sunday, 12–4pm

The Making Place offers making activities that are inspired by the materials and processes that you see in the exhibitions. Drop in any time between 12–4pm.

Upcoming Making Places:

September 2: Designing the Inside of a Cabin

Liz Magor's *Messenger* (1996–2002) is a cabin with bright lights shining from within, piquing curiosity about what is going on inside it. The objects collected in the cabin give us a sense of who lives there. What can you learn about their everyday life by the belongings that they have stored in the shelves and cupboards?

Using a variety of materials, design the inside of a cabin. What will the walls and shelves look like? What would you store here? If someone else were to peek in, what story about your life in the woods will these objects tell?

September 9: Designing, with Consideration for the Land—back by popular demand!

Cabins are usually seasonal homes located in secluded areas that, in Canada, are often built by settlers on land that has long been the home of Indigenous communities. Building cabins can be a form of colonization—claiming land for one's self that has otherwise been lived on and cared for by Indigenous people. In his article *Decolonizing Cottage Country*, Peter A. Stevens encourages everyone “to embrace the spirit of reconciliation, and to deepen understanding of the place [you] love—in all of its historical complexity.”

Design a cabin using cardboard and wood materials in many shapes and sizes, paying careful attention to the choices you make, and highlight what you love about the land that your cabin would be placed upon. Use watercolour paper and paint to create the landscape.

September 16: Nature and Commercial Media

In the mid-1980s, Vikky Alexander was working with mass-produced images found in newspapers, magazines, television and advertising. She wanted viewers to think critically about the images that they saw in the media. In her work *Lake In The Woods* (1986–92), Alexander combines mirrors, wood panels and pictures of nature from magazines to make the viewer experience those images in a different way. Combine magazine images with wood and man-made materials to create your own collage that frames the images of nature in unique ways.

September 23: The Transformational Power of Natural Materials—Annex Workshop

We are pleased to partner with [Vancouver Kids Fashion Week](#) to present this special edition of Weekly Family Programs!

The artist Haruko Okano has a practice of collecting natural materials during her daily walks. She uses these materials to transform spaces, encouraging us to think of them differently. The materials she used in the work *Intersistere* (2018) can be seen and smelled by visitors as they enter the threshold of the exhibition space. The work is covering large marble columns, a design that is inspired by European architecture and reminds us of Canada's colonial history. How does walking through *Intersistere* change the way that you experience the Gallery space?

Inspired by Haruko Okano's artwork in the exhibition *Peter Morin and Ayumi Goto: how do you carry the land?*, create an assemblage with natural materials that you can then place in your home or even wear! Discover how these materials transform spaces, fashion, clothing and the movement of your body.

September 30: Bring the Gallery to Life with Voice and Sound with Ayumi Goto and Peter Morin

In this special edition of The Making Place, artists Peter Morin and Ayumi Goto will lead families in a workshop inspired by the ideas expressed in the exhibition *Ayumi Goto and Peter Morin: how do you carry the land?* Goto will teach visitors about Den-Den Daiko and how she made the many drums that are present in the exhibition. Families will be invited to contribute their ideas to create drums of their own!

These in-Gallery activities question how we communicate our voices and histories through time and across cultures. These activities will also ask how we can use friendship and exchange to address challenging social and political issues such as the impact of colonization on a multitude of communities. We will be thinking together about the Gallery space and how it can be transformed by performance, sound and voice.

Through the Vancouver Art Gallery's Weekly Family Programs we are honoured to connect artists with our community of family participants. As Morin has said, "You never know how an encounter with a stranger might change your life forever."