

CELEBRATING CANADA'S FUTURE ARTISTS

The Art Canada Institute Education Program is delighted to announce the Canadian Art Inspiration Contest for Grades K to 12.

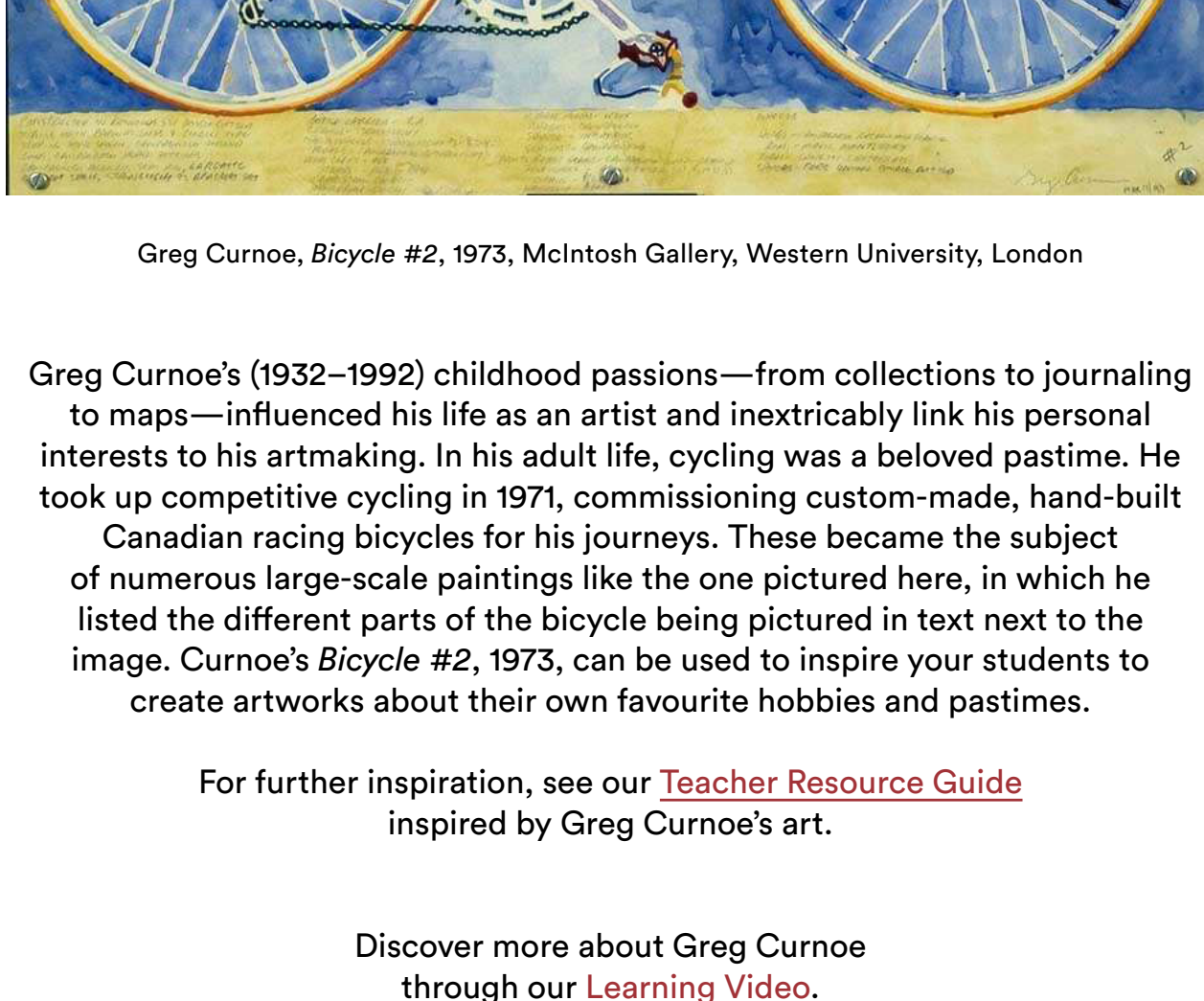


With a full year of pandemic teaching and learning behind us, we are all ready to turn over a new leaf. This spring, the Art Canada Institute Education Program wants to re-inscribe our belief in the uplifting power of art education, and to celebrate its continued relevance by shining a light on Canada's future artists. As such, we are delighted to announce the launch of the [Canadian Art Inspiration Contest](#). Open to students from Kindergarten through Grade 12, this contest invites submissions of artworks inspired by or responding to leaders in Canadian art. Finalists' artworks will be showcased in an online exhibition, and prizes will be awarded in different age groups, with \$500 for first prizes and \$250 for honourable mentions. For some inspiration on how to get your students making and creating their own masterpieces, this week's newsletter features a selection of artworks from our [student creativity contest booklet](#). We hope that you enjoy – and we cannot wait to see what the next generation of budding artists creates!

— The Art Canada Institute Education Team

