

Community Banner Program

2019 Selections

Inaugural Community Banner Program

In May of this year, the City launched Pickering's first-ever Community Banner Program. The program was funded through the Ontario Main Street Revitalization Initiative Fund, and is part of the Pickering City Centre Enhancement Project.

Main Street Revitalization funding is transferred from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for delivery to single-tier and lower-tier municipalities.

Inaugural Community Banner Program Background

The 2019 program is intended to bring life and art to Pickering City Center through a visual celebration of the theme Live, Work, Play, Inspire.

The Canada-wide call garnered 70 submissions from professional and amateur artists residing in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Quebec. The jury included professional artists, designers, City residents and stakeholders. Banners with an average total score of 70/100 or higher were included in the 2019 program. The final selected banners encompass a broad spectrum of media, themes, and styles.

Inaugural Community Banner Program Background

The 2019 Banner selections will be hung throughout City Centre in December. In November 2020, the banners will be removed, to make room for the 2020 program selections. The 2019 banners will be repurposed, or in some cases, with the permission of the artist, rehung.

Banner artwork will be catalogued by year in the City's Community Art Inventory, and once hung, a map of the winning banners will be available in the City Open Data Portal.

The Knotted Gear Banner

Calvin Walker

Live: The reef knot which binds the gear is meant to represent a connected community, a strong bond that is difficult to break even in the toughest of conditions - the knot itself also pays homage to the waterfront, a popular location to visit

Work: The gear in the middle symbolizes the industrial spirit of Pickering

Play: The way in which the white strings bind the gear together is winding and twisting, igniting imagination and playfulness in the viewer, while the colours chosen are vivid and contrast well

Inspire: The banner is not overly complex in design or artistic, with the intent of this design to be easily recognizable from afar, but full of meaning to the city of Pickering - in much the same way that the flag of Canada is simplistic in design, but very succinct and full of relevance to the Canadian people



Laura Smith

The City of Pickering offers a diverse range of urban, rural and natural landscapes. As the city continues to grow, our natural spaces become increasingly precious to the people and animals who live, work and explore these areas. Now more than ever, we need to remember the critical role our native plants play in our ecosystem, and do what we can to support and sustain our pollinator friends.

Growing up near Petticoat Creek Conservation Area in the early 1990's, I was inspired from a very early age by the interconnected relationship between the native plant species and the animals which rely on them. On numerous walks through the conservation area with my Grandfather, I was encouraged to freely explore this beautiful, natural space. Examining leaves and small insects, bird-watching, tactile exploration of different textures like mud, grass and water from the creek, this "wild" space became my second home. These early experiences were deeply meaningful and continue to inspire me as an adult, through my artistic practice and daily life.

This banner shows some of the native plant species which grow in Southern Ontario and some of the pollinators which benefit from improving their natural habitat by planting more of these wildflowers in our urban spaces. By highlighting the beauty of these native species, I hope to draw attention to these important relationships and highlight some of the beautiful, natural spaces I enjoyed as a young child growing up in the City of Pickering. Dedicated in loving memory to James Lambert, my incredible Grandfather who first introduced me to the magic of nature.



Live, Work, Play, Inspire Yasaman Mehrsa

For this banner I used cheerful colours and very simple elements. I wanted to show the connection between people of a community and how they are related to each other in a very positive way.

