

SSHRC Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Art Practice

Brock University is located on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work in St. Catharines and the Niagara region. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement.

Brock University is committed to building inclusivity and equity through understanding and respect for diverse identities, and to reflecting this in our approaches to teaching and learning, research and creativity, administration and service provision, and community engagement. Our commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion is grounded in the recognition that the strongest research, scholarship, and creative activity and the best research training environment require engagement of scholars from diverse backgrounds. Consistent with Brock University's [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Action Plan](#), in recognition of the underrepresentation of members of the federally designated groups in the Canada Research Chairs program, and pursuant to Section 14 of the Ontario Human Rights Code, this position will be filled by a qualified candidate who self-identifies as an Indigenous/Aboriginal person.

Job Summary

Brock University's Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts (MIWSFPA) invites applications for a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Indigenous Art Practice at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor. The start date for this position can be as early as January 1, 2020, but is negotiable with the Faculty Dean.

Brock University has sought to address in meaningful and sustainable ways the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action. Courses and workshops offered by the Tecumseh Centre for Aboriginal Research and Education, Aboriginal Student Services, the Office of Human Rights and Equity, and the Faculty of Education have helped incorporate Indigenous world views, traditions, history and current affairs in the Brock community. Ongoing initiatives also support and sustain our Indigenous students, staff and faculty, and build bridges between the university and the larger Indigenous community. Brock has an active Aboriginal Education Council, a Two Row/One Dish One Spoon Council, and recently hired its first Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement. The arts play a pivotal role in Brock's realization of the values of reconciliation and decolonization, and the CRC in Indigenous Art Practice responds directly to this priority.

The CRC in Indigenous Art Practice will be appointed to one or more of the School's academic units, depending on the successful applicant's area(s) of knowledge and expertise. We recognize that in Indigenous art there may be no formal divisions between visual, theatrical, and musical art forms. Brock embraces diverse perspectives and pedagogical practices; it is hoped that the CRC in Indigenous Art Practice will help foster new collaborations across academic units and assist the School and university to move towards Indigenization. The CRC will be welcomed into a tight-knit, friendly, and dynamic community of artists, scholars, staff, and students that respects, promotes, and actively engages with Indigenous arts and culture within the University and Indigenous communities.

Our ideal candidate will be an innovative Indigenous arts practitioner and researcher whose work engages in one or more artistic forms with Indigenous communities and a leader in new

Indigenous arts-based research and methodologies. The candidate will hold knowledge and expertise in one or more of the following areas in relation to Indigenous art practice: musical, dramatic, and/or visual culture and performance; curatorial practice; arts protocols; aesthetics; relationships to land, knowledge transmission, and cultural production; arts and Indigenous health, healing, and wellness; Indigenous resistance, resilience, and resurgence; impact of transnational contact on Indigenous artistic expression; influence of Indigenous artistic expression on non-Indigenous societies; global indigeneity; anti-colonial and decolonizing theories and practices.

In addition to research and artistic production in the MIWSFPA, the CRC in Indigenous Art Practice will offer important learning, research and art-making opportunities for Indigenous students, and opportunities for non-Indigenous students to learn about Indigenous art practice through Indigenous perspectives. Ideally, the CRC will work collaboratively with faculty members in the MIWSFPA and possibly in other academic units at Brock, including Communication, Popular Culture and Film; Digital Humanities; and Interactive Arts and Science. The CRC will have the opportunity to supervise or mentor Indigenous and non-Indigenous graduate students, in particular those in the MA in Studies in Comparative Literature and Arts (SCLA) and the PhD in Interdisciplinary Humanities (HUMA). Other opportunities include developing and strengthening the MIWSFPA and Brock's community partnerships and contributing to building the reputation of MIWSFPA and Brock as a centre of innovative, creative practice.

About the School

The Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts is situated in the heart of historic St. Catharines, in a renovated 19th-century textile factory. Opened in 2015, Brock University's stunning downtown campus houses the departments of Dramatic Arts, Music, and Visual Arts, and the Centre for Studies in Arts and Culture (STAC). The School's state-of-the-art facilities include a digital media lab; separate foundation, drawing and painting studios; a darkroom; a gallery; four performance studios (two with lighting grids); wardrobe, design and scene shops; a 285-seat flexible theatre; and bright and spacious music lesson studios and practice rooms. Students and faculty also have access to the Recital Hall, Partridge Concert Hall and the Film Theatre in the adjacent FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre where classes and special programming are held. The MIWSFPA is embedded in the community, at the centre of Niagara's creative hub. Our partners include the Niagara Symphony Orchestra, Avanti Chamber Singers and Chorus Niagara, the Niagara Artists Centre (NAC), Willow Arts Community, Carousel Players, Suitcase in Point, Essential Collective Theatre, the Foster Festival, the Shaw Festival Theatre (Niagara-on-the-Lake), the Stratford Festival Academy (Stratford), Celebration of Nations, and Weengushk Film Institute.

