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06.13.2025



# CONVOCATION



OCAD UNIVERSITY



#OCADU2025

# WELCOME TO CONVOCATION

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL  
OUR GRADUANDS!

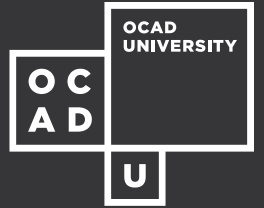
Thank you for joining us for today's ceremony. We are excited to celebrate this significant milestone with you in person. Please ensure that your electronic devices are in silent mode out of respect for your peers and the ceremony proceedings.

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## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

OCAD University acknowledges the ancestral territories of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Haudenosaunee, the Anishinaabeg and the Huron-Wendat, who are the original owners and custodians of the land on which we live, work and create.

Friday, June 13, 2025 — 3:30 p.m.  
Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St.  
Toronto, Ontario



## OCAD UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION 2025 AFTERNOON CEREMONY

Stage/Platform Party Procession

Welcome to Graduands and Guests

DR. CAROLINE LANGILL, VICE-PRESIDENT,  
ACADEMIC AND PROVOST

Opening Ceremony

ELDER ELIZABETH (LIZ) OSAWAMICK  
President of Anishinaabemowin Teg  
EAGLEHEART SINGERS

Address by President and Vice-Chancellor

ANA SERRANO

Address by Chancellor

JAIME WATT

Awarding of Honorary Degrees and  
Address by Recipients to Graduates

CHRISTI BELCOURT, DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS  
TIM WHITEN, RCA, DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS

Awarding of Degrees

In Memoriam

JOHN BEATTY NEWMAN, PATTY BOAKE, MICHAEL  
CAVANAUGH, ALICIA CHASE, CAROLE BERNICE  
CONDÉ, JONATHAN CRINION, MICHAEL CHRISTIAN  
DE PENCIER, GEORGE DOCHERTY, BARBARA GRACE,  
JILLSON EVANS ROLLAND, JOAN FOLINSBEE  
TIMMINS, MARK GERALD HESSELINK, JOHN HILLMER,  
ALEX JANVIER, FRIEDA JOHLES FORMAN, JOHN  
KUISMA, RONALD MCCURDY, MURRAY MCKAY,  
CLAYTON MOREHEAD, KIMBERLY ANNE MYRANS,  
JOHN NEWMAN, VASSIL POPVASSILEV, MORTON  
RAPP, DAVID SCOPICK, MURRAY SINCLAIR,  
JOS THERIAULT AND NOREEN YOUNG.

Presentation of Program Medals

Governor General's Academic  
Medal Awards

SILVER MEDAL: ANNAPOORANE RAJAGOPAL  
VALARMATHY  
GOLD MEDAL: CATHERINE BLACKBURN

Closing Remarks

DR. CAROLINE LANGILL, VICE-PRESIDENT,  
ACADEMIC AND PROVOST



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND VICE- CHANCELLOR

Dear Graduates,

To the Class of 2025, I am filled with immense pride and joy in congratulating each and every one of you on graduating from OCAD University.

As you reflect on your time pursuing your studies, I hope you will take a moment to celebrate not only your achievements but also the friendships you developed, the challenges you overcame and the lessons you learned. I have no doubt that you will continue to leave your mark on the world in profound and meaningful ways.

So, as you embark on a new phase of your lives, I hope your journey will be filled with endless possibilities, opportunities and discoveries. I encourage you to embrace the unknown with courage, curiosity and an open heart, knowing that you are equipped with the skills, knowledge and passion to thrive in whatever path you choose to pursue.

As an alum, you join a bold and vibrant community of creative thinkers and makers who are making a difference. So, stay connected, support one another, and continue to draw inspiration from your time at OCAD University.

Congratulations once again on achieving this significant milestone in your lives. I wish you all the very best for what lies ahead.

**ANA SERRANO** | PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

A handwritten signature in white ink, which appears to read 'Ana Serrano', is positioned below the printed name.



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Dear Graduates,

Now more than ever, it's worth pausing to reflect on who you are as a creative.

When the world feels more uncertain than secure, you—our graduates—step forward not just as creators, but as meaning-seekers.

At OCAD University, you've learned to hold contradiction, to live with ambiguity, to ask the questions no one else thought to ask. That is not just an artistic discipline. It is a moral one.

In a moment defined by division and disarray, choosing to create deliberately, thoughtfully, and peacefully is a radical act. Art and design, at their best, do not rush to easy or perfect answers. They invite us to slow down, to sit with discomfort and imagine new possibilities.

You now carry this capacity into a world that desperately needs your courage—your unwillingness to look away, your insistence that uncertainty isn't something to fear, but something to explore.

So, as you begin your next chapter, know this: your work may not resolve every question. But if it contributes peace, honesty and clarity to the chaos—you've already made a lasting difference.

That is your superpower.

I hope you let it shine—now and always.

On behalf of the entire OCAD University community, I offer you heartfelt best wishes for your future success. Thank you for entrusting your education to us.

Congratulations!

JAIME WATT | CHANCELLOR

A stylized, handwritten signature of Jaime Watt in white ink, located below the printed name and title.



