

Modern Fuel Artist–Run Centre

Toward 50 Years of Living Art



Jessie in Blue by Laura Lewis (2022)

A Place Like No Other

For nearly five decades, Modern Fuel has been a vital hub for contemporary and experimental art in Katarokwi–Kingston. As the only artist-run centre within a 300-kilometre radius, we offer something both rare and essential: a space where artists are free to take risks, challenge norms, and receive fair compensation for their creative work.

In a city with limited access to exhibition spaces, Modern Fuel offers more than walls. We offer **visibility, voice, and validation**.

At the heart of our mission is a simple but powerful belief—artists are **essential to a thriving community**. By providing space for creation, collaboration, and professional development, Modern Fuel strengthens the cultural fabric of this region. Our programming supports artists at every stage of their careers, while enriching the lives of the broader public.

The result is a vibrant and inclusive arts ecosystem where creativity flourishes, careers take root, and community pride grows.

Artists at the Centre

At Modern Fuel, artists are not just participants. They are leaders, collaborators, and co-creators.

Our exhibitions, residencies, workshops, and mentorship programs are built with and for the artists we serve—emerging, mid-career, and established creators from a diversity of disciplines, cultures, and lived experiences.

Consider our **Mashkawizii Miinikaanan: Strong Seeds Beading Circle**. This series of gatherings was led by Indigenous Artists and Knowledge Keepers who shared beadwork techniques alongside stories and histories of Katarokwi–Kingston. Facilitator Liv Rondeau shares:



Portrait of Julia Hutt, Gigi and Jamel by Claire Drummond (2022)

“Modern Fuel has supported me by providing workshop spaces where I can teach and learn Indigenous beadwork skills and techniques from a variety of Indigenous artists. I am continuously thankful to Modern Fuel for creating spaces that celebrate the diversity, brilliance, and beauty of Indigenous art forms.”

Or hear from **Artist Géorgie Gagné, who participated in the Coalesce Residency** in April 2024 and exhibited in Growing Together: Seeds of Connection and Playful Encounters:

“I’m really grateful for the work of Modern Fuel Artist Run Centre, especially the space it creates for artists of all backgrounds. As a Two-Spirit, trans, and racialized artist, having a place that feels safe—where my art can truly bloom—is very, very special. It’s all thanks to the team here and the community that engages with the Centre. Because of Modern Fuel, I feel that my practice has been able to grow in ways I never imagined.”

At Modern Fuel, creativity knows no borders. Every program is an invitation to connect, learn, and grow through art.



Photo from the Mashkawizii Miinikaanan:
Strong Seeds Beading Circle (2024)

A Platform for Advocacy and Equity

Modern Fuel is more than a gallery. It is a platform for change.

We believe creative labour deserves respect and fair compensation. That is why we advocate for living wages, equitable practices, and artists' rights across the sector. Our workshops on copyright, tax literacy, intellectual property, and self-promotion help artists navigate the realities of a professional arts career.

In a field where many creators are undervalued and underpaid, we lead by example. We are building a fairer, more inclusive future for the arts.

LET'S CONNECT

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Fuel the Future of Art

It's easy to donate.

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