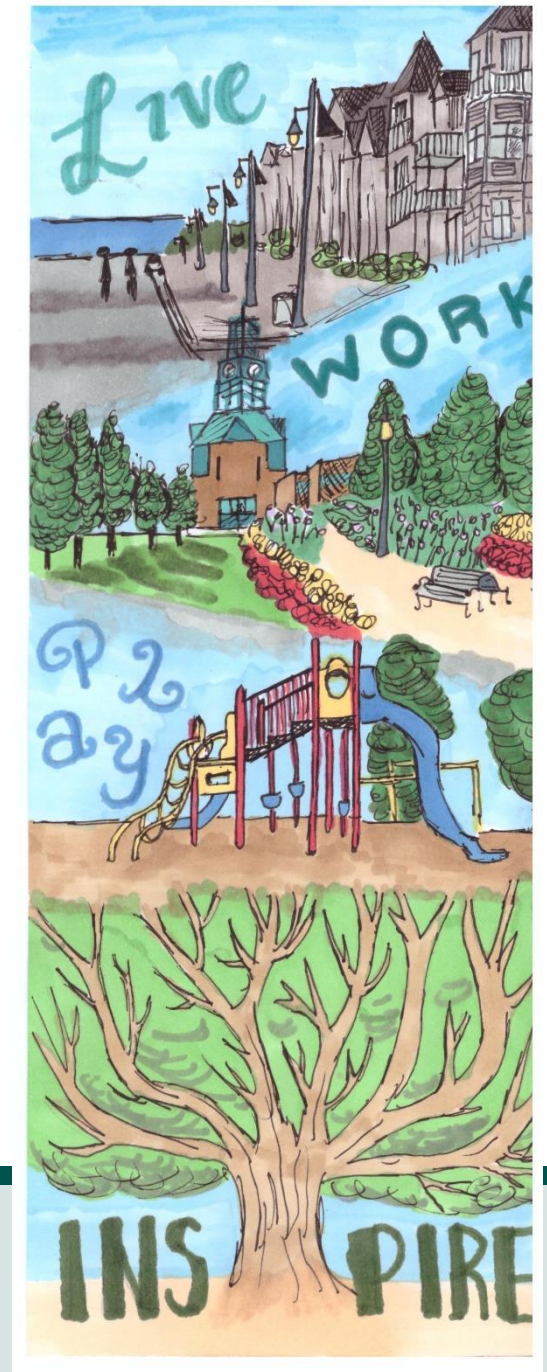


The Sketchy Side of Pickering

Loridee De Villa

To portray the theme of live, work, play and inspire, I drew inspiration from different architectural sites across the city. The first segment shows the Nautical Village. It represents the calm living, hidden beneath the daily city rush that Pickering has to offer. It is a place where families can relax and enjoy the waterfront. The second segment shows the city hall, which sparked the idea of how the many staff that work there, manage the things across the city.

The city hall offers employment services, and the council members work hard everyday to provide the best services for the city. The third segment draws upon the community children, who inspire childlike fun. The sketch of the local, Bay Ridges Kinsmen Park represents how Pickering is a city for children to grow up in, while having fun. Lastly, the fourth segment joins the whole piece together. The tree with its emerging branches shows how every single piece of architecture was thought of by people who were inspired. The location of Pickering itself, has sparked the creativity of many brilliant minds, and will continue to do so over the years. To conclude, each building across the city, tells a unique story and shows how people in the community live, work, and inspire.



Millennium Square

Tammy Pariag

Pickering is a unique city that is rich in culture and offers high-quality lifestyles for its residents. This piece represents one of the most beautiful areas of Pickering, Millennium Square. The centre of a wide variety of activities, with the peaceful, serene backdrop of the beach and lake.

Live: Located just minutes away from residential neighbourhoods, yet always feels like a beach getaway. **Work:** Small family businesses operate and offer warm smiles and yummy treats to visitors. **Play:** Enjoy biking, splashing, sandcastle building, picnicking, water sports and so much more. **Inspire:** Musical genres from all around the world perform and bring our community together to dance the night away.

Culture, Heritage, and Diversity: The Waterfront Concerts at Millennium Square are unique community events. It is always beautiful to see people of all ages and cultures dancing together to different genres of music, week after week. These concerts take place under the setting sun and under the "Millennium Mast" standing tall over the community.

This art piece showcases the iconic landmarks located at Millennium Square that most Pickering residents will recognize. The background shows the design of the floor, where all of the main activities take place. The main attraction is the tall "Millennium Mast" that towers over the Square. And the foreground is the blue hydrant border that lines all around the Square.



Splash Pad Tammy Pariag

Pickering is a unique city that is rich in culture and offers high-quality lifestyles for its residents. This piece represents an area of Pickering that brings families and friends together every summer, the Amberlea Neighbourhood Splash Pad.

Live: Located in the Amberlea Neighbourhood, and close to schools. It's a meeting place for friends in the neighbourhood and beyond. **Work:** The park and surroundings are always beautifully kept clean and neat by the City. **Play:** Children can be heard laughing and splashing around while running and frolicking through the spraying water. When they're done playing at the Splash Pad, they enjoy the swings and slides at the adjacent Play Park. **Inspire:** Surrounded by nature, children use their imaginations to create scenarios while they cool off in the water. They also quickly learn to make new friends and have adventures together.

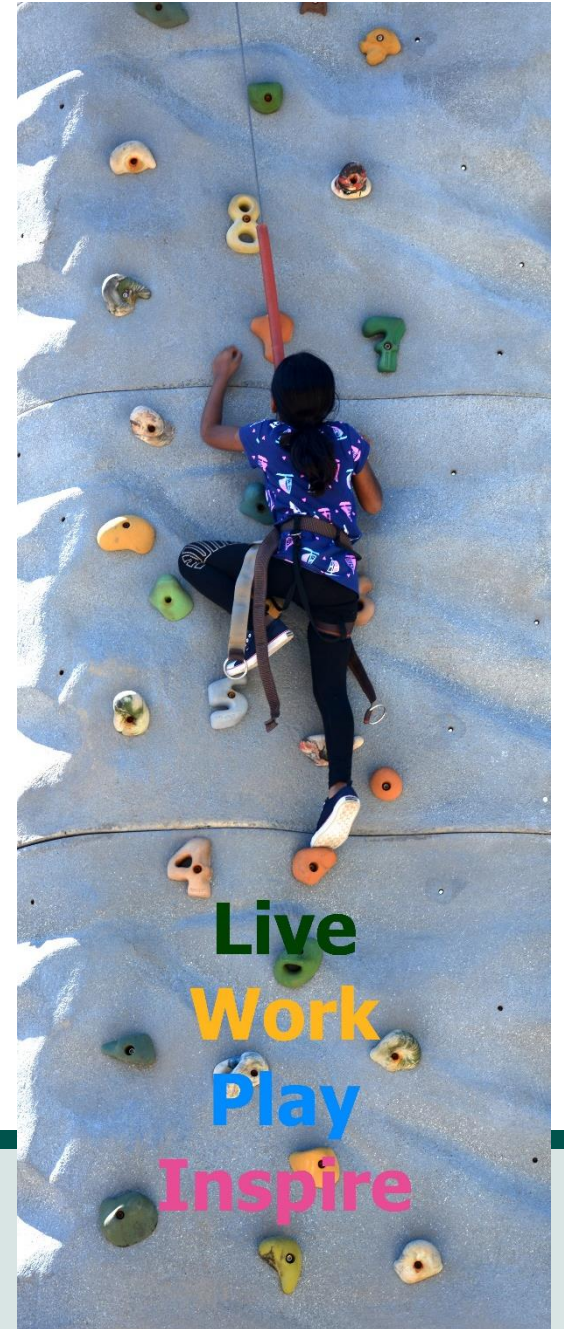
Culture, Heritage, and Diversity: When children get together at the Splash Pad, it's a beautiful sight to see. Different ages and cultures come together with one goal in mind... to splash and have fun! Families meet, share snacks and new friendships are made.