# 2025 HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS



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**CHRISTI BELCOURT**  
DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS

**Christi Belcourt** is a Metis visual artist, author, community organizer, environmentalist and avid land-based based arts and language learner. She descends from the Metis community of Lac Ste. Anne in Alberta.

She is the recipient of several awards of note, including a Premier's Award in the Arts, a Governor General's Award for Innovation, an Order of Canada and honorary doctorates from both Algoma University and Wilfrid Laurier University.

She is most well-known for her large floral landscapes that emulate Metis beadwork. Her paintings can be found within many public and permanent collections across North America with the Gabriel Dumont Institute holding the largest collection of her work in the world including all of her portraits.

Belcourt has also organized several large national community-based projects of note, including "Walking With Our Sisters," the Willisville Mountain Project, and various works done with the Onaman Collective. She donates much of her time to supporting Indigenous language revitalization.



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**TIM WHITEN, RCA**  
DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS

Tim Whiten was born in Inkster, Michigan in 1941. In 1964, he received a B.S. from Central Michigan University, College of Applied Arts and Science, and in 1966 completed his MFA at the University of Oregon, School of Architecture and Allied Arts.

After immigrating to Canada in 1968, Whiten taught in the Department of Visual Arts at York University for 39 years; he is currently Professor Emeritus. Whiten's range of work has extended from ritual-performance to sculpture.

Since 1962, his work has been presented in exhibitions throughout North America and internationally. Whiten's work is included in numerous private, public, and corporate collections, such as the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the de Young Museum in San Francisco, and the Legion of Honor in San Francisco. Tim Whiten lives and works in Toronto. He is represented by Olga Korper Gallery.

# GRADUATES OF 2024-25

## UNDERGRADUATE

### FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

#### VISUAL & CRITICAL STUDIES BA

Jennica Dobson  
*with Distinction*  
Rhi Hopperton  
Julia Kuchmiy  
Andrew O'Brien  
Emily Pudupakkam  
*with Distinction*  
Madeleine Randmaa  
*with Distinction*  
Bronwyn Turp  
*with Distinction*

#### DIGITAL FUTURES BDES

Nicholas Addeo  
*with Distinction*  
Chinenye Aginam  
*with Distinction*  
Hyeji An  
Angelina Do  
*with Distinction*  
Jason Fung  
*with Distinction*  
Luciana Gomes Da Silva  
*with Distinction*  
Lene Hermans  
Jasmine Jamshidi  
Tyler Jorge  
Nicholas Kaspersky  
Jenny Lee  
Yifan Liu

Justine Magbitang  
*with Distinction*  
Nicholis McCallum  
Albina Mirzalimova  
Vanessa Namseang  
*with Distinction*  
Nazheef Rahman  
Ali Raza  
Aidan Ricciardelli  
Zhane Samuel  
Nimah Shoaib  
Sylvia Slakva  
*with Distinction*  
Ruby Tran  
Adonis Wang  
*with Distinction*  
Nelson Xie  
Tianyu Zhang

#### CREATIVE WRITING BFA

Max Andrew  
Jessica Balanay  
Sarah Berry  
*with Distinction*  
Alesha Burton  
*with Distinction*  
Cameron Chiovitti  
*with Distinction*  
Maia Della Penna  
Vicky Di Donato  
*with Distinction*  
Olivia Eyre  
*with Distinction*  
Gus Lederman

Noah Lorch  
*with Distinction*  
Emaan Mahboob  
*with Distinction*  
Ash Pandey  
Clark Rothman  
Thomas Segsworth  
*with Distinction*  
Julianna Semeniuk  
Dylan Tepper-Black  
Kaitlyn Tolch  
Anna Yang  
*with Distinction*

#### CRITICISM & CURATORIAL PRACTICE BFA

Robbie Cabutaje  
Elijah Harrison  
*with Distinction*  
Kali Mitres  
Talha Saeed  
Cait Toenjes  
Reiley Whelen

# GRADUATES OF 2024-25

## UNDERGRADUATE

### FACULTY OF ART

#### CROSS-DISCIPLINARY ART: LIFE STUDIES BFA

Ashlynn Doljac  
*with Distinction*  
Nicole Ionescu  
Reymond Lise  
*with Distinction*  
Aoife Ryan  
*with Distinction*  
Aysia Tse  
*with Distinction*  
Kaylei Williamson

#### DRAWING & PAINTING AOCAD

Marlene Kates (rose)

#### DRAWING & PAINTING BFA

Janna Afifa  
*with Distinction*  
Milook Ali  
Ardit Alievski  
April Anderson-Jaciw  
Thomas Atallah  
Tia Babbar  
*with Distinction*  
Brandon Baghaee  
Jemini Baptiste  
Barru Baskaran  
Clarice Bianchi  
*with Distinction*  
Kennedy Blas Benitez

