



Vancouver Island School of Art

Spring
Summer
2024

Courses &
Workshops





Cover art by Barbara Poggemiller.

www.vancouverislandschoolart.com

Whether you want to take only one art course or complete a full-time program, there is a place for you at our school. We have courses for people with absolutely no experience as well as courses for artists who might want to learn new skills. Our classes are small -usually around 8-14 students per class. Our demographics vary from 18-80 so every course you take at VISA is a small microcosm of the world at large.

When you take a course at our school you will find that you are part of a community. VISA is a great place to meet people and make friends. Within no time, you will feel right at home in our contemporary classroom space located in one of Victoria's treasured downtown heritage buildings.

About us

Spring 2024 Courses

ART FUNDAMENTALS

THE PRACTICING ARTIST: GETTING STARTED

Learn how to blast through artistic blocks and nurture your innate creativity through the development of a daily writing practice and five projects to activate and mine your subconscious. A useful course for beginners as well as mature artists in any medium. Course delivered through slide lectures, curated readings, seminar discussions, and drawing projects. *Suitable for all levels.*

Wednesdays, May 8 - Jun 19 10am - 1pm Jessica Ziakin \$275 In-person

DRAWING

CALLIGRAPHY FOR BEGINNERS

This course will introduce you to the fundamentals of European pen calligraphy. Students will learn to identify and assemble the correct pens and nibs, how to form Roman capitals (the basis of modern day lettering), and how to write in beautiful italic. Students will have the opportunity to plan and work on a final project, incorporating elements such as illustration, gold lettering, and your own beloved text! *Suitable for all levels.*

Tuesdays, May 7 - Jun 11, 6pm - 9pm Jenny Hainsworth \$275 In-person

COLOURED PENCILS

Through a guided series of drawing assignments, you will gain a deeper understanding of coloured pencils and how they can be implemented in your art practice. Selected readings, group discussions, and thematic exercises will all lead to the production of a self-directed final project. Contemporary artists to be studied include Annie Pootoogook, Graham Little, Winnie Truong, and Ingrid Calame. *Suitable for all levels.*

Wednesdays, May 8 - Jun 12, 10am - 1pm Leah McInnis \$275 Online

CONTEMPORARY DRAWING

Push the boundaries of traditional drawing and explore the diverse approaches and techniques of contemporary drawing. Students will explore conceptual frameworks that define contemporary drawing practices. We will analyze the methods of contemporary artists to inform our creative processes and challenge conventional notions of drawing. Through weekly slide presentations, discussions, and projects, you will develop a deeper understanding of conceptual

approaches in drawing and gain the skills to create meaningful and thought-provoking artworks. The course will include sessions in collage, deconstructing photographs, and experimenting with other unconventional drawing techniques. *Suitable for all levels.*

Mondays, May 6 - Jun 17, 2pm - 5pm Chantal New \$275 In-person

THE CONTEMPORARY PORTRAIT

This course introduces the practice of portraiture with a focus on a contemporary approach. Basic ways to draw and paint a portrait will be discussed, and experimental works based on personal expression will be encouraged. Sessions will include drawing, painting and mixed media, and students will work from models, photographs and imagination. Contemporary artists whose practice includes the portrait as a subject will be discussed in class. *Suitable for all levels.*

Thursdays, May 9 - Jun 13, 10am - 1pm Leah McInnis \$275 Online

DRAWING FROM ARCHITECTURE

An introduction to the many ways of looking at architecture and how to use it as a source for drawings. In addition to practicing technical skills of drafting and perspective drawing, you will also learn to represent spaces in conceptual and abstracted ways. Field trips to significant architectural sites in the downtown area are included. Traditional drawing materials such as pencils, pens, and charcoal will be used and students will be encouraged to experiment with mixed media for assignments. *Suitable for all levels.*

Fridays, May 10- Jun 21, 2pm - 5pm James Letkeman \$275 In-person

DRAWING FROM THE OCEAN

This mixed-media drawing course is inspired by a new book called *"The Ocean"*. The course will use a range of sources for inspiration from historical drawings and scientific diagrams, to artists who use the ocean as a main source of subject matter in their work. You will explore beneath and above the ocean's surface as well as the variety of plants and animals that live there. Materials used include pencils, graphite, pastels, watercolour and ink. *Suitable for all levels.*

