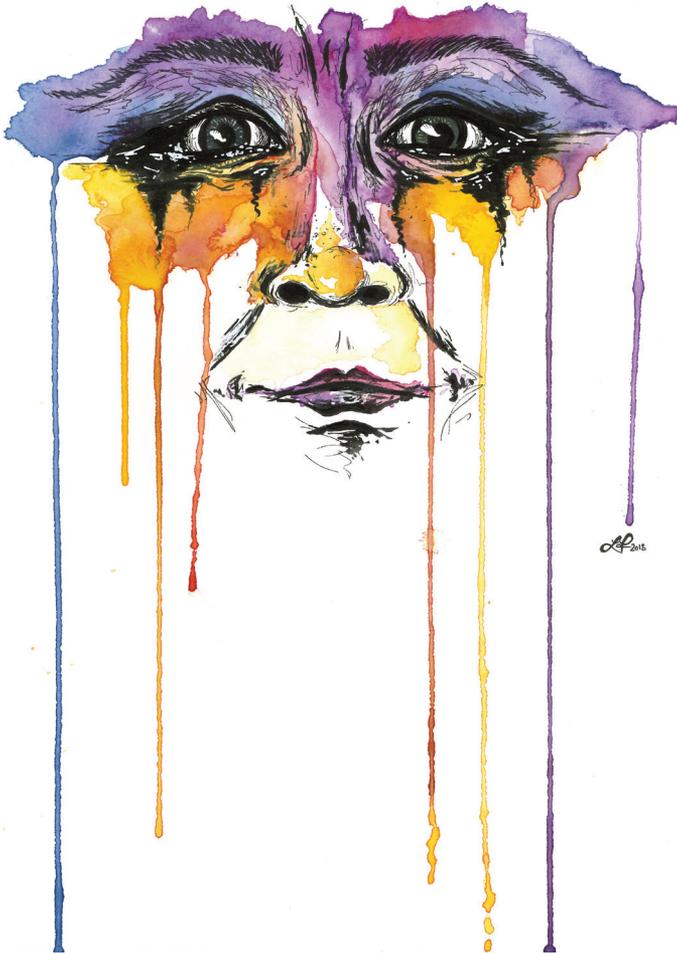


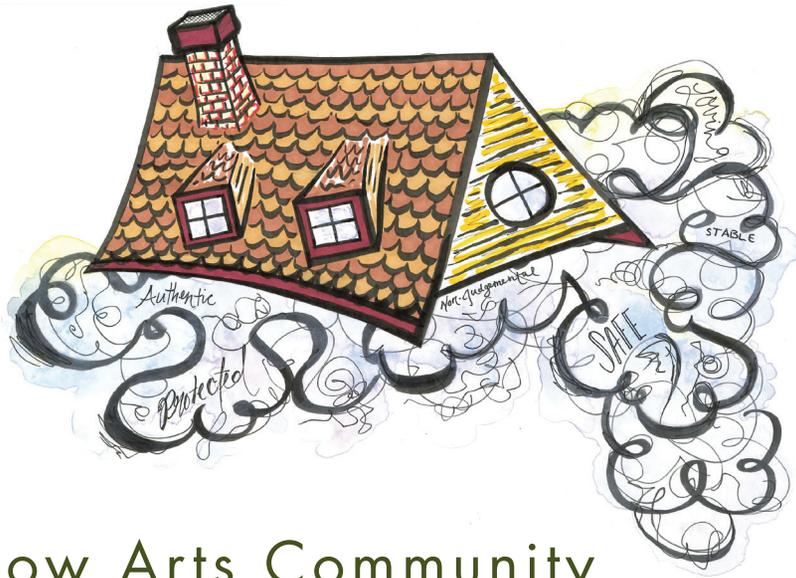


**WILLOW**  
ARTS COMMUNITY

*Belong, Empower, Create.*

WINTER 2019  
**Program Guide**





## Willow Arts Community

Established in 2015, Willow Arts Community is a non-profit arts organization operating out of Rodman Hall Art Centre, in St. Catharines, ON. We support the creative goals of aspiring, emerging, and established artists with lived experience of mental health/addictions by providing a safe, nurturing environment where artistic projects, professional opportunities, and personal and professional networks are developed and fostered.



### Message to members of the Willow

I am thrilled to introduce our Winter 2019 Program Guide. Our membership is growing and with that—the creativity, talent, and possibilities. It is truly an honour to support you all in new and exciting ways. We have such a diverse range of artists, abilities, and skill sets, and I hope you will find something that piques your interest and inspires you to either discover yourselves as artists for the first time, or further develop your artistic skills with the Willow.

Willow Arts Community wouldn't be where we are today without the support and guidance of many organizations and individuals, such as our ongoing partnership with Rodman Hall Art Centre/Brock University, our growing partnership with Niagara Artists Centre, and a new partnership with Suitcase In Point. The considerable support from our local arts and culture community has given us the space for your creative talents to be explored and celebrated.

