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## A New Program at YWCA Toronto

Welcoming Inspirations Studio to their New Home

**TORONTO, July 7, 2022** – We are delighted to announce that – as of July 1, 2022 – Inspirations Studio became a program of YWCA Toronto! This is a dream come true and a cause for celebration.

Inspirations Studio is a unique, low-barrier ceramics program for women and gender diverse people. The Studio provides pottery access, storefront selling opportunities and arts education for women who have experienced the impacts of poverty, homelessness and housing instability. Through creative and skill-building work, women heal, gain self-confidence and stability while building community, gaining a supplement source of income, and developing as an artist.

"We are overjoyed to welcome Inspirations Studio as a new program," says YWCA Toronto's Chief Executive Officer, Heather McGregor. "For decades, the Studio has helped hundreds of women learn how to make pottery in a safe, supportive and transformative environment. This legacy will continue at YWCA Toronto's storefront and studio space at 389 Church Street. Join me in welcoming Inspirations Studio to their forever home."

Gudrun Olafsdottir, Director of Inspirations Studio, affirms this sentiment: "Inspirations Studio is so proud to join YWCA Toronto. Now in its 28th year, Inspirations Studio is finally home! Getting here has been an incredible journey which we could not have undertaken without the help of the Neighbourhood Group and their Chief Executive Officer Bill Sinclair who acted as our trustee and mentor over the last four years. We are also forever grateful for the support of our community supporters and donors. This merger represents a new beginning for Inspirations and is a part of a new foundation from which to grow for the next 28 years."

## **About YWCA Toronto**

YWCA Toronto has a long history of creating positive change across the city. As one of the leading multiservice organizations for women and gender diverse people, we help community members escape violence, move out of poverty, and access safe, affordable housing.

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