This art piece showcases the iconic landmarks located at the Amberlea Splash Pad that many Pickering residents will recognize. The background shows the design of the floor, where all of the fun takes place. The main attraction is the tall "Water Lily Spinnable Spray Post" that towers over the Pad. And the foreground is the silver fence that encloses the Pad.



Wall Climbing Contest at Pickering Rib Fest Allan O'Marra

The image I used for the banner is a photo I shot at the 2017 Pickering RibFest of a girl climbing a rock wall to see if she could win a prize.

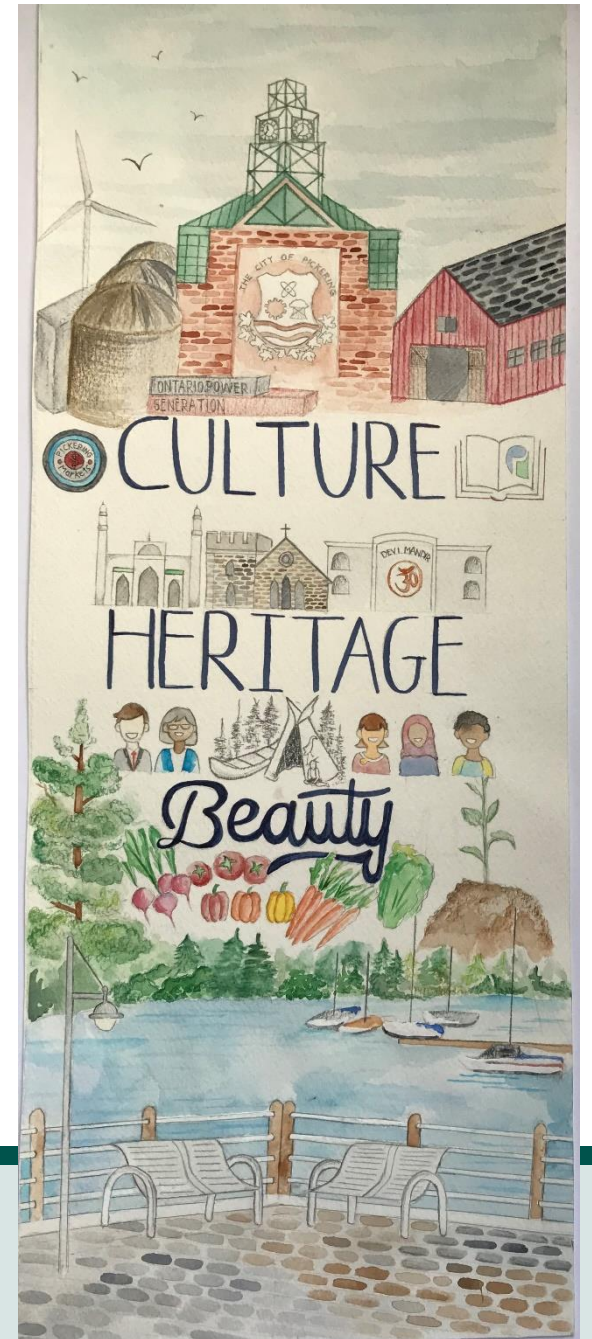


Culture, Heritage, Beauty

Anusha Broekhuysse

I have lived in the Pickering community for the past eighteen years and my banner is a representation of how I lived, worked, played and been inspired by my surroundings. I chose to include the words, “Culture”, “Heritage” and “Beauty” on my banner to not only reflect Pickering’s multicultural and diverse population but also its quaint, small town charm along the shores of Lake Ontario. At the top of my banner, drawings of the Ontario Power Generation Nuclear Plant, Pickering City Hall, Pickering Museum Village blacksmith Shop, a library book and the Pickering Markets surround the word “Culture” to depict how people live, work and are enriched by programs in the city. Over the years, the Pickering Libraries have offered various enriching and inspiring programs including the March Break Short Story Writing Contest, the Recycled Art Contest, multiple STEM activities and the Summer Reading Program.