Marina Blazevic  
Catherine Bradley  
Zac Bradley  
Catalina Bravo Plaza  
Ali Brown  
*with Distinction*  
Stefania Capobianco  
Jeff Chen  
Ievgeniia Cherednikova  
Dylan Coady  
Nadia Da Silva  
*with Distinction*  
Alana D'Agostino  
Nicole David  
*with Distinction*  
Clara De Campos  
*with Distinction*  
Abigail D'Mello  
*with Distinction*  
Johnathan Dunslow  
*with Distinction*  
Tiffany Duong  
*with Distinction*  
Bit a Ebnesheykhi  
Kayler Gao  
Erica Gibbs  
*with Distinction*  
kaidence green  
*with Distinction*  
Erin Greenizan  
Ivy Ha  
Mariam Habib  
*with Distinction*  
Sarah Hasrouny  
Hana Hozhabr Pour  
Aisha Jaffar  
*with Distinction*

Supriya James  
*with Distinction*  
Chase Jarvis  
Pauline Jondy  
*with Distinction*  
Rama Kareem  
Josh Kennington  
Krista Kesik  
*with Distinction*  
Emma Klassen-Brule  
Tina Lai  
*with Distinction*  
Cherie Leung  
*with Distinction*  
Esther Liang  
Tiandi Lyu  
Antonella Marchese  
Luiza Marinescu  
*with Distinction*  
Grace Martin-Chang  
*with Distinction*  
Ariadna Mavila de la Rosa  
Ryleigh McGinley  
*with Distinction*  
Ashley McNally  
Tristan McTague  
*with Distinction*  
Haley Meyer  
*with Distinction*  
Patricia Mingala  
Mya Naidoo  
*with Distinction*  
Isabella Nicastro  
*with Distinction*  
Victory Ogbonna  
Ade Osindero

Sydney Papachristou  
Vishwa Patel  
*with Distinction*  
Grace Pedersen  
Karen Pe’er  
*with Distinction*  
Anna Petrosyan  
*with Distinction*  
Francis Pitsadiotis  
*with Distinction*  
Alex Power  
*with Distinction*  
Michelle Pratt  
*with Distinction*  
Robbie Pyche  
Isabella Ramirez de la Torre  
Lydia Roy  
*with Distinction*  
Shannon Sandwell  
Vismay Sanghavi  
*with Distinction*  
Avesta Sardar  
*with Distinction*  
Ellena Sardo  
*with Distinction*  
Sophie Sawicka Fuks  
*with Distinction*  
Sara Seif  
*with Distinction*  
Christina Shearer  
Ali Sheikh  
*with Distinction*  
Mahir Siraj  
*with Distinction*  
Lisa Skelding  
*with Distinction*  
Niki Sutherland  
*with Distinction*  
Terra Sutton  
*with Distinction*  
Paige Torosantucci  
*with Distinction*  
Natalie U

Rachel Van Egmond  
*with Distinction*  
Mathew Vassallo  
Sara Wood  
*with Distinction*  
Breanna Youkhana  
Ayla Zeynalzade  
Kevin Zhang  
*with Distinction*  
Sherry Zhang  
Chaoran Zhou

**DRPT: DIGITAL  
PAINTING & EXPANDED  
ANIMATION** BFA

Majo Almeyda Ome  
William Bi  
Yosan Bihon  
Mark Vincent Carlos  
Alice Chen  
Peter Chen  
Louis Corneil  
*with Distinction*  
Jassira De Almeida  
Zhuo Dong  
Alexandrea Doracin  
Ming Gao  
*with Distinction*  
Absalom Guo  
Yuhui Jiang  
Richie Mar  
Sabrina Novak  
*with Distinction*  
Srushti Prabhu  
Kai Roberts  
Robin Smith  
*with Distinction*  
Tho Vu  
Wei Xiong  
Huini Xu  
Mendos Yawa  
Cindy Yu  
Arisha Zaidi  
Gardiner Zhang

**EXPERIMENTAL  
ANIMATION** BFA

RV Andres  
*with Distinction*  
Emily Black  
*with Distinction*  
Jose Cano Gomez  
Jacqueline Chan  
Raghad Daghestani  
*with Distinction*  
Jada-Le Daley  
Ben Fieldhouse  
Charlize Ga  
*with Distinction*  
Selina Guo  
*with Distinction*  
Rafiah Hashmi  
Nancy Hatoum  
*with Distinction*  
Nghì Hoang  
*with Distinction*  
Yubang Huang  
*with Distinction*  
Mahi Kakkar  
Seohyun Kim  
*with Distinction*  
Subin Kim  
Kaitlyn Lam  
*with Distinction*  
Iola Lane  
Gaeun Lee  
*with Distinction*  
Jemila Li  
Emily McDonald  
Victoria Monaco  
*with Distinction*  
Jeffrey Norman  
Vivienne Platt  
*with Distinction*  
Kiran Senthilnathan  
Victor Shen  
Stephen Smith  
Nader Soliman

Daraobong Soni-Ekpo  
Kathryn Sos  
Yiwen Su  
Shania Sukhai  
Christine Tang  
Raahim Tariq  
*with Distinction*  
Allison Taylor  
Ella Taylor  
Namitha Thomas  
Xinyi Tian  
*with Distinction*  
Andria Truong  
Mya Van Dyk  
*with Distinction*  
Anisha Vatnani  
Brina Wong  
*with Distinction*  
Remus Wu  
Nalan Yildar  
*with Distinction*  
Eva Yu  
Zherong Zhang  
Junyue Zhao  
Yuting Zheng

