

# Tara Francis

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## Education

- 2022** Risk Management Certification, Metepenagiag, NB
- 2021** JEDI Art Business Accelerator Program
- 2003 - 2004** Advanced Studies, New Brunswick College of Craft and Design (NBCCD), Fredericton, NB  
Combining Aboriginal imagery and silk painting techniques
- 2002 - 2003** Independent Study, NBCCD
- 2001 - 2002** Diploma in Fine Craft, Surface Design, NBCCD
- 1999 - 2000** Native Arts Certificate, NBCCD
- 1994 - 1996** Diploma of Hospitality and Tourism/Travel and Tourism, NBCC, St. Andrews, NB

## Selected Professional Experience

- 2003 - Present** Professional Contemporary Indigenous Artist, NB
- 2021- 2022** Quillwork Workshop Instructor, Anglophone District South, NB
- 2020** Indigenous Visual Arts Instructor, NBCCD, Fredericton NB
- 2019** Traditional Medium Instructor, Tobique FN, Burnt Church FN, Elsipogtog FN, NB, Presque Isle, Maine
- 2018** Visiting Artist, NBCCD, Fredericton NB
- 2017** Assistant Festival Organizer, Prismatic Arts Festival, Dartmouth, NS
- 2015** Traditional Medium Instructor, Bouctouche First Nation, NB
- 2014** Traditional Medium Workshop Instructor, St. George's, NFLD
- 2013** Workshop Instructor, Beaverbrook Art Gallery Outreach: Young Ancestors Elsipogtog, NB
- 2010 - 2012** Traditional Media Instructor, Aboriginal Visual Arts Program, NBCCD, Fredericton, NB
- 2008 - 2012** Workshop Instructor, Fredericton Arts and Learning, Inc., Fredericton, NB
- 2011** Participant in dialogues with Dr. Marie Baptiste, from University of Saskatchewan for Study entitled  
"Animating the Mi'kmaw Humanities in Atlantic Canada" St. Mary's FN
- 2009 - 2011** Cultural Coordinator/Artist in Residence, Fredericton Native Friendship Centre, Fredericton, NB 2006  
Craftsperson, Soldier's Barracks, Historical Garrison District, Fredericton, NB
- 2005** Artist in Residence, Fredericton Arts Alliance, Historical Garrison District, Fredericton, NB  
Manager, String Fever Textiles Gallery, Fredericton, NB
- 2004 - 2005** Model, Drawing Studio, NBCCD, Fredericton, NB
- 2004** Retail Gallery Salesperson/Artist in Residence, String Fever Textiles Gallery, Fredericton, NB  
Craftsperson, Grass Roots Fine Craft Shop, Fredericton, NB
- 2003** Manager/Tour Interpreter/Craftsperson, Rising Artisans, Fredericton, NB  
Craft Workshop Instructor, Soldier's Barracks, Fredericton, NB
- 2002** Day Camp Coordinator, Fredericton Native Friendship Centre, Fredericton, NB
- 2001** Camp Leader, Kids Kraft Day Camp, NBCCD, Fredericton, NB
- 2000** Craftsperson, various Native Craft sales, NB
- 1999** Kindergarten Assistant, Rexton Elementary School, Rexton, NB
- 1997** Day Camp and Workshop Developer, Miramichi Youth Village, Miramichi, NB

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2015** Sun and Moon, Prismatic Arts Festival, Dartmouth, NS
- 2013** National Aboriginal Day Gala, Capitol Theatre, Moncton, NB
- 2012** M&T Deli Artist in Residency, Fredericton, NB
- 2007** Your Mother, Green Turtle Clothing, Fredericton, NB
- 2004** Traces of My Ancestors, The Gallery Downstairs, NBCCD, Fredericton, NB
- 2003** Traces of Our Ancestors, Elsipogtog First Nation, Big Cove, NB