By volunteering at the Pickering Museum Village, I learned about Canada’s pioneer history and the cultural and educational activities offered to the youth. The Mississauga’s of Scugog Island First Nation’s logo, in the center, acknowledges the indigenous land that we live on and I drew St. Paul’s On the Hill Anglican Church, the Pickering Mosque and the Hindu Devi Temple to represent Pickering’s multicultural roots. The people highlight the diverse population of Pickering and the sapling represents Pickering’s environmental efforts and tree-planting initiatives. The trees represent the beautiful nature and hiking in the Altona Forest, Petticoat Creek and Seaton Trails that I grew up exploring. The fresh vegetables are a reminder of Pickering’s Farmers’ Market and the local farming communities. The scenic Millennium Square at the Pickering waterfront is the perfect place to relax, take a walk or ride your bike, while getting ice cream and watching the beautiful sunset.



The Invisible Worker

Mario Dimain

The two little girls are cousins. They seem to be doing child labour, harvesting dandelion flowers, but in reality they are having fun picking flowers to take home for their moms. The actual worker is the happy grandfather behind the camera. He looks after these two toddlers while their parents are away working all day. I am the grandfather of these two sweet angels. They make my retirement worth living. Babysitting my grandchildren is the most relaxing work I have ever done. This is my photo interpretation of the theme for the Pickering Community Banners: Live- Work-Fun-Inspire.



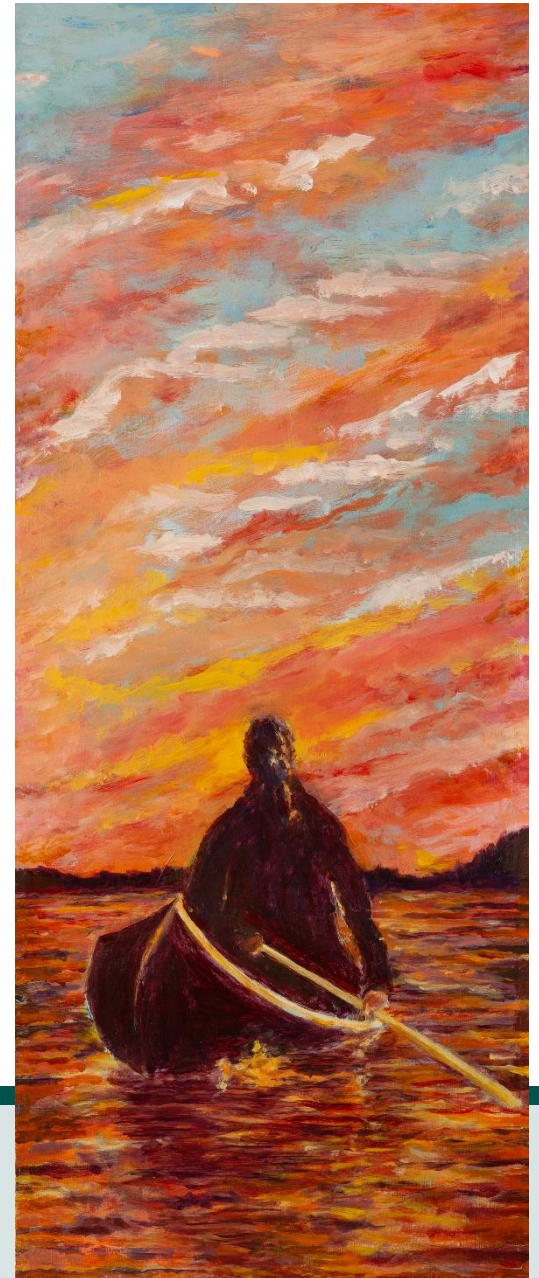
Tom on Smoke Lake

Bonnie Conly

I choose to celebrate Pickering's relationship with the natural environment with two paintings inspired by the art of Tom Thomson and Frederick Varley. Pickering is a gateway to the shores and forests of Algonquin Park, Georgian Bay, and Lake Ontario among others.

Claremont, Ontario, a subdivision within the city of Pickering, is the birthplace of Tom Thomson. Thomson followed by Varley and the Group of Seven found solace and inspiration, in these unique geographic locations. Numerous others, inspired by these artist venture to the area to live, work, play and create along side the Canadian Wilderness.

Tom on Smoke Lake, is a rendering of the original oil painting by Thomson. It is a portrait of him canoeing in his 1915 painting, Smoke Lake. Thomson's paintings and practice of plein air continues to inspire artist over a hundred years since his death.



