



## STEPHEN A. CORCORAN MEMORIAL AWARD

**Application Deadline: March 30th, 2026 @ 4:30pm**



Stephen A. Corcoran was born and raised in Vancouver. He was an athletic and artistic young man who enjoyed tennis, rugby, and sketching cartoons for his high school newspaper. He attended the Vancouver School of Art (now Emily Carr) in the early 1970's. Stephen had a young family when, at the age of 28, he was diagnosed with Schizophrenia. Despite this challenge, he obtained a welding certificate and worked at a local sawmill. He also collected wood burls which he enjoyed polishing and shaping.

The stresses and stigma of mental illness overcame both his work and family life, and it was many years before art triumphed. He transferred his woodworking and welding techniques into using chalk pastels, giving them grain and structure. Stephen's playfully expressionistic mixed media artwork was insightful.

The Stephen A. Corcoran Memorial Award was created and funded by Stephen's family and friends to honour his creative and artistic legacy. It is also aimed at providing encouragement and removing financial barriers for Emily Carr students living with a significant and chronic mental health condition/disorder. This annual award has a value of \$1,000.

To qualify for the Stephen A. Corcoran Memorial Award, students will:

- provide medical documentation from their doctor that provides evidence that the student has a significant and chronic mental condition/disorder
- be currently enrolled in the Emily Carr credit program (minimum six credits)
- be on a current government student loan
- complete the personal essay questions (see attached)
- provide a letter of reference in support of this application
- not have received this award previously

Complete the following to apply for the Stephen A. Corcoran Memorial Award :

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Study (Year/Program): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have provided documentation from my doctor that provides evidence that I have a significant and chronic mental condition/disorder.
- I have included a letter of reference in support of this application
- I am currently enrolled in six or more credits
- I am on a current government student loan
- I have completed (and attached) the personal essay questions addressing the steps I am taking to manage my condition/disorder (250-500 words)

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** The information included in this application will be kept confidential among the Awards Selection Committee with the following exception for the successful recipient:

- The Advancement Office will be informed of the name for the purpose of payment, and the student’s academic year, area of study, and personal essay for the purpose of informing the donor.  
**Note: the name of the successful recipient will be withheld from the donor.**
- Director of Finance for payment purposes.
- To ensure a fair and unbiased process, the names of applicants will be kept confidential from the selection committee.

**PERSONAL ESSAY QUESTIONS – to be completed and returned with the application form. Students may provide a written essay in written format (250-500 words) or by video (sound only) format. This can be sent via email or hand delivered in sealed envelope with your application. For your privacy, please do not include your name on the personal essay.**

1. Describe how your mental health condition has impacted you, your schooling, and your decision to pursue art and design?
2. What steps have you taken to manage your health condition (i.e. therapy, medical treatment, self-care strategies such as yoga, meditation, exercise, etc.)?
3. How will this award help you?

**THANKING THE DONOR:** The successful recipient is encouraged to write a thank you letter to the donor – excluding their name – and forward it to the Advancement Office (Room D2430), Attn: Advancement Office or [corcoran@ecuad.ca](mailto:corcoran@ecuad.ca)

***Submissions must be PDF documents, emailed to [corcoran@ecuad.ca](mailto:corcoran@ecuad.ca) or you may also drop off your application + supporting documents in a sealed envelope to the Advancement Office, Room D2430, by Monday March 30th, 2026 at 4:30pm.***