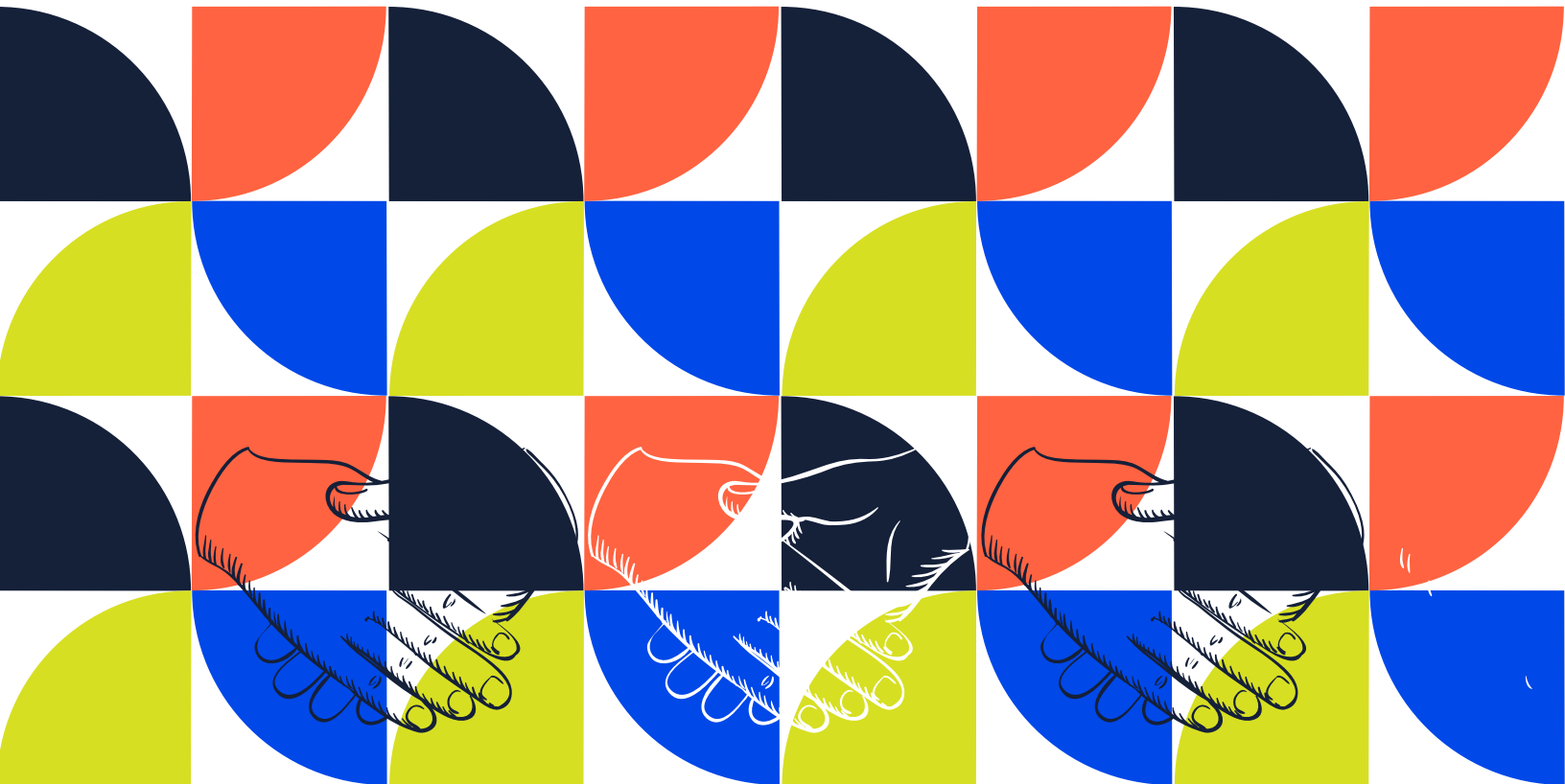


A GUIDE FOR ALL AGES

# THE FUTURE OF WORK:

## Parallel Economies



# About the Exhibition

**Have you ever wondered what you want to be when you grow up?**

If you are an adult, maybe you used to ask yourself this long ago.

With new technologies and workplace changes, the kinds of jobs available to people are always in flux. Some of the jobs that were available 30 years ago no longer exist. In ten years, jobs that exist today may become less common.

*Our work is not just limited to the jobs we do for pay.* The exhibition *The Future of Work: Parallel Economies* asks visitors to think broadly about the work done in society, and how individuals and communities can come together to shape the ways we work together for a safe and more **just** world.