Thursdays, May 9 - Jun 13, 2pm - 5pm Wendy Welch \$275 In-person

DRAWING: IDEAS THROUGH PROCESS

Use the process of artmaking to discover ideas and approaches as opposed to working with a specific end result in mind. Learn to develop ideas through a variety of collage studies and work with basic drawing materials such as pencils and graphite sticks on a range of surfaces. Collage allows the fluidity of image juxtaposition in terms of developing a design. *Suitable for all levels.*

Fridays, May 17- Jun 21, 10am - 1pm Maryam Tavakoli \$275 In-person

PENCIL DRAWING

The pencil is the most basic and simplest of all the drawing tools, and is still one of the best drawing tools. You will be introduced to a variety of ways to draw with a pencil, including drawing from observation as well as making abstract designs. The course will cover making a variety of types of lines, shading, and using an eraser as a drawing tool. *Suitable for all levels.*

Thursdays, May 9 - Jun 13, 6pm - 9pm Meghan Krauss \$275 In-person

MIXED MEDIA

COLLAGE: PAPER AS PAINT

An introduction to different ways of using coloured and patterned papers to create a composition as you would do with paint. The focus will be on using both abstract and representational designs based on found and composed shapes. The use of coloured papers is a great way to expand your colour awareness and the development of colour schemes for paintings. Josef Albers, who wrote the *Interaction of Colour* was an adamant believer in the “paper palette” to precede the paint palette. The projects will be small works of art in themselves but can also be used as ideas or studies for paintings. *Suitable for all levels.*

Wednesdays, May 8 - Jun 12, 2pm - 5pm Wendy Welch \$275 In-person

PAINTING

NATURE IN THE CITY

Learn to discover the beauty and mystery of the natural world in local urban parks around the city. You will learn basic drawing and painting techniques using watercolour pencils and/or watercolour travel sets, which are easy to use and practical to transport. The course will take place in a different location each week such as Beacon Hill Park, Government House and Ross Bay Cemetery. This course is great for those wanting to develop a sketching practice as well as for people who just want to spend time observing nature. Beginners welcome. *Acrylic and oil painting plein air set-ups are welcome, but please be prepared to transport your work to and from the location. *Suitable for all levels.*

Wednesdays, May 8 - Jun 12, 6pm - 9pm Kate Brooks Heinimann \$275 In-person

PAINT LIKE AN ARTIST I

You will be introduced to a contemporary painter and their historical influences each week. We will review their specific approaches to subject matter as well as application of paint and process. Artwork shown will include representation and abstraction. There will be a weekly painting project based on this discussion. This is a great course for people who want to learn more about what is going on in painting in the major cities of the world such as New York, Los Angeles, London and Berlin, as well as those who want to push their painting practice in new directions. Participants can use oil, acrylic or watercolour. Artists discussed in this course will vary from previous courses of the same title, so feel free to take it again to learn about more artists! *Suitable for all levels.*

Fridays, May 10-Jun 14, 2pm - 5pm Wendy Welch \$275 Online

PAINTING: THE FLOWER AS ART

Everybody loves flowers and this painting course will introduce you to innovative and unusual ways to approach the age-old subject of flower painting. This course will use the flower to inspire a range of experimental projects from contemporary botanicals, to using floral patterns as surface and subject. Examples of the work of historical and contemporary painters will be shown for inspiration and discussion. *Suitable for all levels.*

Tuesdays, May 7-Jun 11, 2pm - 5pm Wendy Welch \$275 Online



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Summer 2024 Courses

DRAWING

DRAWING A SERIES

This course will focus on developing an idea into a series of related drawings. Students can choose from any preferred drawing material: pencil, ink, pastel or watercolour (or a combination). The first class will focus on coming up with an idea using found images and collage-making, and these will be used as source material for drawings throughout the course. A range of contemporary artists who use drawing as their main area of practice will be introduced. *Suitable for all levels.*

Fridays, Jun 28- Aug 2, 10am - 1pm Maryam Tavakoli \$275 In-person

DRAWING: EXPLORATIONS IN INK

This course focuses on using the fluid medium of ink to explore pen and brush drawing as well as more experimental approaches of layered washes, using collage and combining mixed media such as pastel and watercolour paint with the ink drawings. Projects include layered mixed media drawings, making an artist book and creating 'a series' of related work. *Suitable for all levels.*