IDEAS TO INSPIRE YOUR STUDENTS' CREATIVITY

“My Favourite Weekend Hobby”



Greg Curnoe, *Bicycle #2*, 1973, McIntosh Gallery, Western University, London

Greg Curnoe's (1932–1992) childhood passions—from collections to journaling to maps—influenced his life as an artist and inextricably link his personal interests to his artmaking. In his adult life, cycling was a beloved pastime. He took up competitive cycling in 1971, commissioning custom-made, hand-built Canadian racing bicycles for his journeys. These became the subject of numerous large-scale paintings like the one pictured here, in which he listed the different parts of the bicycle being pictured in text next to the image. Curnoe's *Bicycle #2*, 1973, can be used to inspire your students to create artworks about their own favourite hobbies and pastimes.

For further inspiration, see our [Teacher Resource Guide](#) inspired by Greg Curnoe's art.

Discover more about Greg Curnoe through our [Learning Video](#).

“Celebrating My Community”



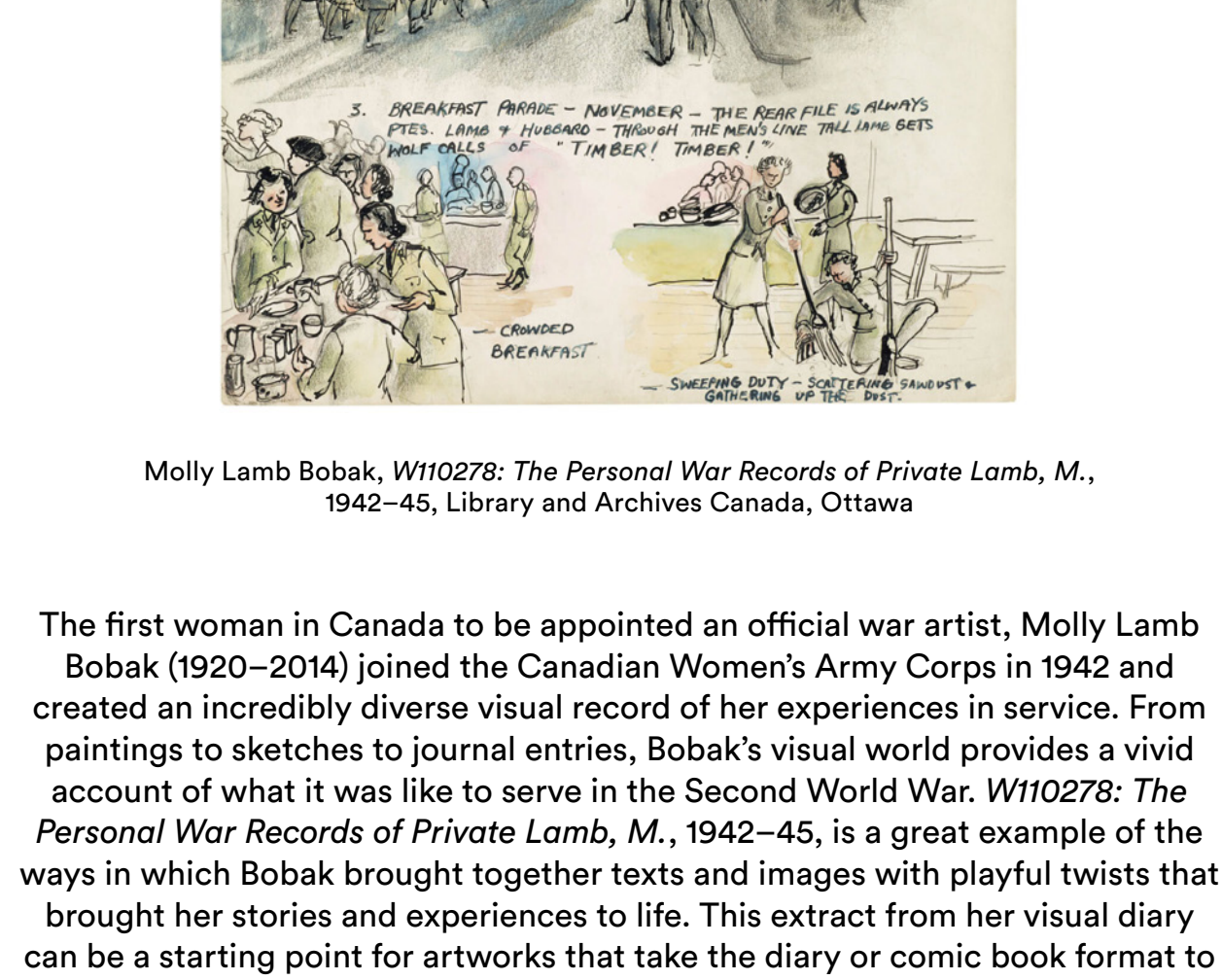
Pitseolak Ashoona, drawing for print *Summer Camp Scene*, c.1966–76, West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative Ltd., on loan to the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, Ontario

