

## Circles, Squares, and Storms

YarnGK x Bridging Communities Project 8 October – 8 November 2024

Circles, Squares, and Storms presents a vibrant tapestry of community and connection, inviting participants to weave their own artistic threads into a shared creative project. This exhibition by YarnGK Crochet & Knit Circle blankets KAC's UNIT 115 exhibition space in a series of unique crochet squares sewn into larger tapestries, as well as smaller crochet works by YarnGK artists. Community members are additionally invited to contribute to this evolving installation throughout the duration of the exhibition. A welcoming public space will be offered with knitting and crocheting materials and patterns available for use, where participants can contribute their own creations to the growing "yarn storm" in UNIT 115.

In support of the **Bridging Communities Project**, YarnGK is working towards covering Belleville's Front St. Bridge with crochet squares, known as a "yarn storm". This exhibit offers a snapshot of the current state of the project and showcases the growth of the YarnGK artists, fueled by their bi-weekly crochet and knit circles.

*Circles, Squares, and Storms* demonstrates the transformative power of the fiber arts through a dynamic, evolving installation which acts as both a captivating exhibition and an invitation to participate.

YarnGK Crochet & Knit Circle was created in June 2024 in partnership with and inspired by the Bridging Communities Project from Emebet Belete and the Quinte Arts Council. Held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month with support from Kingston Frontenac Public Library, fiber art creators and makers come together to work on their projects, group projects, socialize, and learn from one another. Supplied with crochet starter kits and tips & tricks, beginners are helped ease into the fiber arts. YarnGK is dedicated to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment where makers of all skill levels can thrive. Believing that everyone has the potential to grow and learn, YarnGK is committed to helping, supporting, and inspiring all its members.

Bridging Communities Project began with inspiration from artist Emebet Belete's visit to Singapore's painted Alkaff Bridge, where the idea of covering Belleville's Front St. Bridge in crochet first took shape. In 2021, supported by art research grants from the Ontario Arts Council and the City of Belleville, her vision for an art form that actively engages the community began to flourish. As part of Belleville's ongoing downtown core restoration, the Bridging Communities Project aims to unite students, community groups, and individuals in crafting thousands of crochet pieces that will transform the Front St. Bridge into a welcoming piece of art that reflects the creativity of Belleville itself.

@YarnGKCrochet | Bridging Communities Project