About Brock University

The Brock University experience is second to none in Canada. Located in the historic Niagara region, Brock offers all the benefits of a young and modern university in a safe, community-minded city, with beautiful natural surroundings. The recently approved [Institutional Strategic Plan](#) establishes the priorities which will guide the evolution of the University through to 2025. With over 19,000 students in more than 150 undergraduate and graduate programs in seven diverse Faculties, Brock excels at providing exceptional experiential learning opportunities and highly rated student and campus life experiences.

Our Geography

Brock University's main campus is situated atop the Niagara Escarpment with close proximity to the Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississauga of the New Credit First Nation, and presence of the Métis Nation. It sits within a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, overlooking the city of St. Catharines, in the heart of Niagara wine country. The Niagara region is dotted with landmarks that recognize Canada's history and features breathtaking natural beauty and world-famous attractions. The city is home to vibrant arts and entertainment venues, and is a short drive from Toronto, Niagara Falls, and Buffalo (NY). With one of the warmest climates in Canada; safe, clean communities; and affordable real estate, Niagara is an exceptional location to call home.

What We Offer

Brock University offers competitive salary and benefits and ample support for research and sabbaticals. Research resources include start-up funding, conference support, subscriptions to major databases and access to various research funding vehicles. For candidates considering relocation, moving expenses will be administered according to the collective agreement between the Brock University Faculty Association and Brock University.

Qualifications

- MFA or PhD or equivalent combinations of qualifications, experience, and professional contributions.
- The successful candidate will be an outstanding emerging Indigenous artist/scholar with a demonstrated potential to achieve a significant international reputation in the next five to ten years.
- The successful candidate must self-identify as an Indigenous/Aboriginal person, in accordance with the Collective Agreement between Brock University and the Brock University Faculty Association, and is expected to have lived experience of Indigenous world views, cultures and values.

About the Canada Research Chairs Program

The [Canada Research Chairs program](#) recognizes outstanding scholars at all career stages and is a key mechanism for Canadian universities to attract and retain the best talent from around the world to achieve excellence in research and research training. Canada Research Chairs advance the frontiers of knowledge in their fields through their scholarly research, teaching, and supervision. Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs are intended for exceptional emerging scholars, typically those who have been active scholars in their field for fewer than 10 years at the time of nomination. Applicants who are more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree (and where career breaks exist, such as maternity, parental, or extended sick leave; clinical training; etc.) may have their eligibility for a Tier 2 Chair assessed through the program's [Tier 2 justification process](#).

Differing career patterns may be more common among members of designated groups, and those who have experienced leaves from the workplace. These differences will be taken into account in assessing the experiences and qualifications of applicants.

The appointment is subject to budgetary approval. Nominations for Canada Research Chairs are subject to review and final approval by the CRC Secretariat. Benefits associated with Chair appointments include teaching release and a research stipend.

Application Process:

Please apply to Leaders International, the executive search firm retained to support this recruitment process, by sending application materials to Nicole Perry, Consultant, at nicole@leadersinternational.com. For further inquiries about the opportunity, the CRC criteria, or the process, please reach Nicole Perry at the email above or by phone at 613-788-8254 x 105. Candidates must submit:

- Letter of application
- Curriculum vitae
- Research and/or artistic creation statement along with representative documentation of this work in the most suitable format (e.g., PDFs, digital files, web links, etc.)
- Statement of teaching interests related to departmental programs ([Dramatic Arts](#), [Music](#), [Studies in Arts and Culture](#), and/or [Visual Arts](#))
- Brock University [self-identification form](#)
- Names and contact information for three references

Applicants should also arrange for at least three letters of academic reference to be submitted electronically to nicole@leadersinternational.com.

Review of applications will begin on October 31, 2019, and will continue until the position is filled.

Brock University is actively committed to diversity and the principles of employment equity and invites applications from all qualified candidates. Women, Aboriginal peoples, members of visible minorities, people with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) persons are encouraged to apply and to voluntarily self-identify as a member of a designated group as part of their application. Candidates who wish to be considered as a member of one or more designated groups should fill out the Self-Identification Form and include the completed form with their application.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. We will accommodate the needs of the applicants and the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) throughout all stages of the selection process, as outlined in the [Employee Accommodation Policy](#). Please advise Ali Rilstone, Talent Acquisition Consultant (arilstone@brocku.ca) to ensure your accessibility needs are accommodated through this process. Information received relating to accommodation measures will be addressed confidentially.

It is Brock University's policy to give consideration to qualified internal applicants.

We appreciate all applications received; however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

Learn more about Brock University by visiting <http://www.brocku.ca>

Initial posting date: August 22, 2019