This exhibition explores how we might change the future of work through sharing, **mutual aid**, preserving ancestral ways of working, caring for one another, and working towards greater environmental sustainability.



# What if we lived in a world without money?

**"Most people forget that (our) ability to survive is not only from money. We forget that we still have neighbours, friends and relatives to share our needs and help each other." – GUDSKUL**

Everyone deserves to feel safe and secure, regardless of how much money they have.

There are ways we, as a big community of humans, animals, and plants, can work together to ensure that we have what we need to thrive. Here are some ways, big and small, to build a better society.

**Plant a Garden**

**Learn to repair things you already have**

**Make meals to share with others**

**Give away things you do not need**

**Work and decide as a group**

**Share your space**

**Give thoughtful, useful gifts**

**Share your skills with others**

**Be kind**

**Take time to rest**

**Learn new things!**

**Keep a rainbarrel**



# Working Words

## Mutual Aid

The process of community members coming together to share resources and wealth. Mutual aid is different from **charity**, which makes the individual responsible for barriers they face, and often comes with a set of conditions. Examples of mutual aid include community fridges, co-op housing, free stores, and swap meets.

## Solidarity

A sense of unity, cooperation and coming together of individuals and groups who share a common goal. People can **feel**, **speak** and **act** in solidarity with others.

## Intercultural

When two cultures feel a sense of deep mutual respect, and are driven to understand each other and exchange ideas.

## Economy/Economies

Commonly, economies are defined by **the ways people spend and make money**. Economies can be large or small, from neighbourhood stores, to the ways countries are connected by the goods they sell one another. Economies can also exist without buying and selling anything!

## Capitalism

The economic system based around people buying and owning private property (instead of borrowing, sharing, or giving things away).

## Just/Justice

**Fairness**, especially for those who have been wronged.

# How do you feel about the work you do?

Artist **Derya Akay** is interested in how galleries can help create intercultural exchange through the sharing of food.

With Derya's help, staff from the Art Gallery of Burlington visited local restaurants together this summer. They did this to take time out of their day to enjoy each other's company, and get to know small business owners. Through these staff lunches, they learned the unique challenges of operating restaurants during the pandemic.

Try taking some time to ask the people in your life how they feel about the work they do. This process helps us **build appreciation of working people, create community ties, and promote understanding.**

**What was your first job?**

**How did your job change during the pandemic?**

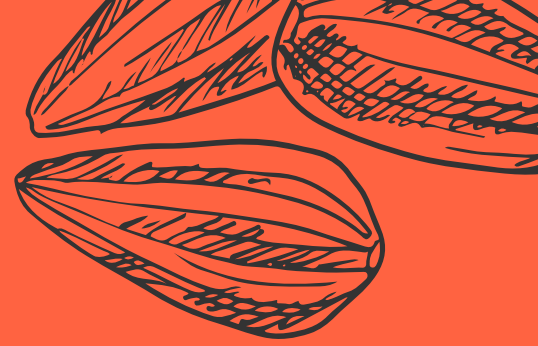
**How can your workplace give you more support?**

**If you could change anything about your job, what would it be?**

**Where do you eat lunch at work?  
Who do you eat with?**



# DIY Seed Balls



**Christina Battle**, one of the artists in *The Future of Work: Parallel Economies*, believes that "seeds were meant to disperse". Seeds Christina collects from her garden are saved and shared among friends and strangers to create stronger food systems, and healthier communities.

You too can share seeds by making a DIY craft called **Seed Balls**. These handmade bundles of mixed seeds allow us to plant seeds in unlikely places (or your own garden) and wait for surprise flowers to grow. They also make great gifts!

## Instructions:

**Ingredients:** Wildflower seeds, clay, compost or potting soil, water, a large bowl, and a baking tray.

**Mix** three handfuls of clay, five handfuls of soil, and one handful of seed in a bowl. Carefully **add** water, combining ingredients until you can **shape** the mixture into 1-2" balls. Lay them out to **dry** on a sunny windowsill for at least three hours before sharing or planting.





# My Seed Journal

**Autumn is here! It's time to harvest seeds for next year's garden!**

This checklist can help you plan how you will share your seeds and receive new ones from people in your community.

Use the column on the left to list the flowers, vegetables and herbs you have in your garden that you will harvest seeds from. Use the column on the right to make a wish list of seeds from other plants you would like to trade your own seeds for.