I'd also like to thank the many social service agencies in the Niagara region that have been champions for an organization like ours to develop and thrive. Having community-based programming for people with lived experience of mental health/addictions is an essential part of recovery and well-being. It is a pleasure to serve my community.

The continued guidance of our Board of Directors has been crucial to the work that goes into making this organization run behind the scenes. This dedicated group of volunteers come together to ensure our success and growth. We are very fortunate to have a partnership with Workman Arts in Toronto, who has been building our capacity to better serve the members of the Willow through training, funding, and support made possible by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Members, as you can see, there are many hearts and hands that put you at the centre of our care. Let's dare to dream big this season!

**Shauna MacLeod**  
Founder/Director

—Belong, Empower, Create—

# Instructors

## Matthew Beard



Matthew has been performing, teaching, and writing about improv for five wonderful years. In that time, he has been a member of The Making-Box Comedy Theatre mainstage ensemble, received the Johnson Hart award from The Canadian Improv Games, and co-founded Big Chicken Improv. His writing has been featured on Jimmy Carrane's Improv Nerd Blog, People and Chairs - The Improv Blog With Attitude, and The Making-Box Blog. Check out @bigchickenimprov on Instagram.

## Geoff Farnsworth



Geoff is a fine art painter who began his art training in B.C. where he is from, before studying at the Art Students League in New York City from 1997 to 2002. His work has shown in exhibitions in Canada, the U.S., Sweden, Norway, and Trinidad. He is represented by 4 galleries across Canada, and currently lives and works in St. Catharines. He also teaches in the Graphic Design program at Niagara College. View Geoff's work at geoff-farnsworth.com or follow @geofffarnsworth.

## Joe Lapinski



Joe is an interdisciplinary artist who has been performing, writing, and producing music in St. Catharines Ontario Canada for the past 19 years. He performs actively as a solo artist, as well as a member of The Woodshed Orchestra, Palooka, and Bronx Cheerleader. He is the head producer at WOW! Recording Studio & Creative Music Space, a co-founder of SOUND SOUND Improvised Music Series, and is a co-founder of the In the Soil Arts Festival. Check Joe out at joelapinski.ca and thewowsound.com.

## Tammy Jane Lepp

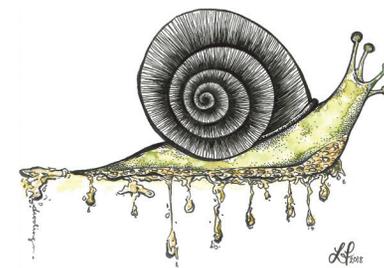


Tammy Jane Lepp's artworks have an organic quality that's an essential aspect of her creative process. She employs an intuitive approach to her imaginative and eerie works, preferring to allow pieces to evolve collaboratively with the materials rather than having a defined plan as to the final outcome. Her works are emotionally evocative, raw and unchallenged by any "finished" agenda. Lepp is a multidisciplinary artist, teacher and poet living and creating in St. Catharines Ontario. Find Tammy Jane's work on Instagram @tammyjanelepp.

## Azra Momin



Azra paints, makes textile art and jewelry, illustrates books, and writes for magazines; not necessarily in that order. She enjoys playing made-up games and going geocaching with her favorite comrades - her husband and daughter. A stack of children's books and mystery novels is always by her side, and she dreams about living in an earth ship. Find Azra's work on Instagram @azramomin.



## Robin Nisbet



Robin began her career as a graphic artist, but in 2011 decided to pursue her passion for art by returning to school. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) from Brock University in 2018. Robin has been teaching graphic design, visual art and painting since 2012. Her work has been juried into several shows, and can be found in private collections in Canada, England and Germany. View Robin's work at rcnisbet.ca or follow @rcnisbet on Instagram.

## Catherine Parayre



Catherine Parayre is a faculty member at Brock University, St. Catharines where she teaches in the Centre for Studies in Arts and Culture, and in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Her publications include eight single- or co-authored books. In her abstract text-and-image practice, her creative writing finds its source in the visual making process. Parayre is the Editor of Voix plurielles, the journal of the Association of Professors of French at Canadian Universities and Colleges. She regularly co-curates exhibitions and also produces cultural programs for the radio.

## Judith Rudoler



Judith holds a BFA from OCADU in Toronto, where she is from. When Judith moved to Niagara in 2014, her and Art were "on a break." In Toronto, Judith was known for her work as a bookbinder and paper artist and then the bumpy, twisty journey of life called her to use those creative skills to reinvent herself. Today, Judith has reunited with Art, going back to her roots in painting and fibre crafts. Away from her studio, Judith fills several professional roles in community organizations. Find Judith on Instagram @judithpr.