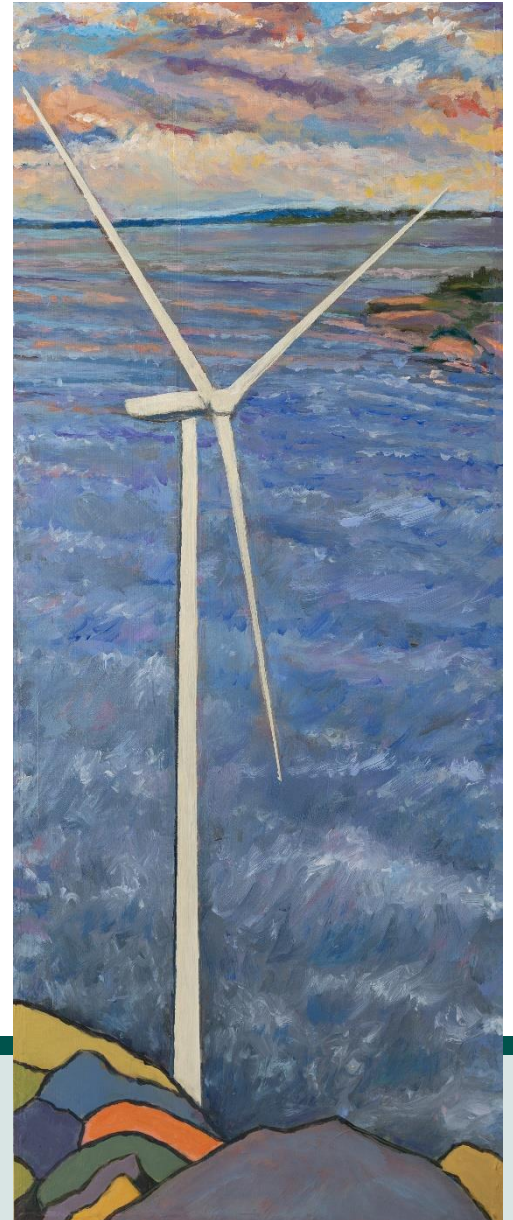
Harness the Wind

Bonnie Conly

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Harness the Wind, celebrates Pickering's green energy innovations. The painting depicts the enormous wind turbine that stands on the shores of Lake Ontario adjacent to the Nuclear Generating Station, which employs approximately 3000 people from Pickering and surrounding communities. The wind turbine, scheduled to be dismantled, is the largest in North America and the only one at a nuclear power site. It is the central subject in my interpretation of Varley's painting. It replaces his windblown pine, painted in, Stormy Weather, in 1927 at Georgian Bay, and references Thomson's iconic painting, The West Wind, painted in 1917. These works are a tribute to living, working and playing in Pickering. The city's relationship with the Canadian Wilderness is evident and I believe synonymous with Pickering's identity. Anyone can live, work, play and be inspired in this place, creating a better society, building positive relationships and becoming stewards of the environment and green energy.



Planting Roots

A.J. Servillon

The themes that I chose to work with on this project are 'Work' and 'Live' because I believe that you have to work to live up to your full potential and to do good in the world we live in. I love looking at trees; and nature in general, so I decided to represent these two words using a tree. I used a mixture of watercolour and coloured pencils to build texture on the tree and contrast the soft background. I also outlined the roots of the trees with marker to emphasize the message of work.

To me, trees could symbolize work, living, growth, new opportunities, and potential. Tree roots work to take in water and other nutrients to help itself grow and flourish, to live and serve a purpose in life; even if it's just one of many. The small difference one tree makes plays a big part in helping provide things like oxygen and photosynthesis, which are essential for life. People who want to do good in life sometimes overlook the impact small measures can create to another person or to the world around them. A best friend of mine who happens to live in Pickering, continues to make a difference in my life by helping me push myself to do things that I want or need to do at times when I am too afraid or insecure to do so. Many beautiful trees surround the city of Pickering and I hope my artwork will remind people to work and live while staying kind to one another.



Harmony

Natasha Teufel

When I think of something that can both inspire individuals and contribute to the many things that make life enjoyable, I think of music. Music is something that brings communities together to celebrate an occasion, or a cultural event and never fails to make people sing, dance, and enjoy life even just for a moment. Through its beautiful melodies and lyrics, it inspires people to look at the world through a different perspective, whether it'd be positive or negative. It is the core inspiration of my work, as it helps me to lose myself in my thoughts and use my imagination more effectively.

In this piece, I chose to use a watercolor background in order to achieve a subtle, yet colorful appearance in order to represent the different types of music and types of emotions it can make us feel. Each color of the rainbow has a group of people dancing in it which is drawn in black ink to add some contrast to the piece. The beauty of music is that it has brought so many people together, even in a world that seems so divided.