## Seeds I have to share:

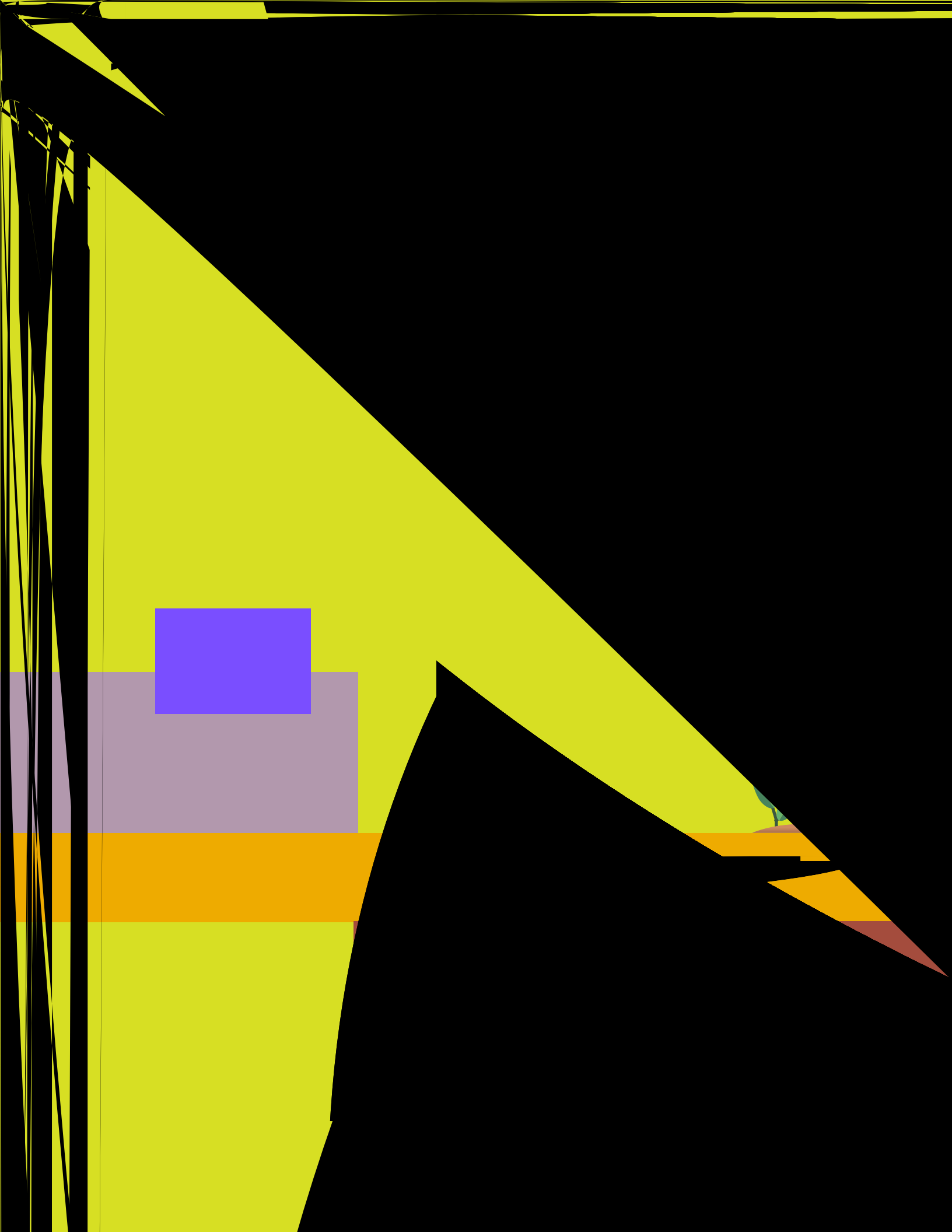
<input type="checkbox"/>	
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## Seeds I'd like to have:

	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
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You can collect seeds by deadheading flowers that have finished their blooming cycle. Seeds are usually found at the centre of where the healthy flower once bloomed.





# Swap Market

## GUDSKUL

During your time in the gallery, find GUDSKUL's Swap Market! Visitors can take what they need from the Swap Market, and leave behind things they have that they no longer need—no questions asked!