**INTEGRATED MEDIA**  
BFA

Efeaye Abu  
*with Distinction*  
T.J Albina  
Aliyah Aziz  
*with Distinction*  
Bella Bao  
Jinglin Chen  
Andy Cho  
Lily Davis  
Kaia Fortis Scott  
Coco Gray  
Kristian Hansen  
Luke Heimpel  
*with Distinction*  
Khushi Jetley

Ayat Kamal  
Alicia Lee  
Chao Li  
Jasmine Liaw  
*with Distinction*  
Dose Omoruna  
*with Distinction*  
Nola Palmer  
*with Distinction*  
Larissa Rai  
Rick Tran  
Yujin Wang  
*with Distinction*  
Kaifeng Xiao  
Carlos Xu  
Sohyun Yoon  
*with Distinction*  
Sophie Zakynthinos  
*with Distinction*

**INTM: DIGITAL  
PAINTING & EXPANDED  
ANIMATION** BFA

Sutton Hull  
Gunhwan Kim  
Seunghui Lee  
*with Distinction*  
Zhenyi Li  
Atiya Malik  
David Okoli  
Alireza Razzaghi  
Avery Taylor  
Charlie Yeo  
Stephanie Zhang

**PHOTOGRAPHY** BFA

Melika Abdollahian Khameneh  
Zach Ammonn Perry  
Aleksandra Blazeovski  
Colt Gain  
Joseph Catalano  
*with Distinction*

Alex Hall  
*with Distinction*  
Tommy Huang  
Dashel Hutson  
Yuxi Ji  
*with Distinction*  
Jade Johnson  
Malcolm Kersel  
Jose Mancia  
Adolfo Medina Alamo  
*with Distinction*  
Miriam Noor  
Julian Pevide  
Jenelle Smith  
Daren Souvannavong  
Brendan Stade  
*with Distinction*  
Gillian Thorne  
Tsemaye Tite  
Lisbeth Wismar  
*with Distinction*  
River Woelfle  
Manny Wood Lynes-Ford

**PRINTMAKING &  
PUBLICATIONS** BFA

Sarah Gifford  
*with Distinction*  
Erin Hanley  
*with Distinction*  
Hallah Kohoot  
Aashna Pujara  
*with Distinction*

**SCULPTURE/  
INSTALLATION** BFA

Luisé Cisneros Alavez  
*with Distinction*  
Mary Fisher  
*with Distinction*  
Gabriel George  
*with Distinction*

Ariane Labbe  
*with Distinction*  
Tae Lee  
*with Distinction*  
Jason Mendiola  
*with Distinction*  
Haydyn Robinson  
Sara Sattari  
*with Distinction*  
Evan Willemse  
Jing Wu

# GRADUATES OF 2024-25

## GRADUATE

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### GRADUATE STUDIES

**CONTEMPORARY ART,  
DESIGN & NEW MEDIA  
ART HISTORIES** MA

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Madeline Collins  
*Over the Event Horizon:  
Denyse Thomasos, Black  
Abstraction, and Diasporic  
Spacetime*

Atefeh Esnaashari

Julia Schuck  
*Rituals of Mourning:  
Nan Goldin’s Practice of  
Remembering Through Her  
Process of Creation*

**DIGITAL FUTURES** MA

---

Orus Mateo Castano Suarez  
*What may be known:  
methods for activating large  
texts and graphs in the  
climate crisis*

Pranya Gulati  
*The Elastic Self, A Loving  
Woman*

**DESIGN FOR HEALTH**  
MDES

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Zeeshan Abid  
Isra Amsdr  
Jaden Chong  
Sara Fan  
Seth Gray  
Shreya Karnik  
Daniel López Velasco  
Kirk Mason  
Anna Nowacki  
Jaspreet Sethi  
Raven Xu

**DIGITAL FUTURES**  
MDES

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Aishwarya Bhattbhatt  
*Starting From Scratch :  
Building Place Attachment  
Through Active Urban  
Exploration for Newcomers  
to Toronto*

Nastaran Bizmark  
*Feeling Scents: Enhancing  
Sensory Experience Through  
Multi-Modal Design*

lanlan chen  
*A Study on Relieving Player’s  
Anxiety and Promoting Self-  
Reflection Through Game  
Design Elements*

Aileen D  
*LUMIEA: Enhancing User  
Engagement in Storytelling:  
Empowering Personal  
Narratives through AI-  
Generated Environments and  
Tactile Interaction in Mixed  
Reality*

Kunal Devi  
*“Let’s grab a match!”:  
Exploring ways to enhance  
engagement and consistency  
in sports for Gen Z and  
millennials*

Vitor Fiacadori Costa  
*Punk Games: DIY Punk in  
game making*

Yueming Gao  
*Exploring The Use Of AI  
Technology To Help Owners  
Remotely Accompany And  
Care For Their Cats*

Rutooja Khamkar  
*TCKConnect: A platform for  
Adult Third Culture Kids to  
find a sense of belonging*

Aranya Khurana  
*TacTile: Designing,  
Developing, and Playing a  
Personal eTextile Musical  
Instrument*

