

Teacher Information Package Spring Program 2022

Teacher Expression of Interest

Philosophy: Beyond Classrooms Kingston empowers children to be culturally aware lifelong learners and active citizens. The program connects teachers and their students to community spaces for a week, where cultural sites serve as a catalyst for student-driven and teacher-led inquiry-based learning. Students slow down their learning, look closely, and reflect through journal writing and sketching.

Site information: There are five weeks available for elementary classes, Grades 3. See page 3 for information about each site.

Cost: The regular \$750 fee has been reduced to \$99 while BCK pilots a blended approach of virtual and in-person learning. Thanks to a partnership with the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area (CFKA) the program fee will be waived for one rural teacher (contact us for more information). Transportation costs are **not** covered in the program fee. Transportation is the responsibility of the teacher.

Application Process: All Grade 3-8 teachers are encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest. Teachers who have participated in BCK in the past year may still apply, but preference will be given to teachers who have not participated in the previous year. Since spots are limited, teachers are encouraged to show how this learning experience will benefit their class. In the event we receive more expressions of interest than available spots, each expression of interest will be evaluated and ranked through a blind selection process by the BCK Program Committee. The teacher and students are the driving force of a Beyond Classrooms experience. Teachers must seek and receive Principal approval before applying.

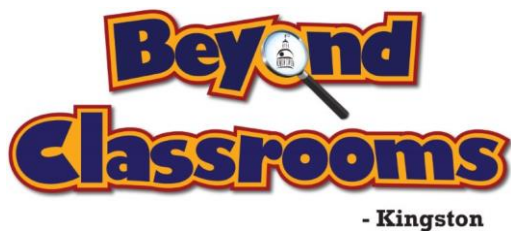
After acceptance: Successful applicants will be notified by April 29th. The Coordinator must be notified of any changes to the application once accepted. Continued acceptance is dependent upon approval of those changes. Contact the Coordinator for an updated Cancellation Policy.

How to apply: Read through the Teacher Information Package. Complete the *Teacher Application* via the Google Form: <https://forms.gle/Lfj4pBkCxS8ygTKT7>. If you do NOT receive confirmation that your application has been submitted, or you have any difficulties filling out the application, please contact the Coordinator by email at coordinator@beyondclassrooms.ca or phone 613-484-1874.

Important dates:

- April 25th: Application deadline. Teacher will be notified of acceptance by April 29th.
- May 2-6: Teachers will participate in an 1-1.5 hour information/planning session via Teams (dates/time to tbd, but likely 3:45-5:00 pm) to plan and prepare for your spring session.
- May 9-12: Coordinator visits your class for student journal workshop
- May 16 – 25: Your class will participate in 2 online inquiry “Q&A” sessions with an expert
- May 25-June 3: Visit the museum (half-day or full day) for onsite learning & exploring
- June 6-15: Class invited to consolidate/celebrate learning and provide feedback

Contact information: Contact the BCK Program Coordinator at coordinator@beyondclassrooms.ca or 613-484-1874 should you have any questions about the application or Beyond Classrooms Kingston.



How does the Spring BCK Program work?

Beyond Classrooms Kingston (BCK) facilitates moving elementary teachers and their students into community spaces where authentic environments serve as a catalyst for teacher-led, student-driven inquiry-based learning. Since its inception more than seven years ago, BCK has provided immersive weeklong educational experiences to more than 1400 students and teachers in the Kingston area. Our success is a result of the collaborative efforts of local heritage professionals, volunteers, and our educational partners.

The pandemic challenged BCK to find new ways to bring heritage collections and expertise to enrich the lives of youth. We were excited to be able to make our program accessible to students and teachers at a time they were unable to leave the classroom. Since 2020 we have been piloting remote programming through an online delivery model. With field trips now being permitted again, BCK is piloting a blended approach to the program, consisting of some remote virtual programming along with some onsite learning. Due to the shortened length of the program, BCK has temporarily reduced the program fee to \$99.

Our partnership with the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area (CFKA) has allowed us to waive the usual program fee for one rural teacher (contact us for more information).

Each BCK session will be a collaboration between the teacher, students, BCK Coordinator, and cultural site staff and volunteers. The students and teachers will drive the learning by connecting an inquiry question to learning from their classroom and the museum.

Classes will participate in synchronous and asynchronous learning activities throughout May as they investigate their inquiry questions, view virtual tours/talks from the site, examine and sketch artifacts from heritage collections, and speak with guest experts who can answer the questions. Each Spring session will differ depending upon the site, but all sessions will consist of:

- An in-class journal workshop with the BCK Coordinator (virtual available)
- Possible virtual tours/talks of a local cultural site and its collections
- Two virtual 'ask an expert' inquiry sessions with curators and guest experts (Teams)
- Offline activities such as sketching and journaling objects from digitized collections
- An in-person visit to a museum to explore, journal, learn, and have fun

BCK was founded on the mission to empower children to be culturally aware lifelong learners and active citizens and to heighten the awareness of cultural resources as critical components of educational and emotional development.

