CURATORIAL INTERNSHIP AT
THE LEONARD & BINA ELLEN ART GALLERY
WINTER 2027

For students in the MA in Art History and in the Graduate
Certificate in Curatorial Studies and Practices
ARTH 647 Independent Studies (3 credits)

The Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery is a university art gallery recognized across Canada for the investigative nature of its programming, which examines current artistic and curatorial practices as well as the context in which they evolve. Its exhibitions, screenings, performances, lectures and publications present the work of local, Canadian and international artists; and are devised as a form of inquiry for fostering critical thinking. Programming also has an occasional historical stream that explores the recent history of contemporary art.

The Gallery has a collection of more than 1800 objects (primarily Canadian) that spans the 20th century, with a concentration of works from the 1970s, 80s and 90s. The collection also includes belongings from African and Pre-Columbian cultures and a selection of decorative arts/craft objects. Work with the collection can take the form of archival research and/or projects that frame it within a contemporary context.

Public programs are an important part of the activities of the Gallery. They are developed in conjunction with our exhibitions and have the goal of extending curatorial activity and public engagement through panel discussions, artist and curator talks, lectures, film screenings and workshops.

Publications are produced in both catalogue and book form, as well as electronically. These further the critical investigations developed in our programming.

For more information on the Gallery and to view our programming archives, please visit ellengallery.concordia.ca.

INTERNSHIP DETAILS

The curatorial internship will include both practical tasks and research-based work related to one or more areas listed above (collection, public programs, or publications). The exact nature of the tasks will be determined in conjunction with the interests of the student intern.

For the Winter 2027 internship, the student will also contribute to research on the history of SIGHTINGS, the Gallery's satellite exhibition space located on the ground floor of Concordia University's Henry F. Hall Building. In anticipation of SIGHTINGS' upcoming 50th edition, this research will contribute to documenting the program's history and its evolving role within the Gallery, the university, and the broader context of contemporary art and curatorial practice.

Opportunities for a public presentation (such as a talk, or guided tour) may be possible and will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Please see Isabelle Hawkins and Paige Suhl's presentations for examples of past projects and presentations.

Duration of the internship:
A university term (Winter term) of 12 weeks. Start date: January 11, 2027. The Winter term Reading Week (March 1 to 5, 2027, inclusively) will be observed, with no on-site commitments.

Number of hours worked:
150 hours total, which includes on-site commitments and written assignments. The on-site work schedule will be determined between the student and the Director/staff of the gallery.

Assignment:
The student must maintain a journal logging the tasks they are required to accomplish. The and all research work is to be finalized and deposited with the Gallery at the end of term (last day of class). The intern's research will be recognized and credited by the Gallery.

N.B. A letter of agreement will be signed by the student and the Gallery prior to beginning the internship. The letter will spell out the responsibilities of both parties.

Supervision:
Director of the Gallery in association with other staff members according to the area(s) in which the student is assigned tasks.

Evaluation:
35% overall on-site performance assessment
15% documentation: journal of tasks
50% research produced

Marks will be submitted to the department two weeks after the end of term.

Requirements:
- Excellent academic standing
- Excellent research skills
- Keen interest in contemporary art production and curatorial work
- Knowledge of museological practices and standards
- The ability to read French is important

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Deadline: December 1st, 2026

Applications must include the following information, assembled into one PDF document. Alternatively, video or audio submissions may also be accepted, provided they include all the required information. If you need assistance or accommodations, please contact ellen.artgallery@concordia.ca.

Applications may be submitted in English or French. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

- A letter of intent describing the student's area(s) of interest, proposed research/activities, and their professional goals;
- A CV (including contact information);
- A transcript of academic record.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview, and the successful applicant will be informed of the results by December 15, 2026.

Applications should be sent by email to ellen.artgallery@concordia.ca with "Curatorial Internship" in the subject line.