

DISTINCTIONS OF BLOOMS

Photography by
The MNjcc's
Disability/Visibility
program.

September 1 - 30, 2021



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Curator's Statement

The photographs in Distinctions of Blooms showcases the work of young artists with disabilities to illustrate the story of what the theme of bloom means to them. Each photo in this gallery reflects the individual's focus, chosen by each artist who took part in a 7-week Disability/Visibility photography program.

It is the hope of the visual storytellers in this collaborative gallery exhibit that the blooms explore the idea that there will always be new beginnings, the feelings of hope, a new perspective on nature, and the experiences of growth in life.

- Effie Biliris, Disability/Visibility Program Facilitator

Tulip In My Garden

Ryan MacMillan

The reason why I choose this photo is because I really thought this was a nice perspective of the flower. I really thought that this picture had a nice symmetry/asymmetry aspect to it. I also thought this picture has a nice perspective with the blur in the background.

[A closeup of a tulip about to bloom. The flower is in focus at the forefront of the photograph. The red petals are still closed, but seemingly about to open. In the background is a silver car and grass that are very blurred]



Rocky Road

Ben Clement

I chose this photo to be part of the exhibit because it can be viewed in two ways. If you look closely, you will just see a rock. But if you look at this photo from further away, you will see a more abstract photo, which is the purpose of a macro photo. The leading lines in this point to a dip and crack in the rock that looks like a mouth. Lastly, I chose this photo because it rocks!

[A textured close-up of a large, flat grey rock surface]





Untitled **Ria Skropolithas**

Flowers can have visitors too, even when in bloom.

[A yellow and black swallowtail butterfly with expanded wings is sitting on a white and yellow flower. Around the butterfly, there are red, pink, white, and orange flowers in the background. There are also green leaves in the background.]



Ziggy
Rebecca Geffen

My mom is giving my dog named Ziggy a haircut on the chair.

[A small white dog is getting its fur cut. The dog sits on a chair in the centre of the photograph with small piles of white fur strewn around it. Behind the dog, a person wearing all black is holding scissors and cutting the fur.]



The Peach Flower **Peter Flores**

It gives life. It gives hope. The red and yellow colours rising like the phoenix. On the inside, it has another layer. It is the yellow that blooms. Colours have texture just as much as a peach. The sweet and softness to it. The beauty of it goes on endlessly.

[A closeup of one tulip from a bird's eye view. The flower is in focus with green leaves blurred in the background. The tulip has yellow and red petals and is open. Inside is a yellow starlike formation made of small petals.]



Yellow Sunflower **Melanie Wong**

I really like yellow sunflowers because I can grow them in the garden. Yellow sunflowers, to me, represent the feeling of happiness, and they make me smile. When you look at this photo, I hope it gives the inspiration to grow your own flowers at home.

[A flower bush filled with fully bloomed yellow flowers, some with white petals. There are also green leaves.]



Beautiful Day **Karen Denton**

This picture represents bloom, to me, because if you have a bad day, there is always a fresh start the next day. I chose this picture because it is where I am most myself. Being by the water makes me feel calm and reenergized. To me, this photo represents the peacefulness of another day gone.

[A black & white horizon in the distance where a body of water meets the forested shore, with a cloudy sky above.]



Promise of Spring **Matthew Hoffman**

When I took this photo there was one thing absent – blooms. The tree was so beautiful.

[A scene of the front yard of a house. In the centre is a large pink magnolia tree in full bloom. In the left third of the photograph is a red brick house. A driveway crosses the bottom of the photograph. The driveway ends at a sidewalk that is lined with trees.]



Bloom In History

Kathleen Woo

I chose this photo because it has interesting details in black and white, light and dark, and its background colour behind it. I think it is interesting to see every fine detail in every part of a flower. I think it is fascinating to view it in black and white. It captures everything I am fascinated with. I think the audience may feel the details of both the foreground and the background, on a leaf and flower and it may feel for them like it is an old photograph from history.