Thursdays, Jun 27 - Aug 8, 2pm - 5pm Wendy Welch \$275 Online

HOW TO DRAW

Have you always wanted to learn to draw but were not sure where to start? This course will introduce you to foundational drawing techniques to develop your understanding of visual communication and help you discover your own artistic voice. Assignments and various in-class exercises will cover topics such as line, shading, perspective, composition and how to work with a range of drawing materials. *No experience is needed. Suitable for all levels.*

Thursdays, Jun 27 - Aug 1, 2pm - 5pm James Letkeman \$275 In-person

TO DRAW A DIARY

You will create a body of new drawings that will use your personal experiences, memories and reflections as source material. We will examine a number of contemporary artists who similarly work with a diaristic approach as a way to ground our discussions of selfhood and drawing. Traditional and exploratory drawing materials will be utilized as we work our way through an exploration and celebration of selfhood. Daily drawing exercises will complement a number of larger projects that will be developed by you in relation to the weekly discussion topics. *Suitable for all levels.*

Thursdays, Jun 27 - Aug 1, 10am - 1pm Leah McInnis \$275 Online

URBAN SKETCHING

Do you see people sitting on a park bench or in a café sketching and wish you could do that too? Would you like to draw what you see around you? This course teaches you to draw what you see as you make your way through the city including architecture, interiors of buildings, people, gardens and parks. Learn some basic drawing techniques, as well as the best materials to carry for sketching on-site. A great course to take if you are traveling to an urban destination this summer and would like to do some drawing while you are there. *Suitable for all levels.*

Thursdays, Jun 27 - Aug 1, 6pm - 9pm Meghan Krauss \$275 In-person

MIXED MEDIA

CONTEMPORARY TEXTILE PROJECT

Develop a textile project of your choice that could include a range of materials and methods, or something as simple as stitching on fabric. You are welcome to start a new project, or to bring in an existing project or idea to receive ongoing support in bringing it to completion. The course will include an introduction to contemporary textiles and the artists and thinkers that have an impact on contemporary art, as well as critique centered on developing a personal voice and textile instruction. The content will be curated to your project interests and delivered in an encouraging and supportive environment. All skill levels are welcome: this can be your first time undertaking a 6-week project or you can be an established artist looking for a community to bring your questions and receive feedback. Skills will be taught from an anti-mastery perspective, meaning that you don't have to have mastered a particular skill to create beautiful and insightful work using it. Projects could include sewing, embroidery, knitting, quilting appliqué, weaving or any other textile-related process or a combination of many. There is also an opportunity to incorporate the language of textiles with photography, painting and other work on paper. *No textile experience is necessary. Suitable for all levels.*

Wednesdays, Jun 26 - Jul 31, 2pm - 5pm Corrie Peters \$275 Online

DRAWING WITH FABRIC

This course will encourage students to bring together craft techniques and contemporary art. They will learn basic skills in rug hooking, appliqué and fabric printing using stencils and cyanotype. Projects will be organized around the themes of mementos and monuments with spaciousness for individual interests. Contemporary textile artists, as well as other artists working with mementos and monuments, will be introduced weekly for inspiration and to learn from. Previous experience with the craft skills and art mediums are not necessary; students will be supported and challenged at their skill level. *Suitable for all levels.*

Tuesdays, Jun 25 - Jul 30, 10am - 1pm Corrie Peters \$275 In-person

MIXED MEDIA TYPOGRAPHY

Cover the basics of typography and hand lettering and how it can be applied using different mediums and surfaces. The instructor will demonstrate how artists can use typography as a form expression in drawings and paintings, as well as for use in street art, murals, posters and other forms of graphic design. The course will cover a brief introduction to design principles of layout and colour. You will learn the essential skills, tools and approaches to make typography part of your art practice. *Suitable for all levels.*

Mondays, Jun 24 - Jul 29, 6pm - 9pm Ian Milligan \$275 In-person

PAINTING

ACRYLIC PAINTING BASICS

Are you curious about how to use acrylic paints? Throughout this course you will learn the foundational processes of working with acrylic paint, such as how to mix paint, capturing light/shadow and texture, colour theory, working with medium and the application of paint to a surface. You will develop your artistic skills through various assignments and in-class exercises that include painting still life arrangements, landscapes, architecture and photographs. *Suitable for all levels.*

