

Shared Values, Space & Supplies for Local Artists

Mike Peterson (at right) upstairs at void gallery in the Creative Commons YXE work space.

A Riversdale gallery is taking community art in the city to the next level, one print and canvas at a time

Text by **Sarah Dorward**



(Courtesy photo)

In his own words, void gallery Director Michael Peterson has always valued local artists, and recently he and the gallery have taken to creating a community approach to making visual art accessible to all Saskatoon artists, whether professional or aspiring.

Creative Commons YXE (creativecommons.saskatoon.ca), located in void gallery (voidgallery.ca; 312 Ave. B South) in Riversdale, has created a space for local artists to work in a collaborative and social setting; a place where artists can create individual works while working together on areas or themes of shared interest.

With new printmaking materials, a wood-cutting room and silk-screening equipment for paid public use, Creative Commons YXE offers a means of creating visual art in addition to a space for creation. In that way, it is similar to PAVED Arts down the street: an member-run collective for audio-visual artists and professionals.

Peterson says the space will look to host critique nights, public printing workshops and open art nights to form a sense of community among local artists and help transform visual art into a hands-on experience for all city residents rather than merely a hands-off viewing space.

GALLERIES

Affinity Gallery (813 Broadway Ave.; saskcraft-council.org). Open Tue–Sat 10am–5:30pm.

June 3–July 9: **Scavengers and Outcasts**. New sculptural ceramics focusing on wildlife by Debra Kuzyk and Ray Mackie of Lucky Rabbit Pottery (Halifax, NS). From July 15: **Emma Bound** features work created by Emma 2016 International Collaboration participants.

aka gallery (424 20th St. W; akaartistrun.org). Open Tue–Fri noon–6pm, Sat noon–4pm.

art placement gallery (228 3rd Ave. S; artplacement.com). Open Mon–Sat 10am–5pm (Thu 10am–8pm).

Through June 16: **Pat Service—Less & More**. For more than 20 years, Service has portrayed Canadian landscapes in monochromatic fields of pure colour, with crisp edges and a strong emphasis on lines. June 18–July 14: **Heather Cline—Urban Forest**. Highlighting the interplay of natural and built forms in the city, this new series expresses our desire to try to recreate and recapture nature within urban spaces.

Darrell Bell Gallery (405-105 21st St. E; darrellbellgallery.com). Open Thu–Sat noon–5pm, Sun noon–4pm.

The Gallery at Frances Morrison Library (311 23rd St. E; saskatoonlibrary.ca)

June 2–July 7: **This Myanmar Life** by Dustin Main. Photographs show this SE Asian country after decades of oppressive military rule, bringing its citizens' stories and the rapid changes happening there to light. From July 13: **Panning for Gold** by Michael. A local street artist infuses childhood graffiti in his paintings to source out therapy and communicate with each stroke.

Rouge Gallery (245 3rd Ave. S; rougegallery.ca). Open Tue–Fri 10am–5pm, Sat noon–5pm

From June 9: **Olivia A Series** by Brandi Hofer. Female faces depicted in oils, acrylics, gouaches and pastels.

SCYAP Gallery (253 3rd Ave. S; scyapinc.org). Open Mon–Fri 10:30am–6pm.