Matthew Nazarian  
*Story Forge: Transforming  
Books into Interactive Text-  
Adventure Games using Local  
Large Language Models*

Ecem Ozturk  
*Anatolian Futures: A  
Memorium for Feminist  
Folklore*

Jessica Patel  
*Combating Toxicity:  
Designing an Intelligent  
System to Diminish Verbal  
Harassment in Online Games*

Abha Patil  
*Radical interfaces*

Madhu Priya  
*Running on Empty*

Valen Qiu  
*Voice and Beyond: Shaping  
the Future of Personalized  
Conversational Agents*

Samarth Reddy  
*From Method of Loci to  
Digital Mnemonics: AI, AR,  
and the Future of Memory*

Juan Sulca  
*TinkerPod: An open-source  
hardware platform for  
makers*

Nikhil Thomas  
*“Let’s grab a match!”:  
Exploring ways to enhance  
engagement and consistency  
in sports for Gen Z and  
millennials*



Yu-Shien Yang  
*Manufacturing a Woman to Order: Exploring Nonhuman Agency and Gendered AI in East Asia through Machinima and Virtual Production*

Xinzhou Zhang  
*Mindscales: Exploring EEG-Driven Emotional Expression in VR for Enhanced Emotional Relief and Mental Well-being*

**INCLUSIVE DESIGN**  
**MDES**

Vania Adrianzén Abanto  
*Embracing Coexistence: urban design strategies for creating wildlife-friendly cities*

Elikem Amevordzie  
*Inclusive Co-Design and Co-Creation: Enhancing Inclusive Design for learning Practices Through Parental and Student Engagement*

Neema Biju Jose  
*Responsible, Sustainable Production and Consumption through the lens of Inclusion and Diversity*

Emlyn Chao  
*Reimagining Video Communication: A Participatory Design Approach to Enhancing User Experience for Deaf ASL Signers*

Helena Cheng  
*Urban Connection: Fostering Community through Online Platforms for Social Well-being*

Andy Derksen  
*Knowledge transfer and decision making in municipal government: A case study on The City of Calgary*

Sam Faulkner  
*Understanding Sound Environments: Common Soundscapes and Their Effect on Hearing Aid Users' Listening Abilities*

Simon Ford  
*'Crafting' Curricula and Pedagogies Examining Efforts to De-center Sheridan College's Furniture Studio Through Indigenous Community Engagement*

Amin Forootan  
*Empowering Agentic Non-Visual Web Navigation Through Tactile Controls and AI Support*

Simrat Singh Gandhi  
*Empowering spaces: Customizable furniture solutions for Toronto's mobile communities*

Harleen  
*Understanding the cognitive burden of digital interactions for users aged 60 and older*

Tara Jakubiec  
*Colour and Cultural Identity: Global Infographic of Female Wedding Attire*

Aggi Jeemon  
*Towards Responsible Innovation in Neurotechnology: A comprehensive framework and evaluation tool*

Peiwen Luo  
*Navigating Financial Systems: Addressing Digital Banking Barriers for East Asian Immigrants in Canada*

Shamayma Mobin  
*Interpreting Nonverbal Cues Through Sound: Exploring Accessibility for BLV Individuals in Online Communication Using Cinematic Media and Sound Design*

Julianna Rowsell  
*Perception, Poetry, and Purpose: An Autoethnography of a Chronically Ill and Neurodivergent Public Servant*

Devika Roy  
*Enhancing Mental Health and Learning Outcomes using Biophilic Design in Post-Secondary Educational Settings*

Delaney Rundell  
*Reducing intracommunity harm and creating collectiveness in online communities through co-design*

Vyshnavi Satheesh  
*Enhancing Web Accessibility for Blind and Low Vision Users: A Model for Text Descriptions on E-Commerce Product Pages*

Connie Tang  
*Bridging the Digital Divide: Enhancing Medication Adherence*

Nick Xu  
*Exploring Unscheduled Medication Information Challenges for Chinese Newcomers in Canada*

Mingran Yang  
*Enhancing Non-Visual Emoji Accessibility: Inclusive Design with Blind and Low-Vision Co-Researchers*

**INTERDISCIPLINARY**  
**ART, MEDIA & DESIGN**  
**MDES**

Jackson Berigan  
*Humane Design for Homeless Populations (HDHP)*

Aman Deshmukh  
*The Thoughtful Explorer*

Tongxin Gao  
*The Lichen Clock / Alternative Time and Surface Texture*

Tallulah Hogan  
*Pareidolia: Seeing Things In Things*

Rithika Manna  
*Do we need 'NEW'? : Rethinking Trends Through Emotional Connections, Sustainable Design, and Cultural Heritage*

**STRATEGIC FORESIGHT**  
**& INNOVATION**  
**MDES**

Maham Abubakar  
*Sparks of Change: Does Play Have a Role in Rebuilding Connections, Communities, and Modern Masculinity? Exploring the Intersection of the Masculinity Crisis and the Importance of Playing in Public*

Ana Aguilar  
*Brand Sustainability: A Biomimicry Approach to Regenerative Design Inspired by Mycelium*

Hailey Appel  
*Enabling Foresight Readiness: Exploring the Role of the Practitioner Through Multiple Lenses*