Fridays, Jun 28- Aug 2, 2pm - 5pm James Letkeman \$275 In-person

EXPRESSIVE WATERCOLOUR

Watercolour painting can be full of energy, colour and light. In this course you will learn a variety of painting techniques, as well as how to develop a personal interpretation of landscape, figure, portrait and more. This course will encourage you to accept the expressive potential of the medium when it is outside of your control. You will learn to love broad brush strokes, drips and accidental effects. Starting from initial mark-making explorations, you will take an intuitive approach to painting from nature, as well as reference images and exploratory drawings. *Suitable for all levels.*

Tuesdays, Jun 25 - Jul 30, 10am - 1pm Tim McCormack \$275 Online

GARRY OAK MEADOW AS ART

Learn about Oak Meadow ecosystems through field sketches and studio drawings. Explore how to capture all the elements of an oak ecosystem - birds, flowers, bugs, and the invasive species that threaten them today. Regular trips to oak meadow spaces, such as Government House and Beacon Hill Park will be made in order to submerge ourselves in the subject and experience hands-on learning. *Suitable for all levels.*

Wednesdays, Jun 26 - Jul 31, 2pm - 5pm Kate Brooks Heinemann \$275 In-person

LANDSCAPE PAINTING WITH ACRYLICS

Learn how acrylic paints can be used in a variety of ways to approach landscape painting. Examples of historical and contemporary artists who focus on landscape will be provided, and how these can be used as inspiration for developing personal compositions will be shown. We will also explore plein-air painting and use field sketches created at local landscapes to inform our studio paintings.

Suitable for all levels.

Tuesdays, Jun 25 - Jul 30, 6pm - 9pm Kate Brooks Heinemann \$275

In-person

PAINT LIKE AN ARTIST II

In *Paint Like an Artist II* you will be introduced to a 21st century painter each week. We will review their specific approaches to subject matter as well as application of paint and process. There will be a weekly painting project based on this discussion. This is a great course for those who are curious to learn how early-mid 20th century artists have influenced many contemporary painters. The course will also provide an excellent opportunity to push your painting practice in new directions. Participants can use oil, acrylic, gouache or watercolour. New artists different from previous sessions will be discussed. This course can be taken as a follow-up to *Paint Like an Artist I*, but it is not necessary to have taken the first one in order to enrol in the second part. New artists will be discussed so feel free to re-take this course. *Suitable for all levels.*

Fridays, Jun 28- Aug 9, 2pm - 5pm Wendy Welch \$275 Online

PAINTING AND CINEMA

Calling all cinephiles! In this six-week course we will dive into different cinematic genres through the lens of painting. Each week will be devoted to a different film genre, such as the Film Noir or the Western. We will analyze the aesthetic conventions and themes unique to each genre, and use this knowledge to inform the production of paintings. You are invited to reflect upon or reinterpret the themes of each genre in your own way. We will look to a number of contemporary painters for inspiration, including Peter Doig, Luc Tuymans and Monika Baer. Select films will be recommended each week in addition to the assigned class time to aid in the discussion of each genre. Students can work in a painting media of their choice: acrylic, watercolour, gouache or oil. *Some painting experience recommended.*

Wednesdays, Jun 26 - Jul 31, 10am - 1pm Leah McInnis \$275 Online

PAINTING FLORA AND FAUNA

Learn how to capture flora and fauna in painting in this course. Students are welcome to use a variety of paint media of their choice including acrylic, oil or watercolour. We will look at contemporary and historical artists' work where the focus is on flora and fauna, and learn about the importance of nature in art and in our broader world today. We will work both inside in studios and outside at local parks creating field sketches and paintings. Sketching and visual journaling techniques will be explored and utilized throughout the course. *Some painting experience recommended.*

Tuesdays, Jun 25 - Jul 30, 2pm - 5pm Kate Brooks Heinimann \$275

In-person

PAINTING FROM PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography has impacted the practice of painting throughout modern art history and it continues to inspire contemporary artists today. This course will examine how painters use cameras and photographs as tools that influence their artistic visions. Students will examine how artists such as Damian Loeb achieve photorealism, while others such as Justin Duffus use existing imagery as a source of inspiration for their abstracted paintings. The close relationship between painting and photography will be examined by studying precedent artworks, discussing artistic theories and developing technical painting skills through in-class exercises and assignments. *Some painting experience recommended.*