[A black and white photograph of a large bunch of tulips growing in a garden. The flowers are all in bloom, some are leaning over, others standing up straight. Around the tulips are mulch and grass. In the background is a sidewalk.]



Untitled
Jaclyn Grabovskis

I choose the photo with the flowers in the backyard because it is neat. This photo is great for all seasons. This photo makes me feel happy.

[An image that prominently displays various green ground cover weeds and plants with small white flowers on the edge of a grey brick walking path. Mulch and moss is visible around the cluster of plants.]



Leading Lines in the Sky

Erica Machtinger

This photo captures a variety of different things. For example, the black and white, the sky, the telephone poles, the wires, the grass, and the railing. The telephone lines are leading lines. The railing, I think, is a leading line. There is pattern, symmetry, and asymmetry with the clouds. You wonder what the picture looks like in colour. So, it leaves the person looking at the photo in wonder and mystery. It is like someone painted the sky.

[A black and white photograph in portrait mode taken from the side of a road that depicts a grassy field in the distance, a cluster of moving clouds in the sky, and a series of transmission towers in the background with power lines that reach out above the sightline. A short, metal fence is visible in the foreground, and a car mirror peeks out at the bottom left of the image.]



Chanukah Candles **Benny Himelfarb**

I chose this photo because the candles are blooming on the Jewish holiday of Chanukah.

[A menorah with a row of eight lit candles is in a sink. There are water droplets in the basin. The candles are coloured blue, green, blue, orange, pink, green, pink, and yellow. There is a ninth lit orange candle behind the first blue candle.]



***A Tree Branch at Burlington
Botanical Gardens***
Dejan Jankovic

I like this nature scene because of the surroundings of green, and the branch reaching out above the water. It also has lots of light.

[A sunlit stream with a muddy bank and green bushes and trees surrounding it. On the left, a tree has fallen across the stream, its top resting in the bushes on the right side of the stream bank. We can see a peek of blue-grey sky through the trees.]



Untitled **Ben Granovsky**

artist statement unavailable.

[The inside of a Toronto subway station. The subway platform on the left is grey with a yellow border at the end, and at the end of the platform is a green TTC bin and a window through which we can see outside. The subway tracks on the right extend outside, where we can see a metal fence, industrial buildings, green trees, and a blue sky. At the top of the subway station are some fluorescent lights and a sign that reads "Southbound to Kennedy".]



Surprises

Dayna Morris

Every time I look at this picture, I notice something new about it. At first, I chose this picture because I liked the textures of the rocks. Then I noticed that you could see the leaves pick up the slight pink of the big rock to the left. The next time I looked, I saw the sticks in the corner. This picture surprises the onlooker with each viewing.

[A close-up of a bundle of grey rocks, of various sizes and textures, nestled upon small grey and brown twigs, with various small, green ground cover visible at the bottom of the image. Large burgundy and green leaves are visibly scattered atop the grey rocks.]



Untitled
Daniel Krieser

artist statement unavailable

[A colourful still-life image of a grey kitchen counter featuring bundles of bananas, tomatoes, avocados, a large green watermelon, and a white dish filled with cherry tomatoes, nestled on a wooden cutting board. A silver metal canister containing pink and red flower bunches rests beside the fruit on the left side of the image. A white orchid in a white ceramic pot is visible behind the watermelon, on the right side of the image. In the background, there is a window that looks out to a brick wall. On the windowsill, there is an ornamental glass rooster and a small, blue ceramic jar.]



Ready to Fly **Catherine Partlow**

I chose this picture because I like the bright blue and clear white of the bird against the subtle colours of the trees in the background. In the grass, the flowers are beginning to bloom and the birdhouse offers a place of rest and protection for the bird and its eggs.

[A blue jay is sitting on top of a wooden birdhouse. In the background is a grass field with scattered yellow flowers and trees with yellowish-green leaves.]

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