We thank you for your willingness to join us on this journey to pilot our blended approach in our Spring BCK Program to inspire community partnerships and spark curiosity in students.

Participating Museum Sites

PumpHouse Museum

<https://www.kingstonpumphouse.ca/>

Grades 3-8; most exhibits geared Gr 3-6

The PumpHouse is located in one of Canada's oldest original water works – where steam-powered pumps provided the first running water to Kingston residents in 1851. Only six similar preserved water pumping stations remain in North America. This is a fantastic site to connect with history, social studies, and science curriculum.

What will we learn about?

Our on-site and virtual visits may focus on:

- Water stewardship & water technology
- Simple machines & energy (explore waterworks, trains, etc.)
- New exhibit: Transportation in Kingston - Learn how the use of energy for transportation has changed in the last 400 years

On-site visit will take place on **Monday, May 30th**; 2 virtual “ask an expert” sessions will take place in the week prior; classroom journal workshop to take place May 9th or 10th

Kingston City Hall

<https://www.cityofkingston.ca/city-hall>

Grades 2-8; (ties well with Grade 5 Citizenship curriculum)

Kingston City Hall, a nationally designated heritage site, this 19th century building has a rich history. In the past it has housed a bank, dry goods, a saloon, a jail and courtroom and a women's medical school. Students enjoy learning about Memorial Hall, exploring the old Kingston Police headquarters in the basement, learning more about the decisions that are made in Council Chambers, sketching the artifacts from the Market Square fire in the Heritage Resource Center, exploring the art in the Market Wing, and discovering the beauty of the architecture of this historic building.

Our on-site and virtual visits may focus on:

- Responsible government (elections & roles and responsibilities of elected officials)
- Active citizenship (ways citizens can get involved)
- Discovering the stories and histories of City Hall: Old City Hall Jail, Memorial Hall, Market Square, Heritage Resource Center, and explore identity, inclusion, and place-making in our community

On-site visit will take place on **Friday, May 27th**; 2 virtual “ask an expert” sessions will take place in the week prior; classroom journal workshop to take place May 9th or 10th

"The learning that took place during our Beyond Classrooms week was so rich and rewarding for my students and myself. I was able to see the skills and talents of my students in a much different light. I would recommend this program for all classes." - Andrea Fraser, Grade 3-4 Teacher, Mother Teresa CS, ALCDSB



Miller Museum of Geology

<https://www.queensu.ca/millermuseumofgeology/home>

Grades 3-8

Your sessions with your class at the Miller Museum will build upon classroom curriculum in the areas of geology (rocks, minerals, and fossils) soils, and the geological history of Kingston. The Miller Museum is located in the Department of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering at Queen's University. It is an active earth-science teaching museum that features many fossil and mineral displays, an extensive Geology of the Kingston Area exhibit, and the opportunity for "hands on" educational geology activities.

Our on-site and virtual visits may focus on:

- Rocks and minerals in our daily life
- What we can learn from fossils (including exploring fossils found in Kingston)
- Impacts of human use of rocks and minerals (including sustainability initiatives)

On-site visit will take place on **May 31st**; 2 virtual "ask an expert" sessions will take place in the week prior; classroom journal workshop to take place May 9th or 10th

Frontenac County Schools Museum

<https://www.fcsmuseum.com/>

Grades 3-8

Visit a school classroom set in the style of a one-room rural school house in the 1890-1910 era. View displays of artefacts, schoolbooks, equipment and photographs. Experience social and school life as children did long ago. The Schools Museum's vast collection and authentic setting provides the opportunity for a class to step back in time. It is a wonderful site for teachers to make literacy and social studies connections, as well as art and drama connections. Tour the Heritage Conservation District of Barriefield Village to learn about the history of this town site which is more than 200 years old.

Our on-site and virtual visits may focus on:

- An interactive school lesson from the past
- Continuity and change – how have children's lives changed or stayed the same – investigate photographs and curriculum from the last century
- Inquiry exploration of artifacts and objects from the collection

On-site visit will take place on **June 2nd**; also 2 virtual "ask an expert" sessions will take place in the week prior; classroom journal workshop to take place May 9th or 10th

"(Beyond Classrooms) puts the child in the driver's seat and allows them to make many choices regarding their learning. It provides these students with a totally new environment, one that invokes inquiry, sharing and an enthusiasm for things learned." – Simon Pottery, Grade 5 Teacher, Molly Brant ES, LDSB

Military Communications and Electronics Museum

<https://www.candemuseum.org/>

Grades 3-8

One of Kingston's largest museums, this museum focuses on the troops, the events, and the technologies involved in Canadian military communications and electronics. Students will learn how information communications have evolved through electronic technologies. The museum also celebrates the contributions of the people who made it possible. Curriculum connections in science, technology, social studies, and history are deepened by opportunities to explore and investigate artifacts and objects from the collection.

