

EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

STRENGTHENING LIFELONG BONDS
ARTISTIC REFLECTIONS ON SIBLINGS

In recognition of National Siblings Day on April 10th, we are sharing works by 5 creators commemorating kinship.



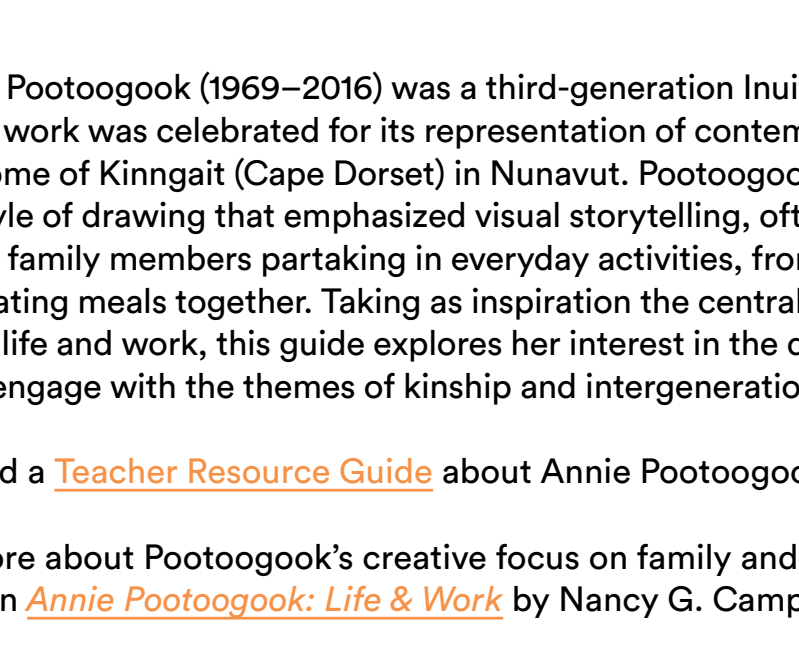
Jack Chambers, *Sunday Morning No. 2, 1968-70*

April 10th is National Siblings Day, an opportunity to celebrate and recognize these important family relationships. For many, this day is an opportunity to reflect upon the quiet, cozy moments that strengthen lifelong bonds—moments such as this tender weekend morning scene depicted by London, Ontario-born artist Jack Chambers (1931–1978). Here, the artist portrays his young sons at home, watching one of their favourite television shows. The painting is a prime example of the painter's unique development of "perceptual realism," a technique grounded in close looking that renders a sensory experience of everyday life. Like Chambers, the creators we are spotlighting this week picture the many facets of sibling relationships, from cherished memories and portraits to complicated dynamics and rivalries. Read on for our selection of heartening works.

Learn more about Chambers's works focused on family life in [Jack Chambers: Life & Work](#) by Mark A. Cheetham.

— The Art Canada Institute Education Team

Celebrating Kinship



Grades 9 to 12
First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Studies;
Social Studies; Visual Arts, and more

Annie Pootoogook (1969–2016) was a third-generation Inuit artist whose work was celebrated for its representation of contemporary life in her home of Kinngait (Cape Dorset) in Nunavut. Pootoogook developed a distinct style of drawing that emphasized visual storytelling, often depicting scenes of family members partaking in everyday activities, from grocery shopping to eating meals together. Taking as inspiration the centrality of family to Pootoogook's life and work, this guide explores her interest in the documentation of daily life to engage with the themes of kinship and intergenerational knowledge.

Download a [Teacher Resource Guide](#) about Annie Pootoogook's work.

Learn more about Pootoogook's creative focus on family and everyday life in [Annie Pootoogook: Life & Work](#) by Nancy G. Campbell.

AVENUES TO EXPLORE

Capturing Youth



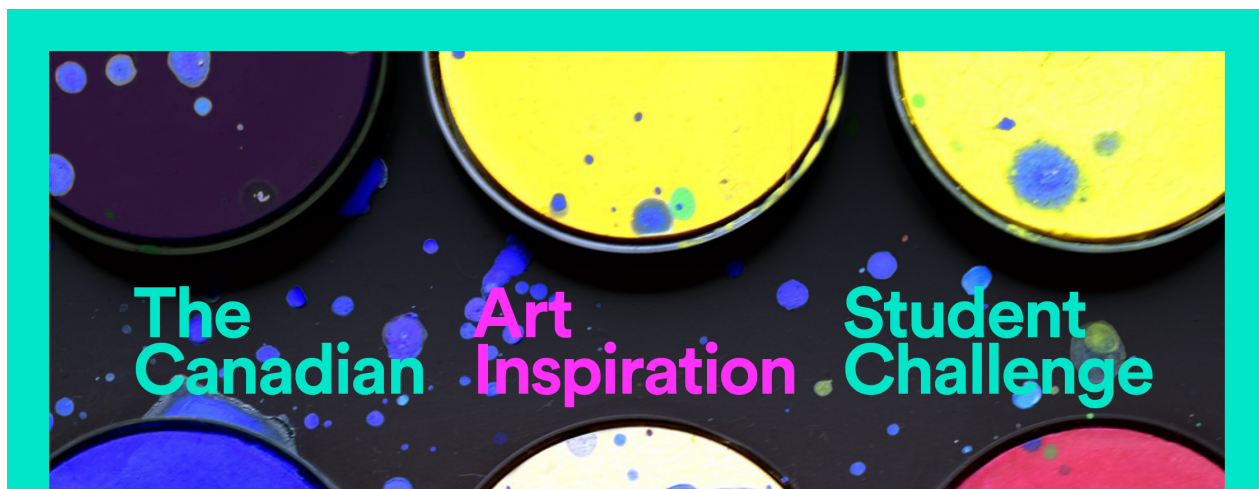
Prudence Heward, *Sisters of Rural Quebec, 1930*

