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Art Gallery of Burlington celebrates eight years of Suzanne Carte's artistic leadership

Artistic Director & Curator departs November 27 to become Director/Curator of the Joan and Martin Goldfarb Gallery at York University

BURLINGTON, ON — November 11, 2026 — The Art Gallery of Burlington (AGB) celebrates Suzanne Carte's remarkable contribution to its artistic and community life as she prepares to become Director/Curator of the Joan and Martin Goldfarb Gallery at York University in December. Her final day at the AGB will be November 27.

Since joining the AGB in 2018 as Senior Curator, and becoming Artistic Director & Curator in 2024, Carte has helped expand what a public gallery can mean to its community. Through ambitious exhibitions, thoughtful collaborations and practical support for creative work, she has brought artists and audiences into conversations about identity, belonging, labour, care and the world we share.

"Suzanne has brought an extraordinary combination of intellectual rigour, creative energy and deep humanity to the AGB," says Emma Sankey, Executive Director. *"She is spirited, thoughtful and playful, with an unwavering commitment to artists and the sector. As a colleague, she brings both conviction and curiosity, pushing an idea further while making room for others to shape it. I will miss her imagination, humour and the intensity with which she approaches our work together. The Goldfarb Gallery is fortunate to welcome someone who gives so much of herself to the people she works with. We are deeply grateful for her eight years at the AGB and delighted to celebrate this next chapter with her."*

Carte's curatorial work has connected contemporary art and craft with questions that reach well beyond the Gallery. In *The Gender Conspiracy* (2019), she created space for artistic expression and public learning around gender and identity. As a co-curator of *How to Read a Vessel* (2021–2022), she helped audiences reconsider the AGB's celebrated ceramics collection through women's ingenuity, labour and the histories carried by everyday objects. Exhibitions including Sami Tsang's *Know Your Place* (2022) and Alize Zorlutuna's *We Who Have Known Many Shores* (2024) explored questions of voice, cultural inheritance and belonging.

Her commitment also extends to the conditions that make creative practice possible. The Artist Material Fund, which she founded in 2014 and has advanced with the AGB, redistributes usable materials free of charge, connecting environmental responsibility with access to resources. Through her work with colleagues on Community Generator, she has helped create further opportunities for artists and community organizations to exhibit, learn and work in the studios.

“Suzanne’s passion has enriched the AGB at every level, including the Board table,” says Natasa Veljovic, Board Chair. *“Through her stewardship and generous guidance, she has broadened our knowledge of contemporary art and craft, deepened our appreciation of the collection, and helped us better understand our responsibilities as a public gallery. Her enthusiasm is infectious, and her insights have informed our discussions and strengthened our ability to champion the AGB’s artistic purpose. On behalf of the Board, we celebrate her lasting contribution and wish her every success.”*

For Carte, the relationships and shared learning developed at the AGB will remain central to her experience.

“The Art Gallery of Burlington (AGB) has changed how I think, work, and understand the vital contributions of craft to contemporary art. I am deeply grateful to the artists, staff, volunteers, members, and educators whose generosity makes the AGB such an extraordinary place. It is a community built through shared knowledge, care, and a palpable love for making and connecting. I will carry those relationships and lessons with me as I move to a new challenge as the Director/Curator of the Joan and Martin Goldfarb Gallery at York University (GGYU) in December, and look forward to returning to complete Shellie Zhang’s winter exhibition and celebrating the AGB's upcoming programming.” — Suzanne Carte

As the AGB builds on this foundation, it will begin recruitment for its next Artistic Director & Curator. The call for applications, including the position description and application details, will be posted at agb.life/job-opportunities.

About the Art Gallery of Burlington

The Art Gallery of Burlington is a public art gallery and community studio hub at the intersection of contemporary art and craft. Home to the largest comprehensive collection of contemporary Canadian ceramics, the AGB connects exhibitions, learning and making through programs that support artists and invite community participation. Admission is free. Learn more at agb.life.