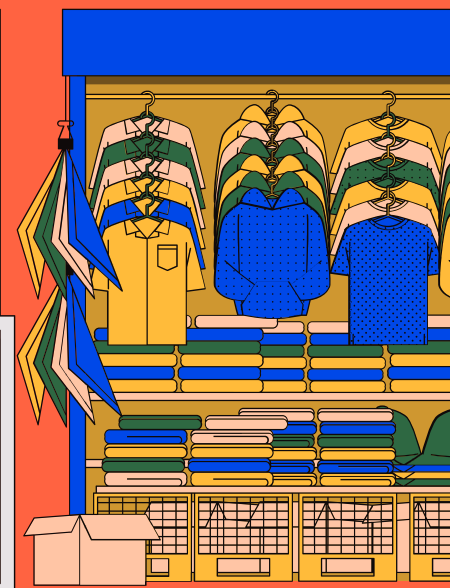
This art project introduces visitors to something called the **Barter System**: the act of trading goods or services between two or more people without the use of money.

Find 5 things around your home that you no longer need.

Invite some of your friends to do the same. Host an outdoor "swap market" for members of your community.

Invite a friend or family member to barter with you for something you need.

Settle on a trade that you are both happy with!



# Colouring Page

By Meredith Stern of the Justseeds Artists' Cooperative



# Poster Power!

## Justseeds Artists' Cooperative

Look for the colourful posters of the Justseeds Artists' Cooperative during your visit to the gallery!

The Justseeds Artists' Cooperative are a group of artists who create posters, installation art, and teach workshops. They share profits made from the sale of their prints, create graphic art for social movements and community groups, and share their work for other people to use for free.

*The Future of Work* includes posters from a portfolio made by Justseeds called **Poor People's Campaign**. Think about some things that are important to you. Draw posters that correspond to your ideas using words and images below.



# Coney Island Baby

**Coney Island Baby** is a video made by artist collaborators **Jeneen Frei Njootli, Gabrielle L'Hirondelle Hill, Chandra Melting Tallow,** and **Tania Willard.**

The video follows these artists as they learn to trap wild rabbits. Trapping and raising rabbits for their pelts and for food is work both Indigenous people and settlers have taken part in for centuries.

For the artists, this process allowed them to better understand a form of **ancestral knowledge**—a way of working that would have been a part of the economic systems of their ancestors, and is a part of how many people provide for their families and communities today.

Making this video also allowed the artists to consider what kinds of work are valued in society. Learning to trap rabbits taught them that **everyone had an important role to play in the process**, from the person who showed them how to skin a rabbit, to the person who cooked the rabbit and washed the dishes after their meal.

**What kinds of work needs to be done as a group, or team?**

**What do you like about working as part of a team?**



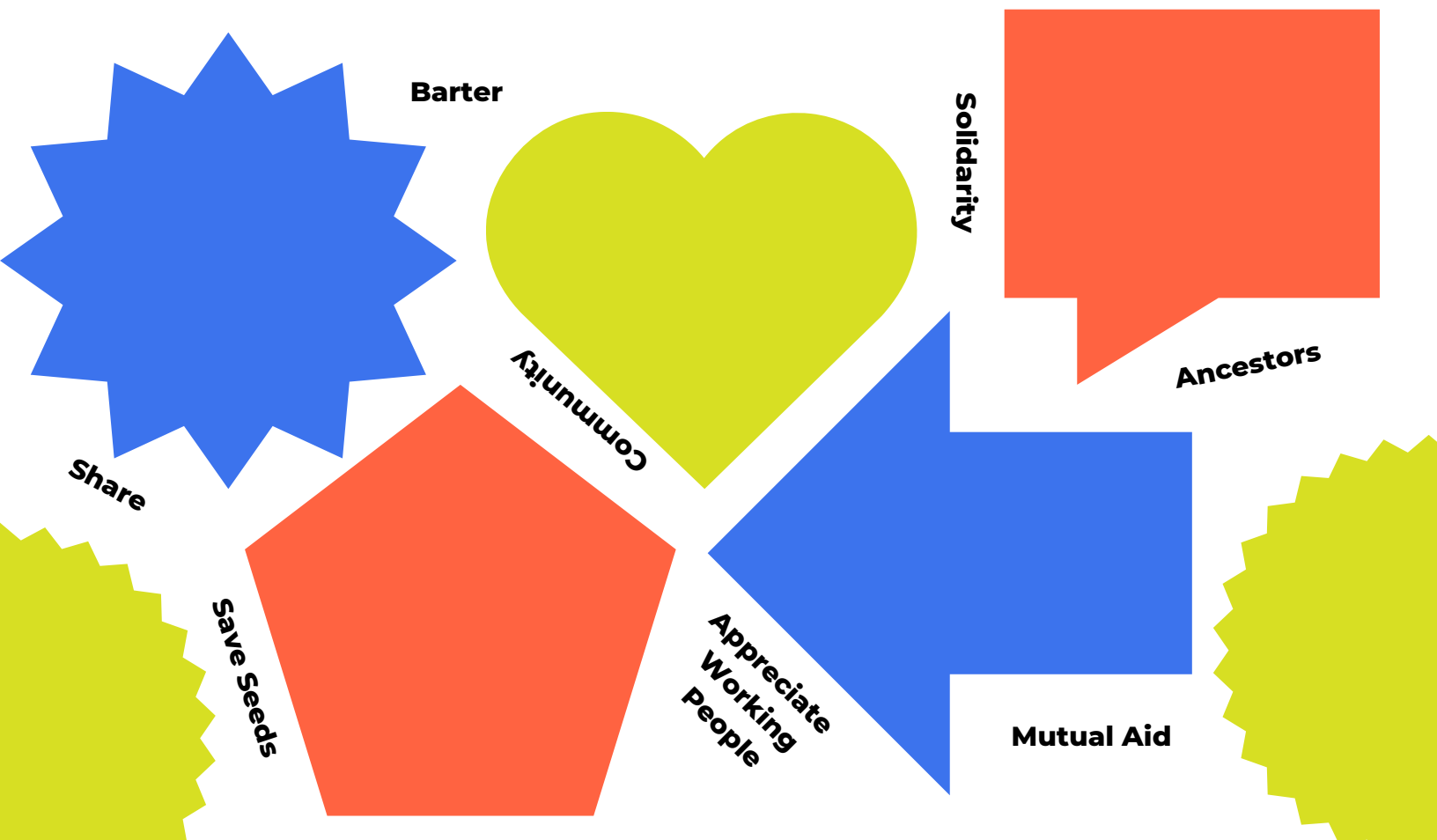
# Jeffrey Gibson:

## I AM YOUR RELATIVE

**Jeffrey Gibson** is a Member of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and Half Cherokee artist from Hudson, New York. His artworks take inspiration from the patterns and materials of Indigenous cultures of the Americas. His art is also influenced by art history, and the punk, rave and 2SLGBTQ+ creative communities he has been part of.

Jeffrey believes that reading, rest, creativity, and community-building is important work! You can use his installation to do all these things.

**Taking inspiration from *I AM YOUR RELATIVE*, use the shapes below to design an imaginary sticker set that reflects who you are, what you believe in, a community you belong to, and some of the things you learned in this guide!**





# The Future Of Work: Parallel Economies

## CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS FOR TEACHERS & EDUCATORS

### ELEMENTARY GRADES:

**The Arts:** The Arts (Grade 1–8)

**Social Studies, History and Geography:** Social Studies (Grade 3–8), History (Grade 4–8)

### SECONDARY GRADES:

**The Arts:** Intergrated Arts (Grade 9), Exploring and Creating in the Arts (Grade 11–12), Visual Arts (Grade 9–12), Media Arts (Grade 10–12)

**Canadian and World Studies:**

Civics and Citizenship (Grade 10), The Individual and the Economy (Grade 11), American History (Grade 11), Living in a Sustainable World (Grade 12), World Issues (Grade 12)

**First Nations, Metis and Inuit Studies:**

Understanding Contemporary FNMI Voices (Grade 11)

