

Call for Submissions – *Syphon* Annual Publication

Theme: Resistance

Syphon seeks work for our upcoming issue called **Resistance** — a force that moves through communities, voices, and creative practices in response to the violence, oppression, and injustice shaping our world today. As genocide, state-sanctioned violence, and political repression continue across the globe, we ask: *How do we refuse, endure, protest, and create?*

Resistance can take on many forms; it can look like revolution, but can also look like the reclamation of stories through acts of remembering, caring within communities for ourselves and the more-than-human world, and the making and remaking of worlds (Saidiya Hartman, 2008).

Resistance is intentional and creative, it involves everyday acts of imagining and labouring towards it.

We resist because it is the only way we survive. Silence is complicity, and resistance is the pulse that keeps us alive against the systems that uphold colonialism, white supremacy, and global injustices. In the face of this, we imagine and work toward futures grounded in Indigenous sovereignty, collective liberation, climate justice, and the radical possibilities of liberation, care, and futures for which life is worth living.

Rooted in Katarokwi-Kingston, *Syphon* acts as a conduit between local and broader art communities. We invite submissions from artists, writers, and thinkers whose work engages with the politics of resistance in any form — embodied, collective, historical, speculative, or emergent.

We are especially interested in work that challenges dominant narratives and amplifies marginalized voices.

About Syphon

Syphon is an arts and culture publication produced by Modern Fuel Artist-Run Centre. It was created in response to the lack of critical arts commentary and coverage in local publications, and seen as a way to increase exposure to experimental and non-commercial art practices. *Syphon* has a mandate to feature local arts coverage in conjunction with national and international projects, and an emphasis on arts scenes and activities that are seen as peripheral.

It acts, in essence, as a record and communiqué for small regional arts communities throughout the country.

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How to Apply

We are accepting **full, finalized** submissions by **January 15th, 2026** that include poetry, essays, creative writing (including flash fiction, short stories, etc.), exhibition reviews, curatorial interviews with artists, as well as visual works including but not limited to photography, digital illustrations/design, collages, and high-quality images of physical pieces. This year we are using ***Risograph Printing*** to produce Syphon. Please be advised that we may ask you about recolouring your artwork as we will print in specific risograph ink colours.

Submissions should include (as one PDF document):

- Chosen Name
- Artist Name
- Pronouns
- Location
- Description of the work in relation to the theme (300 Words Maximum)
- Biography and/or Artist Statement (250 Words Maximum)
- Website/Social Media Links
- Your final piece to be included in Syphon (Please note if your submission is visual, please upload the work separately as a high quality PNG or JPEG.)

Please ensure that all documents are properly uploaded before submission. All submissions will be reviewed by an appointed Selections Committee, and selected contributors will be notified by **March 1st, 2026**. The appointed Selections Committee will remain anonymous. For questions and/or concerns, please email director@modernfuel.org.

All artists whose pieces are selected will be paid for their work according to the CARFAC Recommended Fee Schedule. Following selections will be a period in which text-based submissions are collaboratively edited by both the jury and the artist. The editing process is an open dialogue between Modern Fuel and the contributor that is meant to refine the submissions while maintaining the artist's vision.

Please advise us of any accommodations needed to ensure you can complete the submission process.