

News Release

More than 120 artworks created by local students filling the Art Gallery of St. Albert Walls

High Energy 29 to open in historic Banque d'Hochelega building on Perron Street

May 1, 2024, St. Albert, Alberta - The Art Gallery of St. Albert is pleased to once again present a popular exhibition that showcases the incredible artistic talent of students from St. Albert high schools. *High Energy 29* opens in the Gallery's main exhibition space on **May 2**.

The exhibition includes more than 120 artworks created by local students. Hailing from grades 10, 11 and 12, these teens hone their skills in the art programs at **Bellerose Composite High School, École Alexandre-Taché, École Secondaire Paul Kane High School, St. Albert Catholic High School** and **Outreach High School**.

For many students, the art room is somewhere they retreat to. It is a safe space to explore and express. With guidance, empathy and experience, art teachers give students the tools they need to be able to bring their visions to life.

"*High Energy 29* is a space for the students to shine - celebrating their work, dedication, vision, hopes, pride and future," says Art Gallery of St. Albert Curator, Emily Baker. "Their works result from countless hours spent in the art room or at home. They sketch, practice, plan, critique, experiment and explore. It's a journey to a finished piece that is full of creativity and discovery."

Each year, the Gallery assigns the students an extra Challenge Project to gently push them out of their comfort zone. For 2024, students were asked to create an installation piece through an environmental lens. They had to consider not only the aesthetics and composition of their work, but also its materials and lifespan. Balancing inspiration with responsibility, students were asked to craft a vision for a hopeful future that they would like to see. Their challenge project pieces are featured in the exhibition. *High Energy 29* runs until **May 25**.

Exhibition events:

- Reception: May 2, from 6 - 8 pm
- In-person tour with curator: May 15 at noon
- Virtual tour with curator: May 22 at noon on Facebook Live

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