

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Giant Fresco to pay Tribute to the Female Trailblazers of Vaudreuil-Dorion

Vaudreuil-Dorion, October 23, 2020 – The creation of a mural is underway on the building located at 200 avenue Saint-Charles, and three works by artist Monica Brinkman will add a finishing touch to the final result, as a means to pay tribute to the female trailblazers of Vaudreuil-Dorion.

The mandate for the design and production of the mural was given to Kolab, the same firm who created the fresco on the water tower behind Place Dumont, in the Dorion sector. This time, Monk.e is the artist whose mission it will be to give a new look to this wall, which is the property of the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion. Monk.e is mainly known for the four murals he created in different boroughs located on the island of Montreal.

Mosaic artist Monica Brinkman will be honouring the memory of two of Vaudreuil-Dorion's famous female trailblazers including artist Yvette Brind'Amour and Sister Esther Blondin. A third work will be created to depict the image of a young trailblazing citizen of tomorrow. Taking her inspiration from the pop art movement, Monica created a portrait of Yvette Brind'Amour using mosaic and mirror, assisted by the *Club Ado* young people who attended the City's Animation Jeunesse Day Camp throughout the summer. This work will be attached to the mural this fall while the other two will be produced during the winter for installation in the spring.

"Last year, the water tower development project paid tribute to some of the great men who marked Vaudreuil-Dorion, Félix Leclerc and Paul Gérin-Lajoie. The wall at 200 avenue Saint-Charles is being created in honour of two major female figures who lived in this City, and whose memory we wish to keep alive for our citizens," explained Chloé Marcil, Head of Culture and Community Life for the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion.

Who are these trailblazers?

Yvette Brind'Amour (1918-1992) was co-founder of the Théâtre du Rideau Vert, the first permanent theatre in French Canada. A talented actress and director, Ms. Brind'Amour was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1967 and promoted to Companion in 1982. In 1985, she was named an Officer of the National Order of Quebec and was a recipient of the Molson Award (1987). She lived in the house adjacent to Parc de la Maison-Valois for several years. Brind'Amour Elementary School was named in honour of this grand lady.

Esther Blondin (1809-1890) worked for years towards the education of children and while being involved in the activities of the parish of Saint-Michel de Vaudreuil. In 1839, she became principal of the village school. She was also foundress of the Congregation of the Sisters of Ste-Anne, a religious community dedicated to education.