Wednesdays, Jun 26 - Jul 31, 6pm - 9pm James Letkeman \$275 In-person

WATERCOLOUR: ART AND SCIENCE

Art and science have co-existed throughout history as demonstrated through botanical drawings, diagrams of the earth's structure, solar systems and maps. This course uses several branches of science including cell biology, botany, geology, astronomy and cartography as a point of departure for subject matter. Basic watercolour techniques will be covered, but the focus of the course is on responding to a scientific subject in an expressive and imaginative way. *Suitable for all levels.*

Tuesdays, Jun 25 - Aug 6, 2pm - 5pm Wendy Welch \$275 Online

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Spring Summer 2024 Workshops

Workshops are all IN-PERSON delivery

MAY

WATERCOLOUR PENCIL IN BEACON HILL PARK *May 11 & 12*

Join us for two afternoons of drawing the beautiful flowers, plants and trees in Beacon Hill Park. Watercolour pencils are an ideal medium for outdoor sketching because they can be used both for drawing and for painting effects. They are also inexpensive and easy to carry. This workshop is ideal for those making outdoor drawing part of your travel experience or even if you want to make drawings of your own gardens. You will learn a variety of techniques and approaches to watercolour pencils as well as discover some hidden treasures in the majestic downtown park. *Suitable for all levels.*

Saturday & Sunday 1:30 - 4:30pm Wendy Welch \$135.00

STILL LIFE WITH SOFT PASTELS *May 18 & 19*

This is an introduction to the many beautiful qualities of soft pastels. Learn to blend, layer and create a range of interesting lines and textures. Plan and execute several still life arrangements using soft pastel on coloured paper. Participants will also be shown how to use coloured pencils with pastels. *Suitable for all levels.*

Saturday & Sunday 1:30 - 4:30pm Jenny Hainsworth \$135.00

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ARTISTS *May 25 & 26*

Are you considering applying to a juried show, writing an exhibition proposal, or composing a grant? This workshop will cover basic tips and advice on writing and how to answer questions in a clear and concise manner, build a timeline, and create a budget. Through the duration of the workshop, you will create a draft proposal, using feedback from the instructor and group to guide you. Resources on where to apply for various grants and places to show your work around the city will be reviewed.

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4:30pm Regan Shrumm \$245.00

JUNE

MAKING ART A PRACTICE *Jun 1 & 2*

Inspired by Cat Bennett's book: *Making Art a Practice: How to Be the Artist You Are*, you will be introduced to a range of simple, yet fulfilling drawing and painting prompts to get you excited about making art. Focus is on process and discovery

and allowing yourself to make art even if you think you are not good at it. The most important discovery you will make here: Art is its own reward and you will gain the motivation to make art a part of your daily life. *Suitable for all levels.*

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4:30pm Wendy Welch \$245.00

COLOUR AND EXPRESSIVE PORTRAITURE *Jun 8 & 9*

Explore the role of intense colour and unconventional sources to develop a portrait from photographic imagery. We will review and apply basics of facial proportion and colour theory while also considering the influence of music on palette choices and expressionism. A portrait will be completed in class using student-generated tools that can be prepared in advance: a photo series and playlist. Oil or acrylic painters welcome. *Some painting experience recommended.*

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4:30pm John Luna \$245.00

LINOCUT PRINTING *Jun 15 & 16*

This beginner linocut print workshop covers basic skills of planning, designing, and carving a linocut print for a single colour. Students will learn what kind of designs and drawings work best with this process and develop their own personal image-making approach through guidance from instructor. Projects will be done on paper and fabric. Students are welcome to bring their own clothing or fabric items they would like to use for printing in addition to printing on paper. *Suitable for all levels.*

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4:30pm Regan Shrumm \$245.00

PAINTING: NEW TAKES ON OLD MASTERS *Jun 22 & 23*

Explore ways that contemporary painters use historical work to learn from, and as a way to comment on the present. Produce studies based on details from Baroque and Romantic painting, updating and transforming them in ways that address contemporary perspectives. Develop paintings on top of your own past work to produce a richly historied surface. *Some painting experience recommended.*

