

# framework

ART | THEATRE | HISTORY | MUSIC | ARCHITECTURE **EVERY LINE TELLS A STORY**



The St. Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre is proud to introduce **Framework**, a unique cultural partnership with the Princess Avenue Playhouse and the Elgin County Museum. This new initiative celebrates the profound impact of culture on our community by uniting art, theatre, music, and architecture to highlight the shared history and heritage of St. Thomas and Elgin County.

## THE LEGACY OF NEIL R. DARRACH

This project draws inspiration from the research of historian Paul Baldwin, his upcoming monograph on architect Neil R. Darrach, and the subsequent exhibition that will take place at the Elgin County Museum, beginning in October 2026. As an influential architect whose designs helped to define the architectural character of our community, Darrach's legacy is preserved in several iconic landmarks, including: St. Thomas City Hall & Elgin County Court House, Wellington Street School and The Princess Avenue Playhouse – *The central focus and historic backdrop for this project.*

Currently there are no works depicting the Princess Avenue Playhouse in the Art Centre's Permanent Collection. The *Framework* purchase award would be the first.

## THE STAGE AS A LIVING MUSE

This initiative brings the Princess Avenue Playhouse to life as a creative hub. During the event, the stage will host a vibrant mix of theatre, music, and performance art.

Artists are encouraged to:

- Capture the Energy: Use live performances as a dynamic source of inspiration.
- Create on Location: Sketch and create field studies of the historic architecture both inside and out.
- Translate the Experience: Incorporate the movement, sound, and atmosphere of the stage into your finished works.

Framework will take place  
**Saturday, July 18, 2026** 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

**\*Registration for this event is required.** The Playhouse will be open to the public on July 18, but only registered artist may participate in the exhibition at the Art Centre.

Adults \$25/artist    Students \$10/artist

The address of the  
Princess Avenue Playhouse is  
**40 Princess Ave St. Thomas ON**

Works created will be part of the *Framework* exhibition at the Art Centre  
from November 14 - February 13, 2026.

The exhibition will be a juried exhibition and awards will be given.

**First place \$1000 Second place \$500 Third place \$250 Purchase Award \$750 Student Award \$250**

The **submission deadline** for completed work to be juried and included in the exhibition is  
**Saturday, October 31, 2026** by 4:00 pm. Work may be submitted earlier than this date.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CALL 519-631-4040**