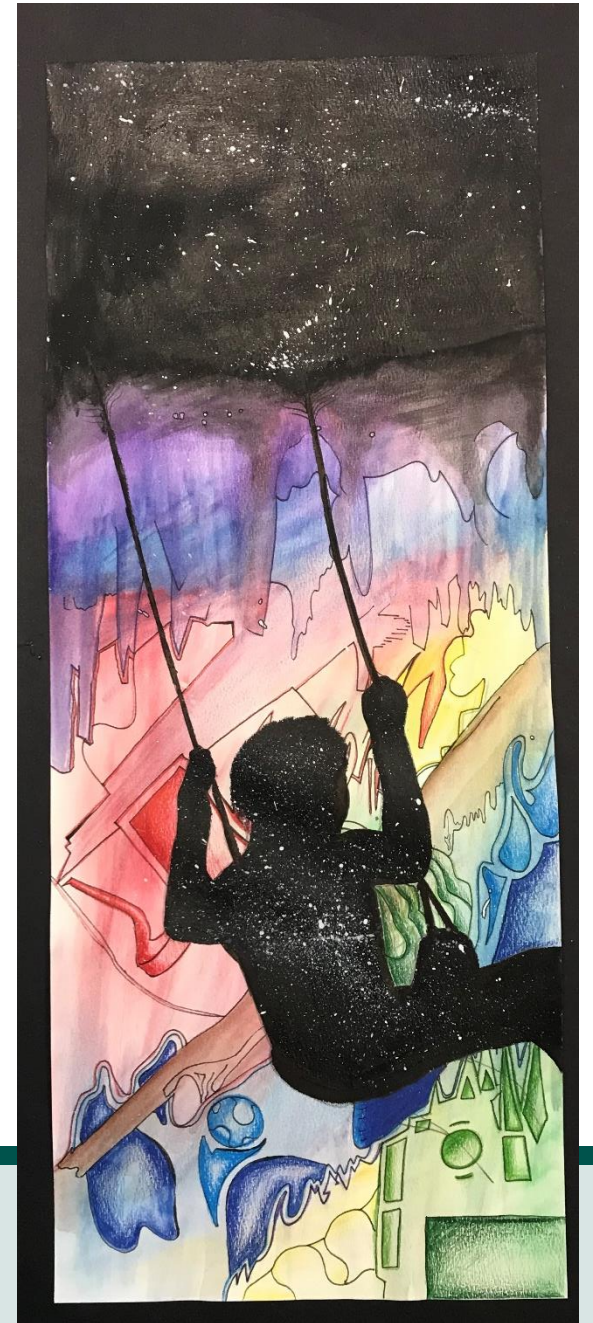


Fly

Josh Morrow

In my work I like to explore different styles of abstract and graffiti style designs, I chose to focus on the theme of play which is shown by the silhouette of the kid swinging from the sky.

The silhouette mixed with the stars gives space, contrasting the heavy colourful background. The background was done with watercolour and crayon while the silhouette was done with black and white acrylic paint. Stars are splattered across the sky as well as in the body of the swinging child. These splattered stars represent how he is swinging high into the stars, which inspired the title fly.



Pickering Living T Cameron

I have submitted two pieces for consideration, a composite fine art photograph and a digital art poster. For different reasons, I think both posters represent the City of Pickering.

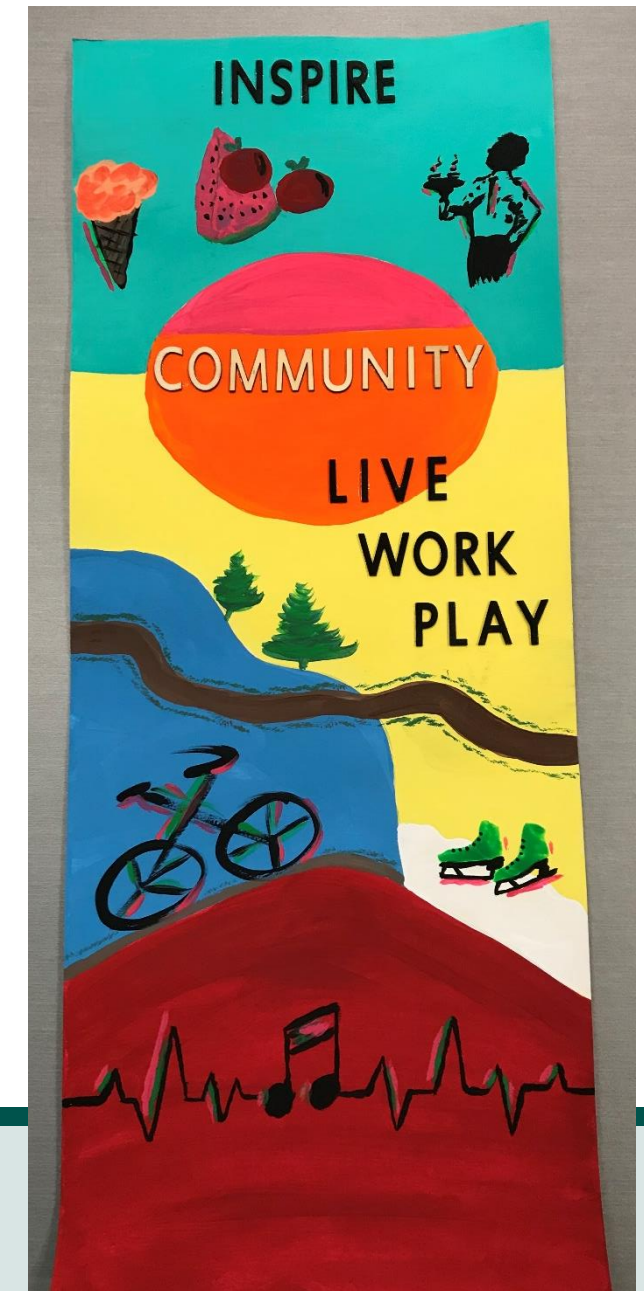
Pickering Living, a digital art poster designed in Illustrator, represents all the different aspects of living in Pickering, from the VIA Rail train that takes many in Pickering to and from work everyday, to a child playing in the winter snow, to the Canadian flag.



Pickering Community City Centre, Live, Work, Play Andrea Balsdon

This piece represents the diversity of the Pickering community, celebrating the culture, heritage and beauty of the city centre. From gorgeous trails and parks that offer trees and gardens to enjoy while cycling, walking and biking to winter activities like walking, tobogganing and skating.

