

Call for VESSELS!

McIntosh Gallery and Joy Wong want to borrow your vessels! Casts of select objects will be featured in an upcoming exhibition at McIntosh Gallery from January 14 – May 14, 2027.

- Do you have a beloved vessel that you would love to see replicated in an artwork?
- Do you have some recycling that you want to put to good use?
- Or maybe you just want to help an artist bring their vision to life?

Vessels could include:

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| - Bowls | - Bottles |
| - Cups | - Cans |
| - Jars | - Vases |
| - Tupperware | - Plastic bags |
| - Deli containers | - Shoes or boots |

Any container that can hold liquid. We encourage irregular forms and creativity!

Vessels should be:

- Made out of non-porous materials (glass, stone, metal, plastic, etc.). They will be coated with a starch-based biomaterial to create a cast.
- No more than 10" L x 10" W x 16" H
- Empty, or their contents must be sealed.

Drop off your vessels at McIntosh Gallery during our regular operating hours. Vessels must be received by Thursday, October 8th at 5pm.

All borrowed vessels will be returned. They can be picked up from McIntosh Gallery between January 15 - January 22, 2027 during our regular operating hours.

As a special thank you, participants will receive a piece of the artwork, 250 ml of artist-brewed kombucha for their own experimentation!

More about the project:

Joy Wong works with kombucha, a fermented beverage made from sweetened tea that originated in Northeast China. The SCOBY (Symbiotic Colony of Bacteria and Yeast) is the starter culture from a previous batch of kombucha and is responsible for initiating the fermentation process that results in a cellulose-based biofilm. If one takes proper care of one's starter (often called the "mother") and enables conditions for controlled rot, it is possible to make kombucha endlessly, generation after generation.

Wong uses fermentation as an artistic method to enable the examination of materiality, nonhuman co-creation, and the tenability of artworks that refuse stasis. In this upcoming project, Wong is assembling a patchwork of sculptures made of new and reused SCOBY leather components, scrap materials from the fermentation process, an active fermentation, and cast vessels collected from the London community. The vessels will be cast using a starch-based biomaterial and reference the provisional and communal aspects of fermentation as a practice that often relies on using what is available. The installation will be on view at McIntosh Gallery from January 14 – May 14, 2027 as part of *The Fiction of Permanence*.

Contact Rachel Deiterding, Curator of Collections and Special Projects, at rdeiterd@uwo.ca with any questions.