## Group and Collaborative Exhibition

- 2022** Wayfinding Exhibition, Saint John Art Center, Saint John, NB  
 Petapan First Light Symposium Exhibition, ehpituwikuwam, Beaverbrook Art Gallery Fredericton, NB  
 Exhibition Kmawqepiyapon, Riviere-du-loup, Québec  
 Tali Ktantutes Mimajuaqan // How do I live here? Chase Gallery, Halifax, NS
- 2021-2023** Stitching ourselves Together, Quillwork Exhibition, Abbe Museum, Bar Harbor, Maine, USA
- 2021-2022** Wabanaki Art Exhibition, Phillips Gallery, Yorkville, Ont.
- 2020-2022** Wabanaki Art Exhibition, Gallery on Queen, Fredericton NB
- 2021** Cross Cultural Artist in Residence, Kouchibouguac, NB
- 2021** Echoes of our Ancestors, George Fry Gallery, NBCCD, Fredericton, NB
- 2020** New Works, Gallery on Queen, Fredericton, NB  
 Survivance of Indigenous Art: 2020 Pandemic, Online Art Exhibit, Mawi'Art.  
 Cultural Residency Exhibition, Gallery Sans Nom, Moncton NB
- 2020** Constellation blue-Galerie Bernard-Jean Caraquet NB  
 Circadian Group Exhibition, Ax Gallery, Sussex NB
- 2019** Cultural Residency Exhibition, Saint John Arts Centre NB  
 Keepers of the Light, Eastern Edge Gallery, St. John's NFLD
- 2019** Demonstration Artist, Petapan First Light, Indigenous Arts Symposium, St. John's NFLD  
 Demonstration Artist, Neqotkuk Wolastoqiyik Traditional Gathering , Tobique, NB  
 Cross Cultural Residency, Metepenagiag, Caraquet, St. John, New Brunswick,  
 We Are Still Here, Our Roots Are Strong, New Brunswick College of Craft and Design, Fredericton,
- 2018** The Art of Labour, Yellow Box Gallery, St. Thomas University, Fredericton,
- 2017** Demonstration Artist, Grand Reopening, Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton.  
 Showcase Artist, FAVA, Caraquet,  
 Demonstration Artist, The Bridge Project, Fredericton,
- 2016** Scarlet Thorns and Metamorphosis, City of Saint John Gallery, Saint John,
- 2015** Showcase Visual Artist, Prismatic Arts Festival, Halifax,  
 Over and Under, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON
- 2014** Showcase Artist, Petapan Aboriginal Arts Symposium,, Truro, NS  
 National Aboriginal Women's Conference, Membertou, NS
- 2013** Tahkomiq/Ma'kemiqew. Charlotte Street Arts Centre, Fredericton, NB  
 Nails, Gallery 78, Fredericton, NB  
 Cultural Survivor Exhibit and Show, Pequot Museum, Mass US  
 Kingsclear Powwow Art Exhibit, Kingsclear, NB
- 2012** From Tradition Works by Gina Brooks and Tara Francis, Sunbury Shores, St Andrews, NB  
 Glimpse of the Wabanaki, New Brunswick College of Craft and Design, Fredericton, NB  
 By Land, By Sea, By Air Surface Design Alumni Fashion Show/ Exhibit NBCCD, Fredericton, NB
- 2012 - 2013** Culture Crawl Studio 4ward, Fredericton, NB
- 2012** Sagatay, Aboriginal Artist Conference, Charlotte St. Arts Centre Fredericton, NB
- 2011** The Matrix Artist in Residence, Sunbury Shores, St Andrews, NB  
 Teachings, Gallery Connexion, Fredericton, NB
- 2010** Last Minute Christmas Sale, Fredericton Crafters, Fredericton, NB  
 Silk and Glaze, Quill and Fire, exhibit and sale, Richibucto, NB  
 Downtown Fredericton Artist's Market, Downtown Fredericton, NB  
 Cultural Expressions Festival 2010, Officer's Square, Fredericton, NB  
 Aboriginal Arts Gala, Charlotte Street Arts Centre, Curator and Showcased Artist, Fredericton, NB  
 Aboriginal Day Celebrations, Downtown Fredericton, NB  
 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Display, Boyce Farmer's Market,

Fredericton, NB

- Celebration of Faith in Diversity, St. Thomas University, Fredericton, NB
- 2009** The Native Friendship Centre's Christmas Craft Sale, Fredericton, NB  
The Woman's Festival Officer's Square, Fredericton, NB  
Downtown Fredericton, Artist Market, Fredericton, NB
- 2008** The Green Festival, Kent County, NB
- 2006** Fredericton Arts Alliance Artists-in-Residence Exhibition, Fredericton City Hall, NB
- 2005** Introductions, 4Winds Gallery, Bristol, Rhode Island, USA  
Quillwork display, String Fever Textile Gallery, Fredericton, NB
- 2004** Elite Aboriginal Art Exhibition, Aboriginal National Hockey Tournament, Miramichi, NB  
Home is Where the Art Is, UNB Art Centre, Fredericton, NB  
Fredericton Arts Alliance Art Gala and auction, Fredericton Playhouse Gallery, Fredericton, NB  
Artist-in-Residence, Quillwork display/demonstration, String Fever Textiles Gallery, Fredericton, NB  
Grass Roots Craft Shop Collaborative, Historical Garrison District, Fredericton, NB  
Native Women's Conference, Delta Fredericton, NB  
Native Nurses' Conference, Delta Fredericton, NB
- 2003** Mahsos Motifs Christmas Sale, Fredericton, NB  
Boyce Farmers Market, Fredericton, NB  
Rising Artisans Student Consignment Shop, Historical Garrison District, Fredericton, NB  
Arts Exhibition, The Gallery Downstairs, NBCCD, Fredericton, NB  
National Aboriginal Day Celebration display, Officer's Square, Fredericton, NB  
Surtex International Student Design Competition  
Crossley Carpet Design Competition  
A Show of Hands, NB Fine Craft Centre, Fredericton, NB
- 2002** Boundless, NBCCD Graduation Exhibition, Fredericton NB
- 2001** Wrapping it Up, Playhouse Gallery, Fredericton, NB