Sabrina Ash  
*Enabling Foresight Readiness: Exploring the Role of the Practitioner Through Multiple Lenses*

Mursal Ashrafi  
*The Stories that Shape Us: Deconstructing Gender Narratives that Limit Hazara Canadian Women's Aspirations*

Morgan Bath  
*Plans to Practice- The Gap Between SME Sustainability Aspirations and Implementation*

Yoel Berznoger

Rose Bianchini  
*Reimagining End-of-Life Care: Bridging System Gaps in Hospitals and Intensive Care Units (ICUs) to Redesign the Experience of Dying*

Emilio Castillo  
*Burnout: the interplay of capacity and care within community-centred organizations*

Crystal Chan  
*Burnout: the interplay of capacity and care within community-centred organizations*

Muskaan Chandwani  
*Rethinking Resources: Critical Minerals for the Energy Transition as Pathways to Social Equity and Local Growth*

Ting Chow

Travis Erickson  
*ME, MYSELF, & PEOPLE LIKE ME: A Visualized Analysis of Gentrification Systems in Toronto*

Paige Furlan  
*RAISING THE BAR, LOWERING THE ABV: Strategic Future Planning for the Spirit-Free Industry*

Mia George  
*Using Foresight to Bridge Personal and Community Flourishing*

Danny Ghantous  
*Between the Self and Signal: The Dead Internet & a Crisis of Perception*

Cheryl Green  
*Ontario's Universities: An Act of Public Imagination -Transforming Ontario's Public Universities Through Foresight and Social Innovation*

Jillian Harris  
*Life Cycles, Loss, and Leadership: Designing Regenerative Futures in the Performing Arts*

Huda Hasan  
*Community Investment Cooperatives: Building resilience within communitiesr*

Sizwe Inkingi  
*Narratives Reimagined: The Black Digital Griot in the Modern World*

Vandana Jagannathan  
*TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE: STRATEGIC AI ADOPTION FOR SMALL FOOD & BEVERAGE BUSINESSES*

Zoya Jiwa  
*Co-designing Towards Community Health Outcomes: The role of social innovation labs and organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic*

Hannah Kim  
*Between Hope and Hardship: Financial Resilience Through the Eyes of Everyday Canadians – Reimagining Financial Well-Being by Uncovering Hidden Needs in Canada's Urban Centres*

Anupama Krishnan  
*Design for Care Conversations Conversations: A Qualitative Research Project about Choices and Care at End-of-Life*

Aavrati Kushwaha  
*Rethinking Resources: Critical Minerals for the Energy Transition as Pathways to Social Equity and Local Growth*

Bonnie Leung  
*Sparks of Change: Does Play Have a Role in Rebuilding Connections, Communities, and Modern Masculinity? Exploring the Intersection of the Masculinity Crisis and the Importance of Playing in Public*

Mariel Mading  
*Enabling Foresight  
Readiness: Exploring the Role  
of the Practitioner Through  
Multiple Lenses*

Laura Marin Hurtado  
*Empowering small cacao  
post-conflict farmer  
communities in Colombia to  
reach their fullest potential  
through co-creating their  
preferred future*

Pranav Miglani  
*Invisible Chains: Caste,  
Religious, Nationalism, and  
the Struggle for Freedom to  
Innovate in India*

Helya Modarresi Tehrani  
*What would be the impact of  
AGI on society with a focus  
on UN's Sustainable and  
Development goals?*

Jennifer-Amy Murphy  
*Ontario's Universities: An  
Act of Public Imagination  
-Transforming Ontario's  
Public Universities Through  
Foresight and Social  
Innovation*

Su Lynn Myat  
*Participatory toward  
Anticipatory (PtA)*

Allison Ren  
*RAISING THE BAR,  
LOWERING THE ABV:  
Strategic Future Planning for  
the Spirit-Free Industry*

Nathalie Robertson  
*The Futures of  
Value:Strategic Pathways  
for Integrating Profit and  
Purpose*

Ian Rolston  
*Ontario's Universities: An  
Act of Public Imagination  
-Transforming Ontario's  
Public Universities Through  
Foresight and Social  
Innovation*

Maria Sanz de Santamaria  
*Empowering small cacao  
post-conflict farmer  
communities in Colombia to  
reach their fullest potential  
through co-creating their  
preferred future*

Yaw Sarkodie  
*Plans to Practice- The  
Gap Between SME  
Sustainability Aspirations  
and Implementation*

Marie Succar  
*Burnout: the interplay of  
capacity and care within  
community-centred  
organizations*

Nadia Tabassum  
*Exploring the Expansion of  
the For-Benefit Structure in  
Canada*

Giuliana Stephanie Treñas  
*Manufacturing Perception:  
An Exploration of the Global  
Landscape of Political  
Influence Operations on  
Social Media*

Zareen Tse  
*Designing the Sweet Spot:  
The Next Food-as-a-Service  
Approach for Independent  
Hospitality Sector*

Yining Wang  
*From Publishing Models to  
Cognitive Network: How  
Blockchain and AI Redefines  
Academic System*

