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JUN 20

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

EMERGENCE

2026



RECEPTION on Saturday April 25, 1-3pm

★
LAUNCH OF
THE 1ST
BIENNIAL
LOCAL HIGH
SCHOOL ART
EXHIBITION

TOM

About

Emergence 2026 is the 1st biennial exhibition celebrating the creativity, curiosity, and evolving artistic voices of high school students from across the Grey-Bruce and Owen Sound Region. Organized by the Tom Thomson Art Gallery, the exhibition highlights new ideas, perspectives, and forms of expression emerging from young artists as they explore their developing identities and engage with the world around them.

How to Participate

Free to apply! All students are eligible. All entries must be submitted digitally by completing the online submission form at <https://form.owensound.ca/Emergence> or by scanning the QR code below.

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Important Dates

- Submission Form Deadline: Monday, March 30, 2026 or until capacity is reached
- Artwork Drop-Off: Saturday April 11, 2026 during Gallery hours (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- Opening Reception: Saturday, April 25, 2026 | 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Exhibition: Saturday, April 18 – Sunday, June 20, 2026
- Artwork Pick-Up: Saturday June 27, 2026

Awards

Submitted artworks may be considered for TOM Curator's Choice, Artistic Innovation, and People's Choice awards (\$100 each + additional prizes). Sponsorship opportunities available—stay tuned for details!

Eligibility

- An eligible artist must be a grade 9-12 student that currently attends a public or private high school—or is homeschooled—within Grey or Bruce Counties.

Submission Guidelines

- One artwork per student: If your artwork has multiple components (e.g., a diptych), it counts as a single submission. All media are welcome.
- Artwork requirements: Must have been created within the past two years.
- Labeling: Attach a label on the back of your artwork with your name, school, title, date, size, and medium. Complete the online submission form on the TOM website.
- Selection & display: *Emergence 2026* is a non-juried exhibition. The Gallery reserves the right to decline works with extreme, discriminatory, or hateful content. All accepted works must be exhibition-ready.
- Delivery & pick-up: Physical artworks must be delivered to the Gallery on the designated drop-off date. If you cannot make this date, email Ian Dickey at idickey@owensound.ca to arrange an alternative.

How to Submit your Artwork

- Please complete the Submission Form on the TOM website. In addition, attach a label to the back of your artwork using the template below:

Student name (first and last):
School & Grade:
Artwork Title:
Medium:
Date created:

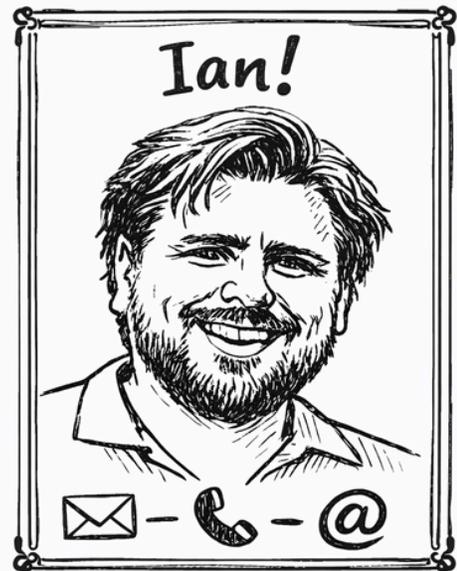
- Make sure all information matches your online submission.

Contact Us

For Submission inquiries or questions, please contact Ian Dickey, Exhibition & Engagement Assistant

Email: idickey@owensound.ca

Phone: 519-376-1932 ext. 5007.



For Sponsorship inquiries for Awards or Media inquiries, please contact Heather McLeese, Curator of Public Projects & Education
Email: hmcleese@owensound.ca
Phone: 519-376-1932 ext. 5006.

Heather!



FAQ's

1. Who can enter?

- Grade 9–12 students in Grey or Bruce Counties, including public, private, or homeschooled.

2. How many artworks can I submit?

- One artwork per student. Multi-part works (e.g., diptychs) count as a single submission.

3. What media and creation date are accepted?

- All media are welcome. Artwork must have been created within the past two years.

4. How should I prepare and label my artwork?

- Attach a label to back of artwork with your name, school, grade, title, medium and date. Complete the online submission form. All works must be exhibition ready.

5. When and how do I submit and pick up my artwork?

- Digital submission: via TOM website below or scanning QR code
<https://form.owensound.ca/Emergence>
- Physical drop-off: Saturday, April 11, 2026.
- Pick-up: Saturday, June 27, 2026. Contact Ian Dickey for alternative arrangements.

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