Montreal artist Prudence Heward (1896–1947) is celebrated for her portraits of women and girls that depict them not in their traditional roles as mothers and daughters but as persons in their own right. Throughout her career, the painter developed her own style characterized by sculptural forms and an expressionistic use of colour. *Sisters of Rural Quebec* depicts two sisters in defiant poses that mirror each other; however, they are focused on different things. While one sister averts her gaze beyond the frame, the second meets the viewer's eye. As is visible here, Heward pays close attention to the personalities of her sitters and captures the potentially complicated sibling dynamic between them.

Download our Teacher Resource Guide inspired by Prudence Heward's portraits [here](#).

Watch an [educational video](#) on Prudence Heward's life and work.

Monumental Portraiture

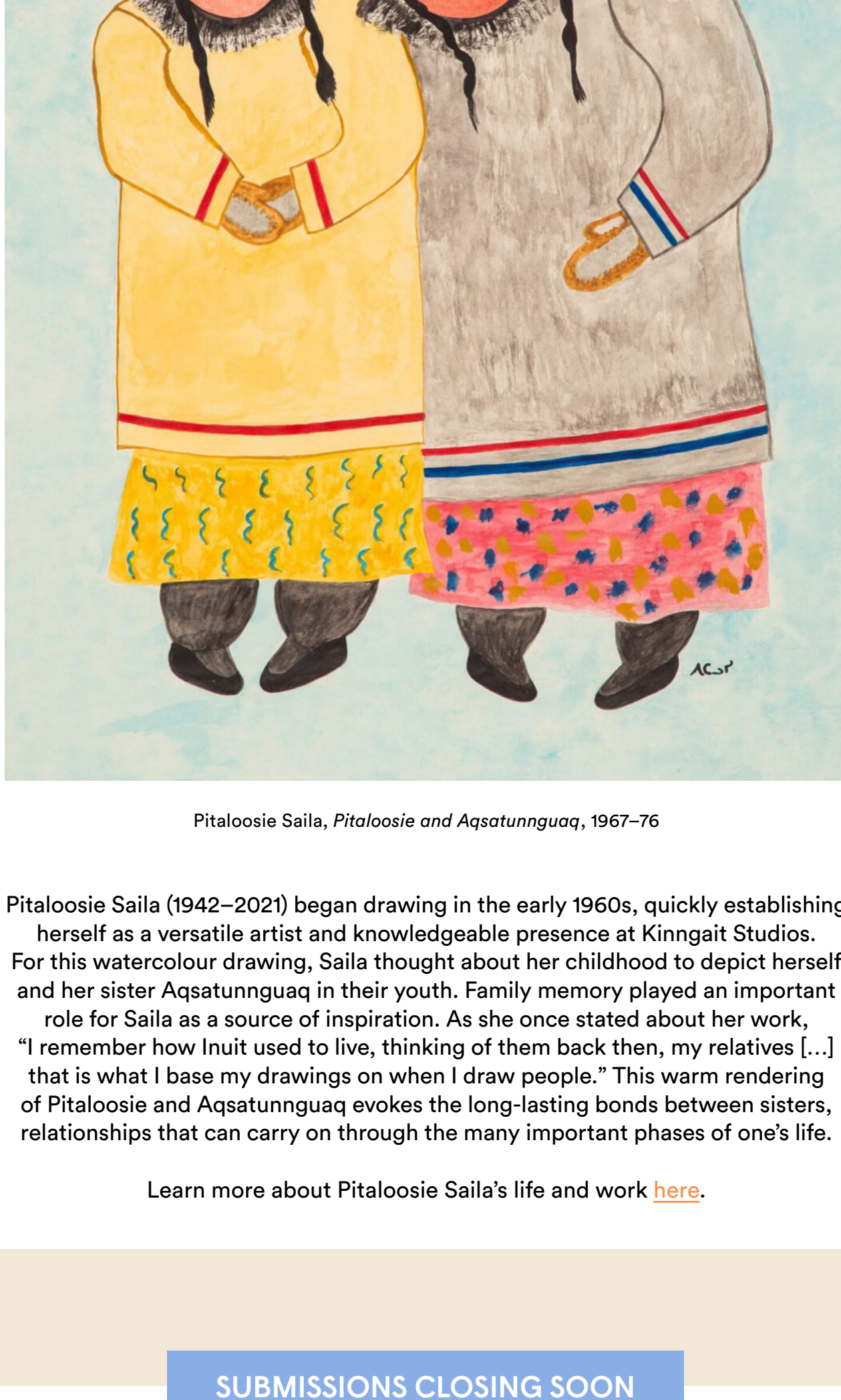


Jorian Charlton, *Whak, Mo, and Angaar, 2021*

In November 2021, *Whak, Mo, and Angaar*, a portrait by Jorian Charlton (b.1989), was unveiled on the façade of a building located at 330 Bay Street in Toronto's Financial District. This large-scale portrait was a joint presentation by ArtworxTO's Year of Public Art and Project Reframed, an initiative that aims to highlight and empower emerging BIPOC artists. Featuring three models—a woman and two male twins—dressed in bright tulle dresses, the photograph illustrates Charlton's poetic approach to portraiture, a genre she uses to elevate themes of Black family life, intimacy, and love. According to Charlton, the aim was to create "a stronger sense of community after a long period of isolation."

Learn more about Jorian Charlton's work [here](#).

Honouring Sisterly Bonds

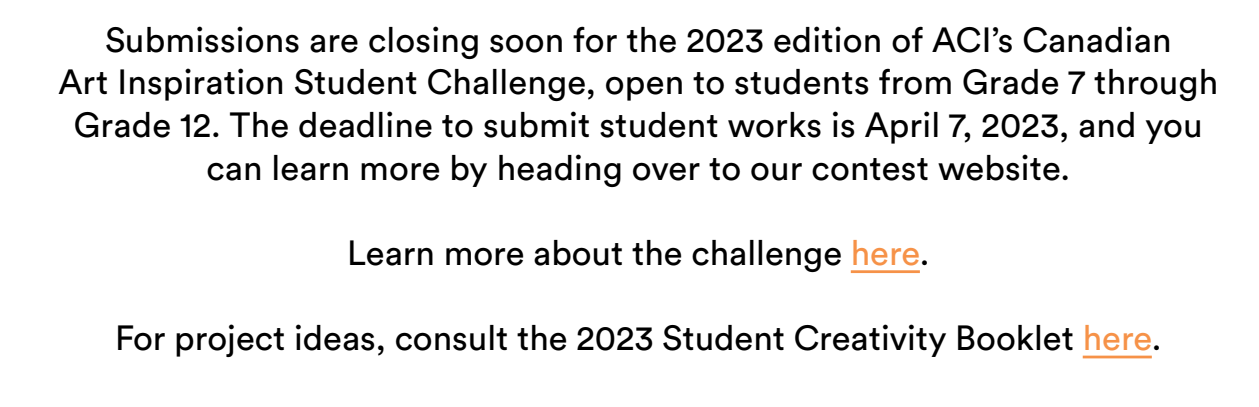


Pitaloosie Saila, *Pitaloosie and Aqsatunnguaq, 1967-76*