Community is at the heart of Pitseolak Ashoona's (c.1904/8–1983) intimate vignettes of life in the Arctic. An iconic Inuit artist, Pitseolak produced thousands of drawings depicting the northern region of Qikiqtaaluk (Baffin Island), representing key principles, practices, and teachings central to Inuit belief systems and principles of knowledge. Community is one of those themes, and many of Pitseolak's images, including this drawing, focus on the vitality and strength of Inuit women and the work they perform together. In her art, she celebrates the people closest to her, their responsibilities, their games, their traditions, and their land. Compelling and often colourful, her drawings might also be presented as inspiration for student creations centered on their own communities.

Looking to learn more? Download our [Teacher Resource Guide](#) inspired by Pitseolak Ashoona's work.

Discover more about Pitseolak Ashoona through our [Learning Video](#).

“The Majesty of Nature”



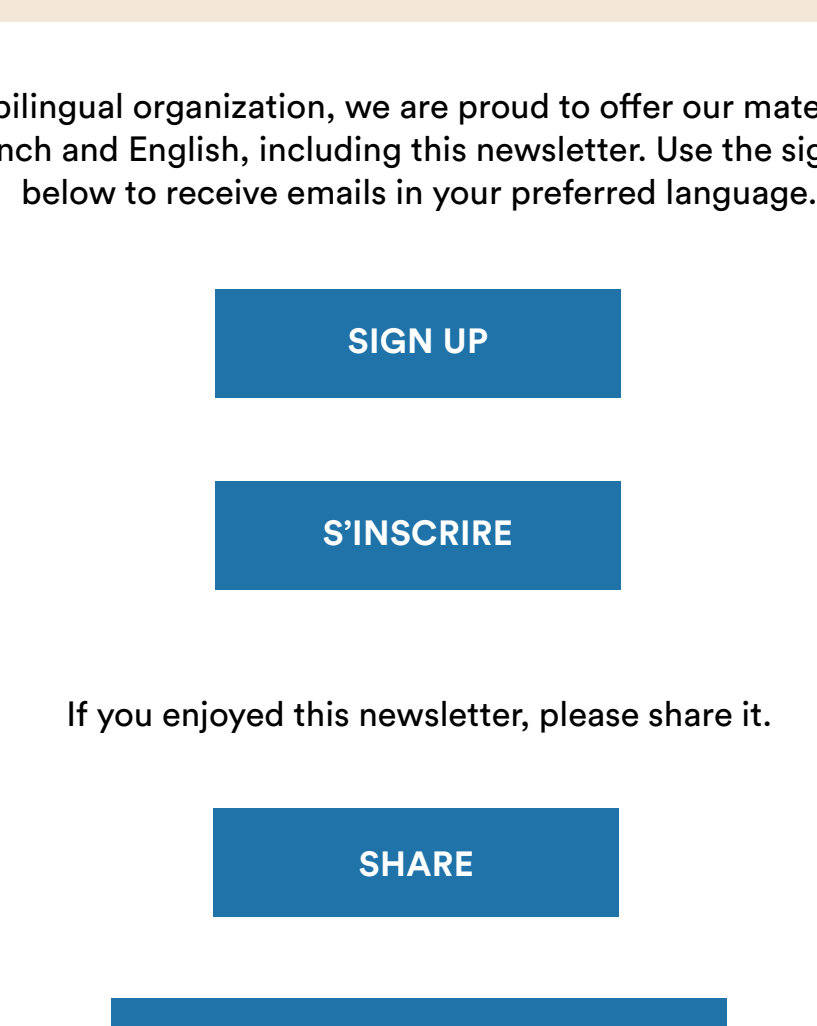
Edward Mitchell Bannister, *Moonlight Marine*, 1885, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond

The majesty of nature is front and centre in the dramatic seascapes of nineteenth-century Black Canadian painter Edward Mitchell Bannister (c.1828–1901). Born in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Bannister went on to forge a successful career in the United States, creating many remarkable landscapes and seascapes, several of which depicted coastal towns and communities and the awe-inspiring force of the ocean. *Moonlight Marine*, 1885, is a testament to Bannister's deep appreciation of the forces of nature. From the movement of the waves to the glow of the moon in the night sky, this painting offers a wealth of inspiring starting points for creating artworks that pay tribute to the natural world.

Our [Teacher Resource Guide](#) is a great way to learn more about Edward Mitchell Bannister's work.

Discover more works by Edward Mitchell Bannister in our [Online Exhibition](#).

“A Day in the Life of Me”



Molly Lamb Bobak, *W110278: The Personal War Records of Private Lamb, M., 1942–45*, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa

The first woman in Canada to be appointed an official war artist, Molly Lamb Bobak (1920–2014) joined the Canadian Women's Army Corps in 1942 and created an incredibly diverse visual record of her experiences in service. From paintings to sketches to journal entries, Bobak's visual world provides a vivid account of what it was like to serve in the Second World War. *W110278: The Personal War Records of Private Lamb, M., 1942–45*, is a great example of the ways in which Bobak brought together texts and images with playful twists that brought her stories and experiences to life. This extract from her visual diary can be a starting point for artworks that take the diary or comic book format to introduce “A Day in the Life of Me.”

Learn more about Molly Lamb Bobak with our [Teacher Resource Guide](#).

For further inspiration, see our [Spotlight feature](#) on Molly Lamb Bobak.

IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER



We are looking forward to celebrating Asian Heritage Month with you in May! In preparation for this, our next newsletter will offer resources, curricular connections, and artworks by Canadian artists of Asian descent to get you and your students inspired. We will also be announcing the publication of our next art-enriched math guide, which centers on the incredible creations of Japanese Canadian artist Kazuo Nakamura.

As a bilingual organization, we are proud to offer our materials in both French and English, including this newsletter. Use the sign up links below to receive emails in your preferred language.

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About the Art Canada Institute

Launched in 2013, the Art Canada Institute is the only national institution whose mandate is to promote the study of an inclusive multi-vocal Canadian art history to as broad an audience as possible, in both English and French, within Canada and internationally. The ACI works with more than fifty of Canada's leading art historians, curators, and visual culture experts who are dedicated to the creation of authoritative original content on the people, themes, and topics that have defined Canadian art history.

We are creating a central digital resource to tell the world about Canada's most important works of art and where they are located. By functioning as an online art museum, a [digital library](#), and an interactive Canadian art encyclopedia, the ACI is an indispensable resource on Canada's visual heritage.

Visit us at [aci-iac.ca](#)

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