Music and beats represent culture expressed in the many venues, festivals, restaurants and homes in the community. The ice cream cone, the apples and the watermelon represent food of the city offered through grocery stores, farms, restaurants, gardens, festivals and community events. Restaurants are also represented by the server with the hot drinks ready to be served in a restaurant or patio to business people, visitors and residents in the city centre. The sun shining in the center represents the joy and inspiration of the community, a bond we all share in Durham Region.



Tree of life

Enrique Bravo

This watercolor is an allegory to the name of the program, where we see the that big tree unifies; that big tree that serves as background for the images of the character that lives, works, plays and finally inspires with the planting of what will eventually be The big tree.



Pickering Community Inspired Lisa Johnson

Pickering Community Inspired...

Inspired by the history of Fisherman's Bay to the origin of the name of Pickering. Known for its Waterfront, diverse community and the growth of the 'Anchor Mobility Hub'. Dlive an entertainment and tourism district will bring fun and excitement to the City of Pickering. Not to mention Shawn Mendes, Canadian singer, songwriter and model, who's home town is Pickering Ontario and went to school at Pine Ridge Secondary School. There are several post secondary schools in Pickering that will inspire many to live, work and play. The City of Pickering is continuing to grow and inspire a diverse community.



Freedom Beach

Tyanna Wright

Working with the theme play I created a piece using watercolor. The bright colors accentuate the beautiful features of Pickering Beach and are used to express the feelings of joy and peace one would experience on a sunny day at the beach. The Beach; a place where laughs and joyful screams fill the air, where you are able to be free of responsibility if only for a short period of time, is a place that will reside in ones happy memories.



Legacy Viewtacular

This submission is to reflect the “Legacy” of the City of Pickering during the era of Mayor David Ryan who is seen in centre of the piece. The theme of Live, Work, Play and Inspire is reflected a number of ways throughout this piece. Our key landmarks appear on the outer layers of the image. The Pedestrian Bridge, Waterfront Trail, City Hall/Library, and currently the tallest structure in Pickering, the Universal City Condominiums by Chestnut Hill Developments. This is where we LIVE and WORK.

The theme of PLAY is captured through the presence of a stage performer, dancers at the Millennium Square, a member of the Caribbean community, and a mother enjoying the fireworks with her child. As for INSPIRE, this piece to motivate and inspire others within the local community, especially other creatives and entrepreneurs, just as I have been inspired by this city. I have been a resident of the City of Pickering the past fifteen years and my involvement within the community these past two years has led to some amazing opportunities which I never thought would be possible here. There’s this impression that as a creative in the region, you have to head out west to get any sort of recognition or opportunities, but through the act of photography I have proven to myself otherwise.

These 35 pieces that are to be selected, will serve as a testament and "Legacy" to the community. This is just a piece of the “Legacy” that I will be leaving behind for the generations to come.



Pickering Memory Quilt

John Mathews

This digital collage is inspired by the rich history of quilt making in Ontario. The colourful quilt design incorporates symbols that represent Pickering's history. These symbols include a gear indicating the city's industrial importance, an atomic symbol indicative of the nuclear power generation station, the Pickering Panthers junior ice hockey team, the wavy lines at the bottom represent Lake Ontario and finally a sheaves of wheat representing the agricultural heritage and importance of Pickering.

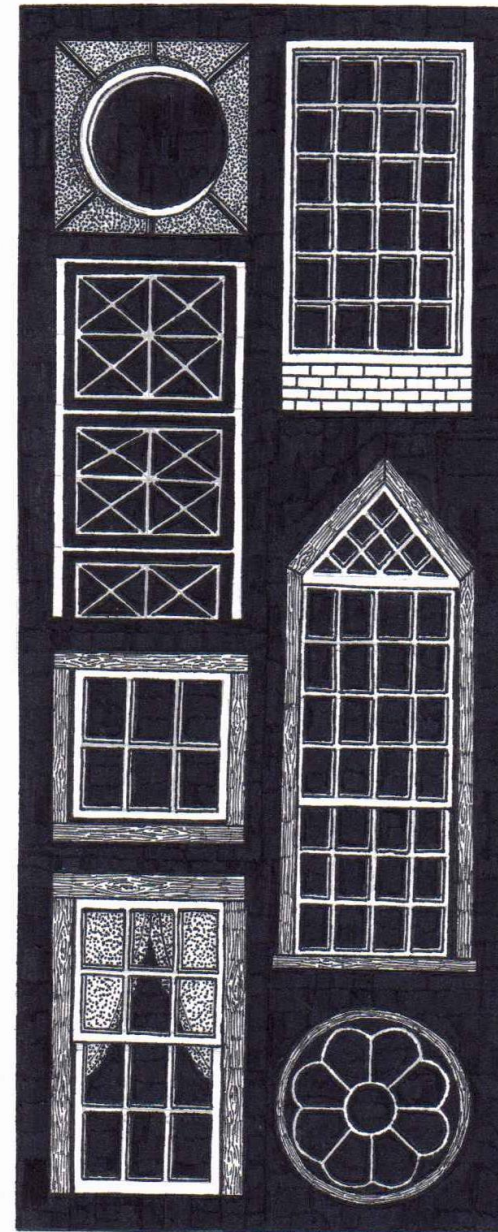


Windows

Brad Emsley

"Windows" depicts some of the windows of Pickering. The top three are windows from the Pickering Civic Centre and the bottom four are windows from some of the buildings at the Pickering Museum.

