

Tara Francis

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Education

- 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- 2023 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, Solder'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

- 2023 ANKO'TE'N Group Exhibition on Sustainability, Cape Breton Centre for Craft and Design, NS
- 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.
- 2020-2023 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, Kingclear, 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
 Aboriginal Arts Exhibition, The Gallery Downstairs, NBCCD, Fredericton, NB
 National Aboriginal Day Celebration display, Officer's Square, Fredericton, NB
 Nurtex 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** The Right Honourable Brenda Murphy Lieutenant Governor of NB, A Male Monarch for a Male Monarch, A Gift for 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 & Road Kill, Arts Atlantic Symposium Artist Talk Collaboration with Starlit Simon, 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
ITANB, ITAC

Publications

Visual Arts News

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

Created Here Magazine

<https://www.createdhere.ca/stories/2022/5/24/wettaqiaq-wksitgamuk-nkitahkomikumuwey-exploring-1-and-based-art-in-new-brunswick>

The Aquinian

<https://theaquinian.net/forming-art-and-connection-at-cross-cultural-creation-residency/>

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=IwAR0gkYvQuqUmQS4DIya0IL0J6zJ8O4VN1s818ckgafuxgCWisETZGvFDAsA>

Epekwith 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