Our on-site and virtual visits may focus on:

- Exploration of communication technology, how it has changed, and its impact (semaphore flags, morse code, telecommunications, etc.)
- Examination of the contributions of Canadians on a global scale (peacekeeping, WWI & WWII, etc.)
- Changing roles of women in the military
- Inquiry exploration of artifacts and objects from the collection

On-site visit will take place on **May 24th** or **May 25th**; also 2 virtual "ask an expert" sessions will take place in the week prior; classroom journal workshop to take place May 9th or 10th

Museum of HealthCare

<https://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/>

Grades 3-8

The Museum of Health Care, located in the Ann Baillie Building on the grounds of Kingston's General Hospital, is Canada's primary museum dedicated to the history of health and health care. The museum has one of the largest collections of medical and health care artefacts in Canada. Students will enjoy exploring the wide-range of artefacts from surgical tools to laboratory instruments. Classes enjoy stepping back in time in the "Century" gallery to investigate how people have preserved health and managed disease, pain, and suffering from the late 18th century to the present day.

Our on-site and virtual visits may focus on:

- Handling and exploring artifacts and mystery objects that were used in health care long ago
- Learning how our knowledge of disease has changed over time (germs, infectious disease, and vaccination)
- Discovering the role of museums in preserving history and artifacts

On-site visit will take place on **May 26th**; also 2 virtual "ask an expert" sessions will take place in the week prior; classroom journal workshop to take place May 9th or 10th

"I will not be surprised to hear 20 years from now that a few of the students have decided to be a curator or archivist because of this experience." - Mary Beth Duchene, Grade 3 teacher, Southview PS, LDSB.

Program Feedback and Follow-up:

Once your program is over, we will send you a program evaluation to help us improve our program. We also appreciate any examples of student work that we can use in displays, to show other teachers, and promote this amazing program.

We have found that students are inspired from their program week and want to share their learning with others. Some classes have created videos of their week, some have created art exhibits and open houses for their school or the community, some have developed exhibits that are on display in museums, others have created their own inquiry projects. It is clear the learning does not stop when the week finishes, and by sharing all they have learned, students have found a way to continue celebrating their learning.

Big Idea or Inquiry Question and Planning Your Week:



Your Remote Program session at a museum or community space begins with a question or a theme. This is what drives your learning and it is connected to your classroom learning expectations, Ontario Ministry expectations, and student and teacher interests. Beyond Classrooms Kingston will provide teachers with assistance in developing the Big Idea or Inquiry Question and their week.



You are supported by the Beyond Classrooms Kingston Coordinator



who assists in planning your week. The Coordinator will participate in each remote session with your class. Your class will also receive a workshop in journal writing and object-based learning to help prepare for your program.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Who leads the sessions on site?

The Site becomes an extension of the classroom. The teacher is in the driver's seat and creates links between the site and students' learning in the classroom. As in the classroom, the teacher leads discussion and delivers programming. The BCK Coordinator will assist the teacher in planning and will contact visiting experts to help answer student inquiry questions.

Classroom management and classroom atmosphere is created by each individual teacher. Teachers are responsible for class supervision, safety, and discipline. Teachers should also ensure they have enough adequate volunteer support to supervise students on site. It is important to be flexible as plans change according to weather, student interest and discussions that arise.



School Supplies

School supplies are not included in the BCK program.

Media waiver forms

BCK will not take photos of students or student work without permission from a student's guardian. BCK forms will be provided.

Journals

Each student will use a journal to record observations, journal writing, drawing, and keeping a living record of their experience. BCK has created videos and provided materials to teachers to help support them in their journaling journey. It is important for teachers to provide regular written feedback in the journals as well as to provide ample time for students to share their journals as a group. Check with the Coordinator before purchasing journals for you class.

Should my class write thank you notes to experts and presenters?

We encourage and hope that all classes will write thank you notes to the museum host, experts, presenters or others who help to make their week a success. These letters are greatly appreciated and can be given to the BCK Coordinator, mailed directly, or given to the presenter at the time of presentation.

Questions or more information?

Please do not hesitate to contact Beyond Classrooms Kingston at coordinator@beyondclassrooms.ca if you require more information or have any questions. Learn more at www.beyondclassrooms.ca.