Pitaloosie Saila (1942–2021) began drawing in the early 1960s, quickly establishing herself as a versatile artist and knowledgeable presence at Kinngait Studios. For this watercolour drawing, Saila thought about her childhood to depict herself and her sister Aqsatunnguaq in their youth. Family memory played an important role for Saila as a source of inspiration. As she once stated about her work, "I remember how Inuit used to live, thinking of them back then, my relatives [...] that is what I base my drawings on when I draw people." This warm rendering of Pitaloosie and Aqsatunnguaq evokes the long-lasting bonds between sisters, relationships that can carry on through the many important phases of one's life.

Learn more about Pitaloosie Saila's life and work [here](#).

SUBMISSIONS CLOSING SOON



Submissions are closing soon for the 2023 edition of ACI's Canadian Art Inspiration Student Challenge, open to students from Grade 7 through Grade 12. The deadline to submit student works is April 7, 2023, and you can learn more by heading over to our contest website.

Learn more about the challenge [here](#).

For project ideas, consult the 2023 Student Creativity Booklet [here](#).

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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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, multivocal 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](#)

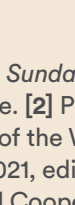
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Image Credits: [1] Jack Chambers, *Sunday Morning No. 2, 1968-70*, oil on wood, 121.9 x 121.9 cm. Loch Gallery, Toronto. © Jack Chambers Estate. [2] Prudence Heward, *Sisters of Rural Quebec, 1930*, oil on canvas, 157 x 107 cm. Art Gallery of Windsor, Gift of the Willistead Art Gallery of Windsor Women's Committee, 1962. [3] Jorian Charlton, *Whak, Mo, and Angaar, 2021*, edition of 3, AP, Baryta Fine Art Print, 137.2 x 109.2 cm. © Jorian Charlton. Courtesy of Jorian Charlton and Cooper Cole, Toronto. [4] Pitaloosie Saila, *Pitaloosie and Aqsatunnguaq, 1967-76*, watercolour on paper, 66.3 x 90.5 cm. Reproduced with the permission of Dorset Fine Arts.