



Member News | April 30th, 2026



Dear Members,

This year we are celebrating [25 years of Being Scene](#), presenting and supporting artists with lived experience.

Our mandate and commitment to our community is growing rapidly to meet the demands of ongoing challenges within the arts sector. This year we look back at Being Scene and Workman Arts histories, not only as an exhibition and organisation but as a community that manifests care at its core.

The past few years have witnessed many changes in leadership and staff, however, Workman Arts' resilience as a community of artists and artworkers, either staff or artists members, has been a true inspiration to continue the work we do.

I take this opportunity to invite you all to be part of this celebration, to acknowledge the hardships and the wins, to be reminded that care and kindness are the ethos of our community and what makes us unique.

— Fatma, Visual Arts Manager, Workman Arts



BEING SCENE JURIED EXHIBITION OPENS MAY 7, 2026

Workman Arts celebrates **25 Years of BEING SCENE** with a landmark Exhibition, **opening May 7 and running through June 14, 2026.**

EXHIBITION PROGRAMMING

32 Lisgar Street

Thursday, May 7 - Sunday, June 14, 2026

Public Hours: 1-6 PM, Wednesdays to Sundays

Opening Reception: Thursday, May 7, 6-8 PM

32 Lisgar Street, 2nd Floor, Toronto | No Reservations Required

Marking a quarter-century of artistic excellence and community impact, Being Scene is a vital platform showcasing the work of artists with lived experiences of mental health and addiction. The artworks on display at this year's juried exhibition include a diverse collection of painting, photography, digital media, installations, sculpture and video featuring 28 select artists.



Call for 2026-2027 Arts Education & Professional Development Support Program Proposals

Deadline to Submit: Monday, May 25th by 11:59PM (EDT)

Workman Arts invites instructors and mentors to propose accessible and inclusive online and in person arts education courses and professional development support programs for our Fall 2026 and Winter/Spring 2027 Arts Education & Professional Development Support Programs.

Interested in learning more about the application process? **Click here** to learn more and check out our recorded information session.

Call for Film Submissions: Rendezvous with Madness Festival 2026

Deadline to Submit: Sunday, May 31st by 11:59PM (EDT)



We are now accepting film/video submissions for consideration for screening in the Rendezvous With Madness Festival in a cinema context (whether on-site and/or online).

[Click here](#) to learn more.



Call for Volunteer Board Directors

Deadline to Submit: Sunday, May 10th by 11:59PM (EDT)

Help shape the future of Canada's leading Arts and Mental Health organization. For over 35 years, Workman Arts (WA) has been a leader in supporting artists with lived experience of mental health and addiction through professional development, creation, and presentation.

As we look to the future, we are focused on deepening our impacts and strengthening sustainability.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



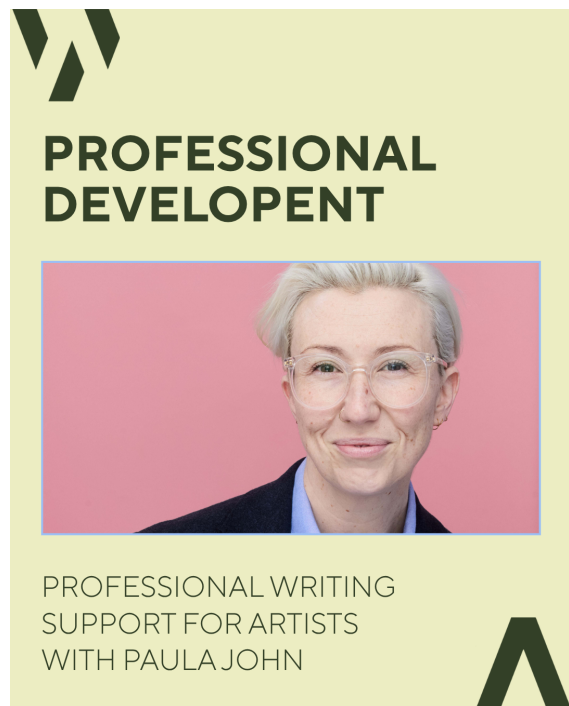
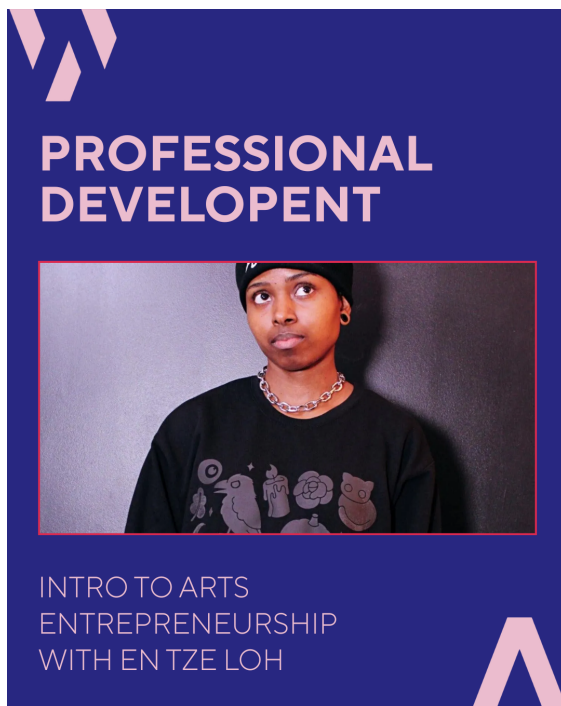
The Mad Snail: Call for Submissions

Deadline to Submit: Wednesday, July 15th by 11:59PM (EDT)

The Education Department of Workman Arts is thrilled to be opening submissions for the inaugural issue of our zine *The Mad Snail*.

The Mad Snail is a quarterly literary zine, edited and published by the Department of Education of Workman Arts with the vision of highlighting Mad voices, and raising funds towards additional educational programming for our membership.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Our programs support artists to reach their creative and professional goals through art training, professional development, and presentation opportunities and by providing support through peer-to-peer interaction and community. All courses are free to members.

Intro To Arts Entrepreneurship is a mentorship program that aims to guide emerging artists with establishing and/or developing their business or career in the arts. Apply for mentorship by **Friday, May 1st at 5PM (EDT)**.

Professional Writing Support for Artists provides 1-on-1 editorial support to artists at every stage of their careers who are interested in producing better writing about their work.

Learn more and register here: workmanarts.com/professional-development/

MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES



Come by **OTW Café** to check out WA artist member [Wendy Lu](#)'s artwork

The showcase is part of a collaboration between Workman Arts and Out of This World Café as an initiative to assist artists in art sales and display. The opportunity showcases artworks (for sale) at the cafe for a period of 6 months.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Bikechain started offering pay-what-you-can mobility device repairs to the community



Now supporting minor repairs on wheelchairs, rollators, canes, and more.

More information at bikechain.ca/mobility.

On-Site Access

We continue to welcome members to use our art-making space to support your work. Space must be booked in advance by using the [Google Calendar](#).

At this time, with our current staffing capacities, we are limited in our ability to accommodate walk-ins. Thus, scheduled meetings are highly recommended.

To avoid disappointment, please send an email in advance to arrange a meeting, or use the booking function to secure a time with Julian [here](#). For a list of staff contacts, click [here](#).

Questions about the Workman Arts members' newsletter?

Get in touch with Communications & Marketing Manager, Tai Nguyen, at tai_nguyen@workmanarts.com.

If you missed any of our previous members' newsletters, visit our newly created newsletter archive [here](#).

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