Windows help to facilitate Living, Working and Playing. They are the place where people day dream, reflect and get Inspired. Windows are the framed view of the world beyond and a glimpse at the life inside. The modern windows at the top are a reflection of Pickering's future, while the heritage windows are a reflection of Pickering's past.



To Build A City

Dave Ryce

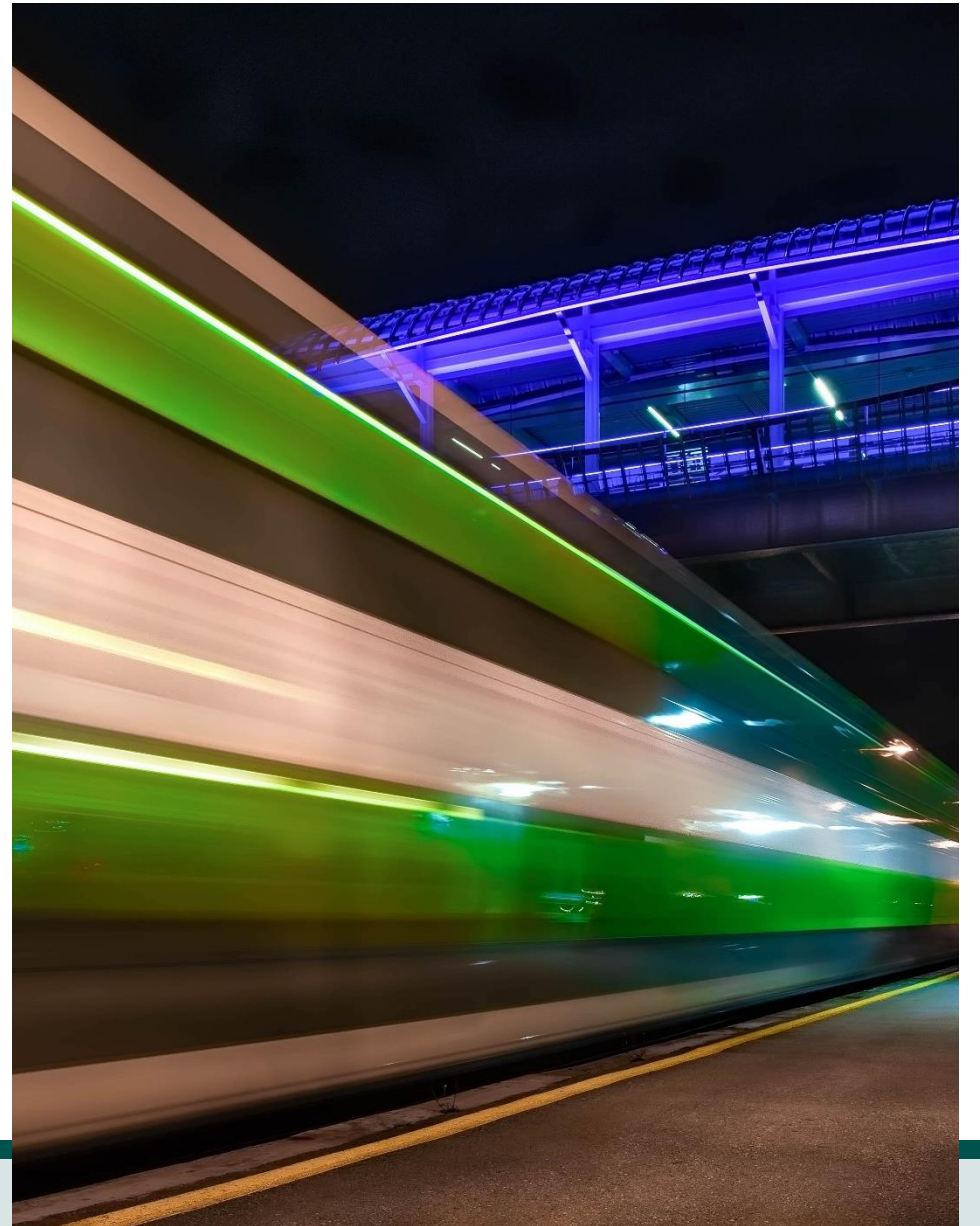
To build a city, one must travel a road, must experience cultures, be inspired, dream, hope and live life to the fullest. Pickering is built with many dreams, inspired by the vision of sustainable, smart, and vibrant community of the future, yet full of the stories of our past. This photo taken south of Greenwood, reminds me that at one time most roads in Pickering would have been populated by trees, and nature. Today, as our community grows we are lucky to be able to maintain the many natural vistas of our past, while building the Pickering of tomorrow.



Moving Forward

Dave Ryce

I am inspired by the light and movement of Pickering's City Centre – such beauty to be found in every day places. I captured the light from the side of a train with the bridge in the background. Pickering is a memorable place for so many reasons, the new bridge has created a landmark that lights the journey of millions each day.



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