# Program Descriptions

## OPEN STUDIO No registration required

### Weekly

Mondays 1:00 - 3:30 PM; Rodman Hall Art Centre  
*Explore your creativity, collaborate with your peers, and have some fun! Staff and volunteers will be onsite to get you started on a project and we welcome members to bring in their own work and supplies from home. Special guest instructors are leading workshops twice a month and are listed below. No registration is required for these classes, but we kindly ask members to arrive on time.*

### Textile Collage

Instructor: Azra Momin  
January 7; January 21; 1-3 PM; Rodman Hall Art Centre  
Open to all members  
*Piece together a textile collage by layering scraps of reclaimed fabric, and embellish it with hand stitching and bead work to create design, texture and interest. Members will also have the opportunity to explore story-telling by incorporating words and images on paper as an additional element.*

### Still Life (and Fast Life) Drawing Exploration

Instructor: Geoff Farnsworth  
February 4; March 4; 1-3 PM; Rodman Hall Art Centre  
Open to all members  
*Using still life as a beginning point, these courses put a focus on moving beyond representation and form into abstraction, experimentation, and stylization. Working with traditional drawing tools and concerns, a personal synthesis is reached for that goes beyond subject matter.*

### Intro to Zines

Instructor: Catherine Parayre  
February 21; 1-3 PM; Rodman Hall Art Centre  
Open to all members  
*This zine-making session has two objectives: 1) explore basic editing principle, 2) produce a black-and-white zine (creative writing and drawings). Starting with the creation of text, it will continue with the editing process (review of texts, selection of motifs for the drawings), and ends with the production of a common zine.*

### Artist in Residence Studio Class

Instructor: Member of the Willow  
March 18; 1-3 PM; Rodman Hall Art Centre  
Open to all members  
*Details will be announced in February.*

## WORKSHOPS Registration Required

### Intro to Wet Felting

Instructor: Tammy Jane Lepp  
Saturday, January 5; 12-5 PM; Niagara Artists Centre  
1 workshop; 10 member capacity  
*This workshop will teach you the basic skills for creating wet felted wool textiles from scratch. At the end of the class you will leave with a completed felt piece as well as the confidence and ability to continue to explore this magical medium at home or in your studio. Please bring a towel, this is soggy soapy business.*

### Songs from the Willow

Instructor: Joe Lapinski  
Wednesdays 6:30-8:30 PM; Niagara Artists Centre  
12 workshops; 20 member capacity  
*Creative writing, melody making, and performance will be explored in the original song writing class. Band leader extraordinaire Joe Lapinski will introduce members to his song writing process that will encourage members to discover their inner musicians. Bring your instruments and let's make some music.*

### Intro to Improv

Instructor: Matthew Beard  
Thursdays 6:30-8:30 PM; Suitcase In Point  
12 workshops; 15 member capacity  
*Big Chicken Improv, in partnership with Suitcase In Point, is excited to offer a course that will focus on practicing the improvisational skills of acceptance, listening, and joy as we work to create scenes "on the spot." With an emphasis on mindfulness and community, we can learn to create in the moment with our scene-partners.*

### Lost and Found

Instructor: Judith Rudoler  
Thursdays 1-3 PM; Rodman Hall Art Centre  
6 workshops; 15 member capacity  
*Members will experiment with a variety of accessible and recycled materials and learn the formal considerations of construction and interpretation for each. Members will work toward a larger, more complex piece inspired by what they have learned.*

### Playing with Acrylics

Instructor: Robin Nisbet  
Wednesdays 1-3 PM; Rodman Hall Art Centre  
6 workshops; 12 member capacity  
*Members will explore brushes and techniques to create textures and mark-making and learn how to use gels and mediums to create glazing and different paint applications. Members will be inspired by abstract expressionist painters and the techniques they used to create their art.*

## Ontario Arts Council- Artists with Disabilities Info Session

Maya Bedward

January 29; 1-4 PM;

Rodman Hall Art Centre

1 information seminar; open to the public

*Willow Arts Community is proud to host an information session led by Maya Bedward, Information Services Coordinator at the Ontario Arts Council. The OAC is a provincial agency that financially supports the arts and has a number of granting programs that were created specifically to meet the needs of artists who are Deaf or have a disability.*

New and returning members can register in person Dec 17 to 19  
10 AM – 3 PM at Rodman Hall Art Centre.

For registration assistance, email  
thewillowcommunity@gmail.com or call 905-328-9277.

## ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Application Required

*Two members will have access to three months each of studio time at the Niagara Artists Centre (NAC) Studios at 433 St. Paul Street to develop their body of work. The artists in residence will be supported to lead a workshop for members of the Willow, and their work will be exhibited in a show in the Dennis Tourbin Members Gallery at the Niagara Artists Centre August 17- 30, 2019. Members will be paid professional artist fees for teaching and exhibiting their work; however, materials are not provided. This program is supported by the St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program.*

### How to Apply:

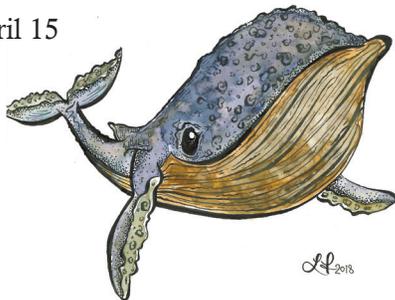
Email [thewillowcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:thewillowcommunity@gmail.com) and request a copy of the application.

Application Deadline: January 4th, 2019 at 4 PM

Decision: January 8th, 2019

Studio Access: January 15, 2019 to April 15

A second round of applications will be accepted in March for the second artist in residence (April 16- July 15)



## CELEBRATIONS

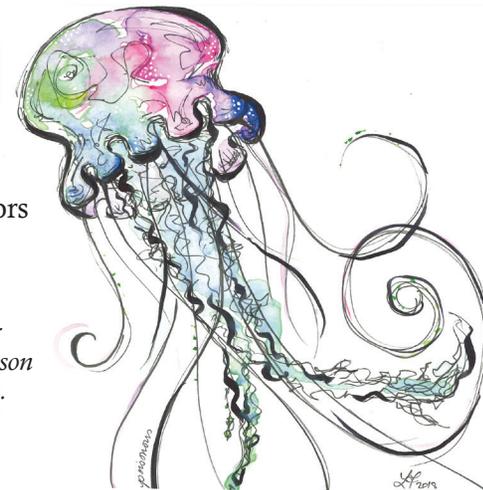
### Member Potluck

March 25; 1-3 PM;

Rodman Hall Art Centre

Open to all members and instructors

*This is the final Open Studio class before our Winter Arts Exhibition. Members are encouraged to finish projects, practice their performances, and celebrate the end of season together. Bring a snack to share if you can.*



### Winter Arts Exhibition

April 4 6-8 PM; Rodman Hall Art Centre

Open to the public

*Members, now is your time to shine! This is the night we are honoured to celebrate your talents, art, dedication, and creativity from this past season at Willow Arts Community. Mark your calendars and please invite your friends and families.*

## Program Locations



Brock University

Rodman Hall Art Centre  
109 St Paul Crescent,  
St. Catharines, ON



Niagara Artists Centre  
354 St Paul St,  
St. Catharines, ON

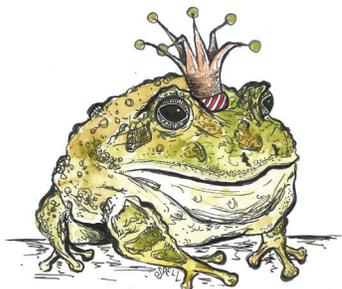


Suitcase in Point  
36 James St,  
St. Catharines, ON

# Winter 2019 Program Calendar

**OPEN STUDIO** Every Monday except March 11;  
\*Indicates Special Guest Week.

**SAVE THE DATE: WINTER ARTS EXHIBITION**  
**APRIL 4; 6- 8 PM AT RODMAN HALL ART CENTRE**



*AS 2018*

All workshops, classes, and events are provided free to the members of Willow Arts Community. Email or call to register today!

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 Residency #1 Deadline	5 felting
6	7 open studio*	8	9 acrylics songs	10 improv	11	12
13	14 open studio	15 1st Artist in Residence	16 acrylics songs	17 improv	18	19
20	21 open studio*	22	23 acrylics songs	24 improv	25	26
27	28 open studio	29 OAC Information Session	30 acrylics songs	31 improv		

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 open studio*	5	6 acrylics songs	7 improv	8	9
10	11 open studio	12	13 acrylics songs	14 lost & found improv	15	16
17	18 open studio*	19	20 songs	21 lost & found improv	22	23
24	25 open studio	26	27 songs	28 lost & found improv		

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 open studio*	5	6 songs	7 lost & found improv	8	9
10	11	12	13 songs	14 improv	15	16
17	18 open studio*	19	20 songs	21 lost & found improv	22	23
24	25 open studio Potluck	26	27 songs	28 lost & found improv	29	30



# WILLOW ARTS COMMUNITY

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Rodman Hall Art Centre  
109 St. Paul Crescent St. Catharines, ON.  
905-328-9277

Email [thewillowcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:thewillowcommunity@gmail.com)

Visit [thewillowcommunity.com](http://thewillowcommunity.com)

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook

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Brock University



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Generously supported by the St. Catharines  
Cultural Investment Program (SCCIP)



*Featured artwork created by member  
artist Lisa Forstinger. Program  
guide designed by Robin Nisbet.*