

2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE NUMBERS:

8 WEEKS

8 TEACHERS

5 LDSB

3 ALCDSB

198 STUDENTS

42 PARENT HELPERS

26 OBSERVERS

4 SITES

AGNES ETHERINGTON
ART CENTRE

KINGSTON CITY HALL

MARINE MUSEUM OF
THE GREAT LAKES

MILLER MUSEUM OF
GEOLOGY

MEDIA COVERAGE

- WHIG STANDARD
- COGECO
- CKWS
- LDSB LEARNING IN LIMESTONE
- STATION 14
- CBC ONTARIO MORNING

Beyond Classrooms

- Kingston

A message from our president

Borrowing a descriptor from one of our students, year one of Beyond Classrooms Kingston was 'epic'! We were able to build on the success of the pilot program by adding another three host sites, bringing our student total up to 8 classes for the year. Once again, the adults involved – from host site staff to parent volunteers – were bowled over by student enthusiasm for the program, and by how quickly they took ownership of their new spaces. Most importantly, development in student observational and reporting skills was perceptible over the course of the program week.

Administratively, Beyond Classrooms Kingston grew as well! We learned how to approach corporate sponsors for support, thanks to Business for the Arts' ArtsVest program. We became a non-profit corporation and achieved charitable status in June – two critical steps along the road from a Kingston Association of Museums, Art Galleries and Historic Sites programming initiative, to a stand-alone entity in its own right.

All in all, an epic year.

Ann Blake

Board President, Beyond Classrooms Kingston



Our Beginning



Now in its third year of operation, Beyond Classrooms began as an initiative of the Kingston Association of Museums, Art Galleries, and Historic Sites, also known as KAM. KAM is an umbrella group of Kingston and area heritage organizations, heritage professionals, and individuals interested in supporting cultural heritage in our community. Since its founding over thirty years ago, KAM has coordinated collaborative programs and events, including a popular Museum Summer Camp for children. KAM's Education sub-committee meets regularly to discuss changing trends in public use of museums and galleries, and to consider proposals for new collaborations.

Calgary's award winning Open Minds concept was raised as an idea worth exploring, considering that Kingston has many specialist community museums and cultural heritage facilities which have education as a strong component of their mandates. Beyond Classrooms Kingston was born.

A Steering Committee was established to develop a uniquely Kingston approach, and to run a pilot program. Partnerships were established with the Limestone and Algonquin & Lakeshore Boards, Faculty of Education at Queen's University, and the Cultural Services Division - City of Kingston. In 2015, following a successful pilot program and a full year of regular programming, Beyond Classrooms Kingston became a non-profit corporation and achieve charitable status in its own right. We are Beyond Classrooms Kingston!

"I am learning so much! I can't wait for tomorrow."

Grade 4 student



Sponsors and Grants

ArtsVest

Ontario Education Experiential Learning grant in partnership with Limestone District School Board

Journal Sponsors: Peters Drugs, James Brett Coiffure, James Reid Furniture, Tackaberry Heating, MetalCraft Marine, Hugh Mosaheb, Realtor,

Supporters: MR Johnson and Associates, Glocca Morra Farms, Chaisson Ford

Our Classrooms

Kingston City Hall

Mr. Pottery's Grade 4-5
Frontenac Public School

Ms. Phippen's Grade 5-6
Truedell Public School

Miller Museum of Geology

Mrs. Niles' Grade 3-4
Mother Theresa Catholic School

Agnes Etherington Art Centre

Ms. MacDonald's Grade 4-5
R.G. Sinclair Public School

Mr. Cox's Grade 3-4
Mother Theresa Catholic School

Ms. LaFortune's Grade 6,7,8
Holy Name Catholic School

Marine Museum of the Great Lakes

Mr. Dee's Grade 6
Rideau Heights Public School

Ms. McCourt's Grade 4-5
Sydenham Public School

"I am going to miss this place. My favorite part was when we got to learn from experts. They answered our questions and we learned so much from them. I hope we can move our classroom again soon."

Grade 3 student

Beyond Classrooms Facts:

Journal Writing:

1861 journal entries and sketches

Website: www.beyondclassrooms.ca

Visits: 6312

Pages viewed: 15293

Hits: 15,861

Twitter: [beyondclassrygk](https://twitter.com/beyondclassrygk)

Tweets: 163

Impressions: 57,300

Profile Visits: 979

Followers: 126

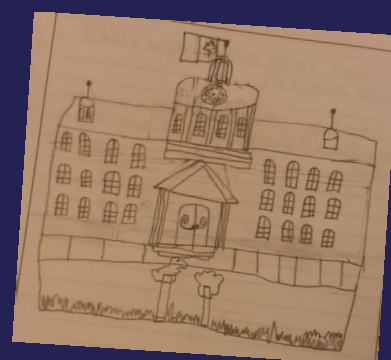
Mentions: 149

Facebook:

Beyond Classrooms-Kingston

People following: 47

People reached: 1,991



Why Beyond Classrooms?

Beyond Classrooms is a year long program that builds inquiry learning and journal writing into a classroom environment. During the program year, teachers are able to move their classroom into a community museum, art gallery or community site for an entire week. The site becomes an extension of the classroom where students enhance their learning skills and knowledge of their community. Teachers integrate collaborative, inquiry based learning while working alongside experts and the Beyond Classrooms Coordinator. Learning at a museum or gallery for a week takes away the field trip feeling and creates an environment where students slow down. They look closely, reflect through journal writing and apply these new skills to their everyday learning.

Beyond Classrooms creates:

- Active citizens
- Engaged thinkers
- Positive attitudes towards writing
- Students connected with the community

Thank you to our presenters who shared their time and expertise with us!



**Beyond
Classrooms**
- Kingston

Upcoming 2015-2016 Program Year

2 classes at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre

2 classes at Kingston City Hall

2 classes at the Museum of Health Care

2 classes at the Miller Museum of Geology

**Moving classrooms into
community spaces**