



Linda Fegan, Director, Corporate  
Communications and Marketing

Tel: (519) 740-4680 Ext. 4623  
Cell: (519) 212-3409  
Email: feganl@cambridge.ca

---

## For Immediate Release

### **'In the Footsteps of the Famous Five' Cambridge Exhibition Marks the Centenary of International Women's Day**

Cambridge, Ontario. February 28, 2011... Around the world events will take place in March to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women as the Centenary of International Women's Day is celebrated. The City of Cambridge is offering a unique artistic experience in the mix.

In the Gallery at the Cambridge Centre for the Arts, 60 Dickson Street, artists Jeanne Yardley, Barbara Young, Michele Braniff and Donna Stewart will celebrate this anniversary by walking 'In the Footsteps of the Famous Five', the group who advocated successfully for the recognition of women as "persons" under Canadian law in 1929.

The exhibit will be offered on Friday, March 11th through to Saturday, April 9th. A complimentary opening reception which includes light refreshments is slated for Friday, March 11th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

In this exhibition, metaphor, symbol, colour and line are used to examine the theme of womanhood in the last century and into the future. The resulting clay art, etchings, drawings, acrylic paintings, and collage explore women's role as communicators, healers, mothers, scapegoats, survivors and mediators.

Artist Michele Braniff comments on the significance of the exhibition stating that, "International Women's Day has long been a time of celebration for me in my working career. It's very exciting to be part of a collaboration honouring the centenary and marking changes in women's roles, fashions, and expectations while looking at the iconic women during this time. My grandmother was just a new bride the year that the Privy Council declared that a woman was a person, according to law. What an amazing journey in just three generations!"

Throughout the exhibition, there will be a series of artistic posters, one by each artist, which will be available for purchase with all proceeds benefiting the Young Women Leaders Program of the YMCA.

Braniff notes that the artists are extremely pleased to be supporting young women from the local YMCA in the fund raiser. "It's a way to honour the past and also share with the next generation."

The unique Gallery at the Cambridge Centre for the Arts provides an important space to showcase the work of emerging artists, as well as established professionals. The public may visit it free of charge. Since 2002, over 70 exhibitions have featured the diverse work of artists from across southern Ontario with a wide range of art forms including paintings, prints, photography, sculpture, pottery, fibre art and contemporary installations. An annual juried exhibition is held each year to celebrate and promote the talent of Cambridge artists. In addition, the space is home to an annual showcase of work of the Centre for the Arts students and visual art instructors. The Gallery team welcomes submissions from artists and fine craftspeople of all backgrounds with an annual call for entry each spring.

-30-

Contact:

Sophie McCann  
Arts Coordinator  
(519) 740-4681 ext. 4367  
[mccanns@cambridge.ca](mailto:mccanns@cambridge.ca)  
[www.cambridgecentreforthearts.ca](http://www.cambridgecentreforthearts.ca)

The City of Cambridge is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. It is strategically located astride highway 401 in Southwestern Ontario, part of Canada's Technology Triangle. In 2010, the population was over 130,000 people with a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services. Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. It's about choice, options and value when you become part of the community.

You meet the nicest people in Cambridge. It's a place that understands all about coming together. There is so much more to Cambridge than the beautiful lands created at the convergence of two rivers or its logistically perfect location in the heart of Ontario's economic corridor. Cambridge is the coming together of people from diverse, close-knit and proud communities. The people of Cambridge 'do the right thing' by respecting history, family values, a sound work ethic, the arts, environment and advancement. A young city, Cambridge is a master of balancing the excitement and promise of the new with the historical significance and stability of the old. A place where coming together is just the start. Uniting together is what sets Cambridge apart. Undiscovered-Cambridge families and entrepreneurs get more for less, and sacrifice nothing.

The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with potential for career growth and advancement. For more information on the area or the corporation visit [www.cambridge.ca](http://www.cambridge.ca). The City of Cambridge press room is located at <http://www.cambridge.ca/pressroom>. To opt out of the news release distribution, please send an email to Linda Fegan [feganl@cambridge.ca](mailto:feganl@cambridge.ca).