Christopher Wilson  
*Black Futures: Exploring  
Centring Black Perspectives  
and Voices in Imagining  
Future Possibilities*

Pan Xie  
*Futures of East Asian Queer  
Identity in Virtual Reality*

**CRITICISM &  
CURATORIAL PRACTICE**  
MFA

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Renée Bouffard-McManus  
*Curatorial Care: The Art of  
Noticing*

Nadia Cannataro  
*Home // Making: A  
Curatorial Study of  
Representations of Home  
in Contemporary Italian  
Canadian Diasporic Art*

Abir Dabbour  
*In Black & White & Red/  
رمح أو دوس أو ضيبي ألأب*

Kathleen Foran-Spragge  
*What Passes Unspoken:  
Methods to Cross Linguistic  
Divides*

Claire Grenier  
*Repatriation, Resurgence,  
and Reconnection: An  
Investigation of Collecting  
and Belonging*

Lana Nyuli  
*Sound and Soul: Exploring  
Music Collecting and  
Identity*

Kev Yan  
*Trance-Forming Exhibitions:  
Fusing contemporary art,  
rave culture, and nightlife*

**DIGITAL FUTURES** MFA

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Yunting He  
*“Talking With”: Building a  
co-narrative to inspire critical  
thinking about the Artificial  
intelligence*

Zubin Isaac  
*Machine Yearning: An  
Audiovisual Exploration of a  
Hypothetical Future*

Yanjia Yi  
*FloraFun: Exploring  
Emotional Connections  
Between Humans and Plants  
Through Digital Games*

Iris Zhang  
*Like mother, like burr*

Yixin Zhang  
*Playing for Change: The  
Potential of VR Feminist  
Games in Promoting Gender  
Equality*

Yiqun Zhou  
*Road to Heaven*

**INTERDISCIPLINARY  
ART, MEDIA & DESIGN**  
MFA

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Hala Alsalman  
*The Rod and the Ring:  
Remember the Future and  
What it Could Bring*

Angela Atkinson  
*Thinking Beyond the Hand*

Wurood Azzam  
*Shako Mako: Voices  
of Identity Exploring  
Storytelling in  
Multidisciplinary Design*

Setayesh Babaei  
*Nest, Rest, Shadows: Tracing  
the Echoes of Motherhood*

Lo Bil  
*Moving Materials: A  
Question of Form*

Catherine Blackburn  
*Caribou-being beyond the  
Boreal*

Charlotte Carbone  
*Unadopt Me: critical queer  
adoptee consciousness and  
alternative family models*

Jinxin Guo  
*The Gray Area*

Megan Hamilton  
*Among flowers and bones*

Hiddy Lee  
*Tangible Thoughts*

Chris Leithead  
*Please... Touch the Grass: An  
Exhibition of Site-Responsive  
Sculptures Journeying  
Between Thresholds of  
Virtual and Real*

Ellie Li  
*Pause Button Café*

Ge Lu  
*Desire Path*

Parastoo Mahmoudi  
*Echoes in the Void: Nostalgic  
Morse Codes*

Kay Nadjiwon  
*Sacred Shapeshifter:  
Embracing Ambiguity in  
Two-Spirit Identity*

Amy Noseworthy  
*Mamahood: Comic  
Adventures in Queer  
Parenting*

Paulete Poitras  
*Best Work is 6 Feet Under,  
Ceremony in the Dirt*

Yana Rzayeva  
*Pulling Threads: An Inquiry  
into Cultural Identity, and  
Reconnection with Ancestral  
Knowledge through Art*

# 2024-25 AWARDS AND MEDALS

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**Chinenye Aginam**

Jeff Watson Memorial Digital  
Futures Award

**Kris Ahn**

OCAD University Medal  
Jack Dixon Award for  
Excellence in Detailing in  
Environmental Design  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Tia Babbar**

Mrs. W.O. Forsyth Award

**Catherine Blackburn**

OCAD University Medal

**Aleksandra Blazevski**

Verant Richards Photography  
Award & Prize

**Sari Cheah**

Ellen Adams Award

**Kelly Chen**

Lyn Jamison Award

**Cameron Chiovitti**

Lillian Allen Creative Writing  
Award

**Sarah Jiwoo Chung**

OCAD University Medal  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Luisé Cisneros Alavez**

Haydn Davies Memorial Award

**Dylan Coady**

Patricia Joy Alpert Memorial  
Award

**Andrew Cull**

Paul Stephens Memorial Award

**Nadia Da Silva**

Fred Hagan “Passion in  
Painting” Award

**Alana D’Agostino**

Mrs. W.O. Forsyth Award

**Abir Dabbour**

OCAD University Medal

**Jada-Le Daley**

Experimental Animation  
Faculty Award

**Nicole David**

Donna MacLean Award

**Andy Derksen**

OCAD University Medal

**Angelina Do**

Jeff Watson Memorial Digital  
Futures Award

**Vienna Doria-Pighin**

CBOE Canada Award for  
Disruptive Design

**Edgar Du**

Edward David Aziz Award of  
Innovative Excellence

**Mary Fisher**

Carl and Trudy Michailoff  
Award in Sculpture/  
Installation

**Savannah Garvin**

Michele Cowan Memorial Award

**Gabriel George**

13th Street Winery Expression  
Project Award

**Sarah Gifford**

OCAD University Medal  
Fred Hagan Memorial Award  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Cynthia Gui**