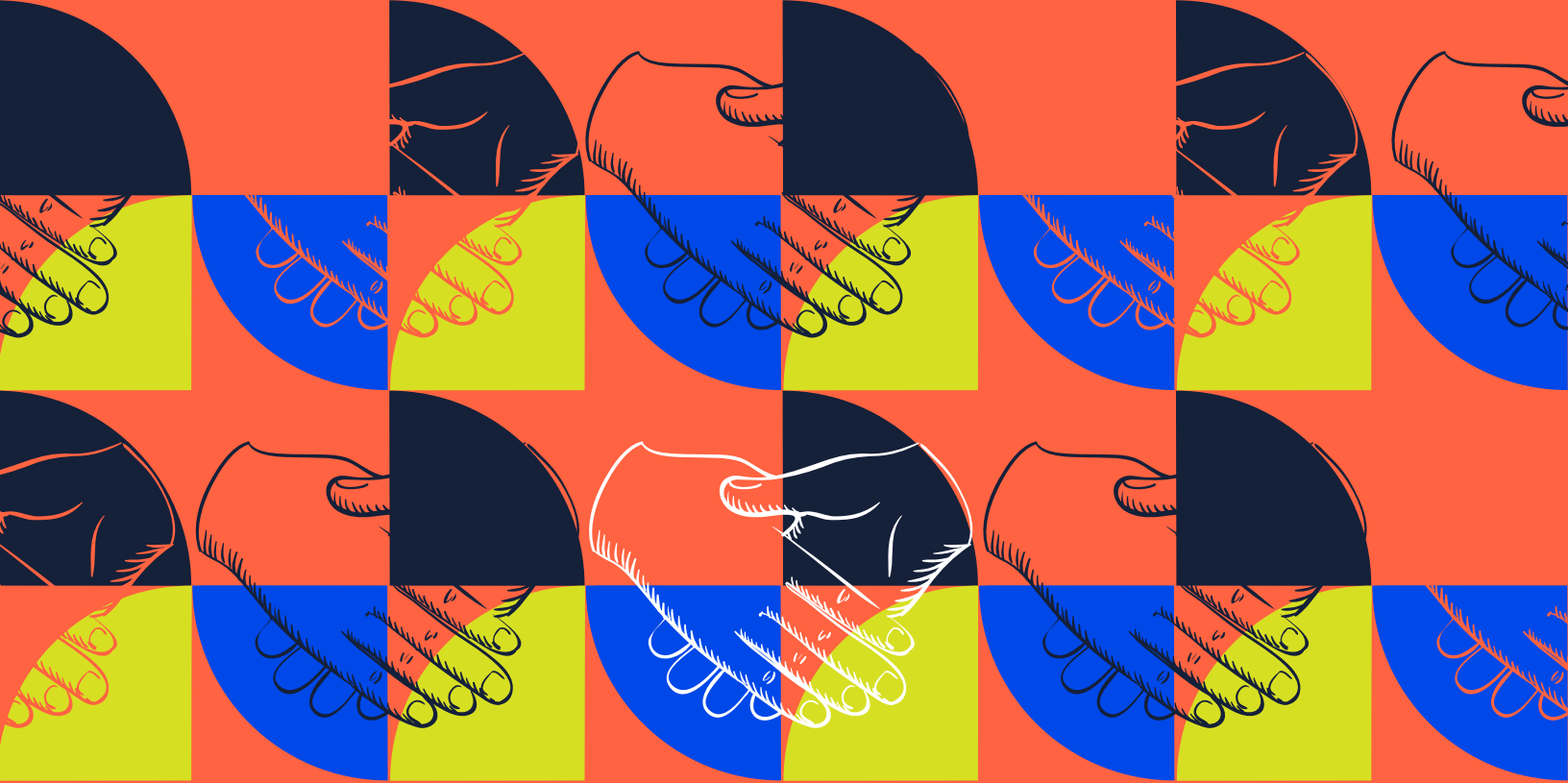
**Guidance and Career Education:**

Leadership and Peer Support (Grade 11)

**Social Studies and Humanities:**

Gender Studies (Grade 11), Food and Culture (Grade 11), Equity and Social Justice (Grade 11–12), Challenge and Change in Society (Grade 11–12)





# Family Open Studios at the AGB

**SATURDAYS FROM 1-4 PM**

This fall, come out to **AGB's FREE family art studio**. Our friendly facilitators will help you create art projects inspired by our current exhibitions. All materials are provided! All children must be accompanied by parents or adult caregivers.

*Pre-registration is required. Visit our website to view our monthly schedule, and to reserve a spot for your family.*

Our theme this season is **FUTURE BUILDERS!** Join us for one of the following fun activities.

**Nov 12:** Mixed Media Collage

**Nov 26:** Veggie Printing

**Dec 3:** Modular Sculpture

**Dec 10:** Creating Co-operative Spaces

We want to ensure you and your family have the best experience possible. We ask that all guests visit our website to review our safety guidelines before arrival at the gallery.



# Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land where we are located is part of the ancient Dish With One Spoon Treaty and also the Brant Tract Purchase, Treaty No. 3 3/4 of 1795, 1797 and 2010, and we are grateful to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River for sharing this territory with us.



## Art Gallery of Burlington

1333 Lakeshore Road  
Burlington, ON. L7S 1A9

For more information on memberships, programs, and special events, visit our website, or connect with us!

### Hours of Operation:

Monday: CLOSED

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10 AM – 9 PM

Thursday to Sunday: 10 AM – 5 PM

(905) 632-7796 | [www.agb.life](http://www.agb.life) | [@artgallburl](https://www.instagram.com/artgallburl)