### **Selected Commissions, Grants and Awards**

- 2022** A Male Monarch for A Male Monarch, The Honorable Brenda Murphy, Lieutenant Governor of NB, Gifted to King Charles III, London England.
- 2022** Migitjoo Quillwork Portrait, Beaverbrook Art Gallery Acquisition, Fredericton, NB
- 2021** 4 Sisters Monarch Butterfly Quillwork, Abbe Museum, Bar Harbor Acquisition, Maine, USA
- 2021** Every Child Matters Orange T-shirt Logo design, Government of NB, Fredericton, NB
- 2021** Telling our Twisted Histories, Digital Art series, CBC, Canada
- 2020** CollectionArtNB acquisition of Grandmother Moon Turtle, Grandmother Moon Turtle Legend, Monarch
- 2017** Abalone River Mural, Rainbow Sky Gallery, Private Collection, Fredericton NB
- 2016** 3D Teepee Mural For Canada 150 Year of Reconciliation NYE Launch, Moncton, NB
- 2015** Reproduction Chief Atwin Traditional Chief's Kilt, NBCCD, Fredericton, NB
- 2003** Intergovernmental Affairs commission for First Lady of Mali, Africa.  
Commissions in Belgium, Germany, USA  
Aboriginal Creation Grant (artsnb)

### **Artist Talks**

- 2022** Resistance Reciprocity and Roadkill, Demo and Talk Arts Atlantic Artis Symposium Saint John, NB
- 2022** Matues, the animal who dwells in the mud, Thirdspace Gallery, online talk  
Kmwqepiyapon, closing ceremony, Riviere-du-loup, Quebec
- 2021** Making a Point, Abbe Museum, Bar Harbor MN, USA  
Cross Cultural Residency Artist Talks, Kouchibouguac, NB
- 2019** Neqotkuk Wolastoqiyik Traditional Gathering, Tobique NB  
Cross Cultural Residency Artist Talks; Metepenagiag Heritage Park FN,

- Boite Theatre, Caraquet, St. John Arts Centre, NB
- 2017** Festival Inspire, Teachings from the Medicine Wheel Teepee Artist Talk, Moncton NB
- 2016** Scarlet Thorns and Metamorphosis, Saint John Art Centre, NB
- 2013** Wabanakigig Documentary Series Season 3 Episode 1 Tara Francis “Images and Silk” Bear Paw Production, APTN
- 2012** Sagatay Aboriginal Artist Conference, Charlotte Street Arts Centre

## **Trade Shows**

- 2014 - Present** Various JEDI Plenaries and National and Regional Indigenous Conference Trade Shows.  
On going Pow Wows and Traditional Gatherings.

## **Organizations/Boards**

Mawi'art Indigenous Arts Collective , Chair  
Craftnb, Board Member

## Publications

Visual Arts News Sisterhood bound by Quills, June 16th 2022

<https://visualartsnews.ca/2022/06/sisterhood-bound-by-quills/>

Created Here Magazine

Issue 19 Bodies series.

<https://www.createdhere.ca/stories/2022/5/24/wettaqiaq-wksitqamuk-nkitahkomikumuwey-exploring-land-based-art-in-new-brunswick>

CBC Telling our Twisted Histories Exhibit

[Artist Perspectives Exhibit cbc.ca/1.6192405](https://www.cbc.ca/1.6192405)

CBC Information Morning Fredericton

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-25-information-morning-fredericton/clip/15861986-telling-our-twisted-stories?fbclid=IwAR0gkYvQuqUmQS4DIya0IL0J6zJ8O4VN1s8l8ckgafuxgCWisETZGvFDAsA>

Epekwitk Quill Sisters PodCast

<https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/chatting-with-a-pro/id1567885864?i=1000534436138>

CBC

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/telling-our-twisted-histories-artist-tara-francis-1.6122454>

Portland Press Herald

<https://www.pressherald.com/2021/07/04/a-disappearing-mikmaq-tradition-porcupine-quillwork-gets-renewed-attention/?fbclid=IwAR1WnYDTTrCGdnQBae-xNioBR2nh-MqYuuQyPTsSW-3zPOeiyiYaOM5SL8>

CollectionArtNB

Link to catalogue [art-acquisitions](#)

Maritime Edit

<https://maritimeedit.com/blogs/the-edition/edition-24>

South Branch Scribble

<http://allanHUDSON.blogspot.com/search?q=tara+francis>

JEDI Blog

<https://blog.jedinb.ca/blog-2/2016/9/14/aboriginal-people-in-the-arts-tara-francis?fbclid=IwAR2cbcRNppj5mY4O8PFzONfMDSuhLU860gqkflRAVwUvMyiepoiircD4I>

APTN Wabanaagig Season 3 Episode 1 Tara Francis, Images in Silk: (Video no longer available)

<http://aptn.ca/wabanaagig/video/season-3-mikmaq/>

Gynocratic Art Gallery Feature:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20191019010421/https://gynocraticartgallery.com/dec-2016-tara-francis/>

Created Here Studio Visit Article:

<https://www.createdhere.ca/stories/meet-tara-francis-quill-weaver>

Visual arts news

Fall 2019 edition. Cross-Cultural Creation Residency Breaks Barriers in New Brunswick / Profile by Jericho Knopp