

Introduction

The Mendel Art Gallery was thrilled to host the very popular exhibition *Godzilla vs. Skateboarders: Skateboarding as Critique of Social Space* organized by the Dunlop Art Gallery from March-June, 2004. Clothing, lifestyle, music, and language are important to skateboard culture. Far too often youth-based cultures are ignored or in the worst case vilified. This exhibition inspired us to recognize the contributions that young people make to our society and to advocate for their continuing participation in the building of our civic spaces. The Mendel Art Gallery, The Saskatoon Foundation-Artsmarts Program, The City of Saskatoon, Mount Royal Collegiate and The Saskatoon Skatepark Corporation have collaborated to create a cross-disciplinary teacher's resource that uses skateboarding as its inspiration. The goal of this project is to emphasize and validate youth content and culture in school curriculum. This is one of many on-line educational guides that we hope to develop for teachers in the future.

This project involved Mount Royal teachers who provided us with feedback and guidance for the development of the cross-curriculum lesson plans. This resource emphasizes the importance of art and skateboarding to subjects such as English, Social Studies, Physics, Drafting, Graphic Design, and Carpentry and is housed as a permanent resource for teachers on the Mendel Art Gallery's web site [www.mendel.ca]. **Sk8art: On-line Resource for Teachers** is a sweet opportunity for teachers to encourage youth to learn while exploring a topic that many know very well and even excel in.

I would like to thank the following participants for their involvement in this resource: Maureen Ellis- Project Coordinator, Scott Cumberland- Art for Life Liaison, Laura Kinzel -Gallery Educator, Corinna Rasmussen-Turner- Illustrator, Kelly Patrick- Saskatoon Skatepark Corporation, and Nancy Johnson- City of Saskatoon, and Mount Royal Teachers Geraldine Martin, Darrell Isbister, Tammy Alexander, John Wright, and David Dean.

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