Dora Wechsler Memorial Award

**Alex Hall**

Photography Department  
Excellence Award

**Erin Hanley**

Printmaking & Publications  
Award

**Elijah Harrison**

Criticism & Curatorial Practice  
Award

**Rama Kareem**

Nicholas Metivier Drawing  
Award

**Noura Khaki**

OCAD University Medal  
Cumine Family Award  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Seohyun Kim**

Experimental Animation  
Faculty Award

**Ariane Labbé**

Carmen Lamanna Award  
Sculpture/Installation Faculty  
Award

**Charlotte Lavoie-Auspert**

Bluma Appel Award

**Gus Lederman**

OCAD University Medal  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Cherie Leung**

OCAD University Medal  
Nora E. Vaughan Award  
Won Lee Fine Art Award  
(Drawing & Painting)

**Reymond Lise**

Joan and Clifford Hatch  
Foundation Award in Life  
Studies

**Justine Magbitang**

OCAD University Medal  
Jeff Watson Memorial Digital  
Futures Award  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Emily McDonald**

Experimental Animation  
Faculty Award

**Isabelle McMahon**

Friends of Fibre Award

**Tristan McTague**

Eric Freifeld Award

**Kieran Medland**

Samuel Lazer Kagan Award  
Won Lee Fine Art Award  
(Sculpture/Installation)

**Jason Mendiola**

OCAD University Medal  
Haydn Davies Memorial Award  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Alessandra Mercado**

Award for Excellence in  
Interior Design

**Haley Meyer**

Arts & Letters Club of Toronto  
Foundation Ina Gilbert  
Visual Arts Award

**Austin Miller**

Robbie Award

**Bunya Muchaeva**

npArchitect Award

**Jennifer-Amy Murphy**

OCAD University Medal

**Mya Naidoo**

Carl and Trudy Michailoff  
Award in Drawing & Painting

**Vanessa Namseang**

Digital Futures Award

**Sara Naveed**

Nicholas Metivier Drawing Award

**Miriam Noor**

Photography Department  
Excellence Award

**Derya Ozparlak**

Bluma Appel Award

**Abha Patil**

OCAD University Medal

**Lauren Peat**

Nancy Jain Sustainability  
Award for Industrial Design

**Shamika Pierre**

OCAD University Medal  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Esteban Poblano-Zenil**

OCAD University Medal  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Alex Power**

Anne Adler Kagan Award

**Aashna Pujara**

Sharon Merkur Memorial  
Award

**Zach Rubiales**

Ontario Association of  
Architects Award

**Niloofer Sanandajizadeh**

Jeff Watson Memorial Digital  
Futures Award

**Julia Schuck**

OCAD University Medal

**Hyun Seo**

Environmental Design Award  
for Excellence in Sustainable  
Design  
Nancy Jain Sustainability  
Award for Environmental  
Design

**Jaspreet Sethi**

OCAD University Medal

**Mahir Siraj**

John Madott Fine Art Award

**Laaya Tabei**

Nicholas Metivier Drawing  
Award

**Xinyi Tian**

OCAD University Medal  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Tsemaye Tite**

Pandora Y. H. Ho Memorial  
Award

**Cait Toenjes**

OCAD University Medal  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Aysia Tse**

OCAD University Medal  
Joan and Clifford Hatch  
Foundation Award in Life  
Studies  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Mya Van Dyk**

Experimental Animation  
Faculty Award

**Anisha Vatnani**

Experimental Animation  
Faculty Award

**Marzuq Vohra**

CBOE Canada Award for  
Disruptive Design

**Emiliya Volchenko**

Vida Peene Memorial Award

**Minseo Whee**

OCAD University Medal  
Lily Yung Memorial Award  
Nora E. Vaughan Award

**Manny Wood Lynes-Ford**

OCAD University Medal  
Nora E. Vaughan Award  
Photography Department  
Excellence Award

**Sohyun Yoon**

OCAD University Medal  
Nora E. Vaughan Award





# WELCOME TO THE OCAD U ALUMNI COMMUNITY!

Congratulations on all your hard work! As a graduate of OCAD University, you are now part of a community of creative thinkers, entrepreneurial leaders, artists, designers, digital media makers and innovators who are making transformative change in our communities—here and around the globe.

We invite you to stay connected to OCAD U—let us know what you are doing or get in touch with questions by emailing [alumni@ocadu.ca](mailto:alumni@ocadu.ca)

Find us on social [@OCADUAlumni](#) on Instagram and Twitter, at **OCAD University Alumni Relations** on Facebook and visit the OCAD U website ([ocadu.ca](http://ocadu.ca)) for information on alumni offerings and events.

#OCADU2025

The program lists the names of individuals who were approved to graduate by OCAD University's Senate. While every effort has been made to ensure that this is true and correct, the official OCAD University individual student record supersedes all information contained herein.

OCAD University regrets the omission of any student deemed to have satisfied graduation requirements following the publication of this program as of **May 21, 2025.**

