

Alberta artists celebrated with launch of free art gallery in Calgary

The Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) launches the AFA art house in The Edison building in the heart of Downtown Calgary.

Calgary (September 10, 2025) – The Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) is launching the AFA *art house*, a new visual arts gallery located in Calgary dedicated to exhibiting Alberta artists. The gallery will feature works by Alberta artists including artworks from the AFA Art Collection, the largest collection in the world of visual arts by Albertan artists.

The AFA *art house* is located on the second floor in The Edison building (150 9 Ave SW) in Downtown Calgary. The inaugural exhibition, *New Views*, opens to the public on September 11th and features a diverse selection of 50 AFA artworks acquired by the Collection. The exhibition features *Portrait of Don Getty*, a print featuring former Alberta Premier Don Getty's Edmonton Elks (formerly "Eskimos") player card. The exhibition also features artworks that have never been publicly exhibited before.

"The AFA *art house* celebrates the creativity, history and talent that define Alberta's arts community. The AFA art house is another way we are supporting artists and providing opportunities for Albertans to view and experience Alberta art, including pieces from the AFA's own collection. We are pleased to be partnering with the City of Calgary and Aspen Properties to bring this space to life and contribute to Calgary's downtown revitalization."

Cynthia P. Moore, AFA Chair

"The AFA *art house* is an inspired new addition to downtown Calgary. A space that celebrates and showcases the incredible talent of Alberta artists, expanding public access to the largest collection of visual artworks by Alberta artists in the world. Alberta's government is proud to invest over \$40 million to the arts through Budget 2025, fueling creativity, economic growth and vibrant communities."

Tanya Fir, Minister of Arts, Culture, and Status of Women

In addition to *New Views*, the AFA is pleased to announce the first solo exhibition in the AFA *art house* will feature Samantha Williams-Chapelsky, the 2024-25 Alberta Artist in Residence/Arts Ambassador, and selected works from her "Sky, Stone, and Prairie: Plein Air Perspectives of Alberta" project. This exhibition will open in October 2025.

The AFA *art house* strengthens the AFA's commitment to celebrating local art while contributing to Calgary's downtown revitalization. Media are invited to the exclusive *art house* Launch on September 10th at 5 p.m. RSVP to Kristina Wheeler at kristina@parkerpr.ca.



The AFA welcomes the public to visit *art house* beginning September 11th. Admission is free and the gallery is open Tuesday through Friday, from noon to 4 p.m. More information is available online at affta.ab.ca/art-house.

Quick facts

- The AFA Art Collection was established more than 50 years ago in 1972, initially proposed as “an opportunity to support and encourage Alberta artists by purchasing original works, as well as creating a legacy collection for the people of Alberta.”
- The AFA Art Collection includes 9,565 artworks by more than 1,700 Alberta artists.
- In 2023, the visual and applied arts and live performance industries contributed approximately \$1.3 billion in GDP and sustained over 18,000 jobs in Alberta.

Related information

The Alberta Foundation for the Arts is a public agency and provincial corporation of the Government of Alberta with a mandate to support and contribute to the development of the arts in Alberta.

- www.affta.ab.ca

Multimedia

- [Watch a preview video](#) about the gallery
- AFA *art house* website available September 11 at www.affta.ab.ca/art-house

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