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4:30pm John Luna \$245.00

EGG TEMPERA PAINTING *Jun 29 & 30*

This workshop explores this fascinating paint medium, used throughout history because of its durability, luminous colours and satin finish. Discover the excitement of making your own paint using egg yolk emulsion combined with pigment and learn how to apply it to the surface of your drawings and paintings. Historic methods and contemporary applications will be discussed. *Suitable for all levels.*

Saturday & Sunday 1:30 - 4:30pm Jenny Hainsworth \$135.00

JULY

LANDSCAPE DRAWING WITH CHARCOAL *Jul 6 & 7*

Explore the expressive qualities of charcoal to represent our natural and urban landscape. Learn how to respond to the landscape as you explore the

tone, composition and material qualities of drawing with charcoal. Through a combination of demonstrations and drawing exercises, you will begin to develop a language of mark-making that will help you make the most of this versatile drawing medium. Using photographs as a source of imagery, you will capture a sense of place and make evocative charcoal drawings. *Suitable for all levels.*

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 1pm Chantal New \$135.00

DRAWING OTHERWORLDLY GARDENS *Jul 20 & 21*

Embark on a captivating journey into the realm of botanical wonders that thrive in the far reaches of the universe from alien gardens to surreal landscapes. Through a blend of collage techniques and observational drawing exercises, create out-of-this-world botany using paper, pencil crayons, pens, mixed media, and glue. Make drawings depicting unique otherworldly plant species, enriched by the fusion of artistic expression and speculative science. *Suitable for all levels.*

Saturday & Sunday 1:30 - 4:30pm Maddy Knott \$135.00

PAINTING: PLACE AND MEMORY *Jul 27 & 28*

Explore architectural imagery as a starting point for paintings about the passage of time, personal memory or political history. How do spaces such as historical ruins, public parks, childhood homes or abandoned cities hold both private and collective meaning for us? Working from your own photographic sources, develop a painting from thumbnail sketches; approaches to technique will include monochromatic underpainting, wet-into-wet layering, basic colour theory, and abstract composition. *Some painting experience recommended.*

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4:30pm John Luna \$245.00

AUGUST

DRAWING AND PAINTING GEOLOGY *Aug 3 & 4*

Explore many facets of geology from detailed drawing of individual rocks, to mixed media renditions of cliff faces, to collage paintings of beneath the earth's surface. Use graphite, ink, charcoal, conté crayon, watercolour and collage. Inspiration will come from actual rocks sourced from around the world, historical geology textbooks educational posters, and contemporary artists. *Suitable for all levels.*

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4:30pm Wendy Welch \$245.00

LARGE-SCALE DRAWING *Aug 10 & 11*

Delve into the captivating realm of abstract expressionism through a series of engaging drawing exercises. Participants embrace spontaneity, gestural expression, and experimentation with various tools and materials, refining their skills in line, shape, colour, and texture. We will utilize large sheets of newsprint as well as rolls of paper to explore large-scale drawings, alongside a variety of mediums such as pen, pastels and ink. *Suitable for all levels.*

Saturday & Sunday 1:30 - 4:30pm Maddy Knott \$135.00



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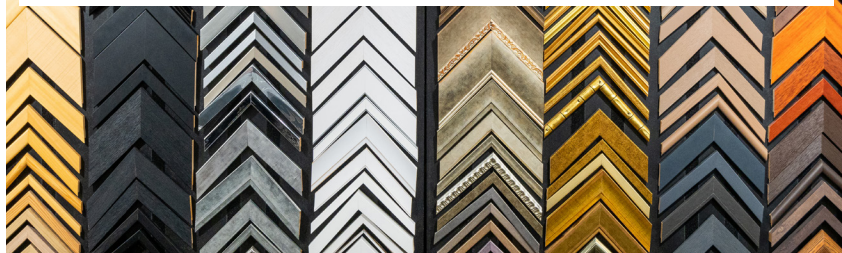
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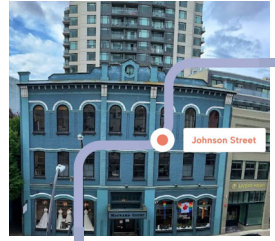


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Vancouver Island School of Art

