



THE ACT ARTS COUNCIL

2016/17 ANNUAL REPORT

ACT
arts
centre



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Executive Summary

In 2016-17 we continued to achieve the goals of our current three-year strategic plan in exciting and wonderful ways. We have grown our artistic programming to include a greater array of live presentations, secured additional funding to support free tours and school workshops related to our exhibits in The ACT Art Gallery, and expanded the capacity for arts programs. This is all in addition to increased outreach through our Arts Ambassadors and Tech Club programs, additional support for our scholarships and member group grants, and more communication with our members throughout the year. All of this provides better arts experiences for our community.

It was also a year of many changes, from undertaking building renovations, which increased the capacity of our offices and digital media lab, to hiring a new Facility Manager, who is dedicating his time to maintaining and improving The ACT Arts Centre, and the departure of Lindy Sisson, our Artistic and Executive Director of eight years.

As we quickly approach the 15th anniversary of The ACT Arts Centre in 2018, we look forward to providing continued service by developing a new Strategic Plan, and through a renewed relationship with the City of Maple Ridge, Parks, Recreation & Culture and other community partners. We hope you will join us on this adventure.



Korleen Carreras
PRESIDENT
MAPLE RIDGE PITT MEADOWS
ARTS COUNCIL



Philip Hartwick
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MAPLE RIDGE PITT MEADOWS
ARTS COUNCIL



Board of Directors

Board President: **Korleen Carreras**
 Board Vice President: **Dawn Flanagan**
 Board Treasurer: **Bill Thiessen**
 Board Secretary: **Laura Butler**
 Board Of Directors: **Linda King, Bob D'Eith, Brad Tones, Ray Wallis, Jason Etherington, Vicki Kipps, Susan Chambers**
 School District 42 Liaison: **Dave Rempel**
 City Of Maple Ridge Liaison: **Councillor Corisa Bell**
 City Of Maple Ridge, Parks, Recreation and Culture Liaison: **Yvonne Chui**

Staff (UP TO JULY 2017)

Executive & Artistic Director: **Lindy Sisson**
 Arts Program Manager: **Carol Cheremkora**
 Arts Program & Administrative Assistant: **Lori Ceaser**
 Gallery Curator: **Barbara Duncan**
 Gallery Assistant: **Courtney Harrod**
 Business Manager: **Philip Hartwick**
 Bookkeeper: **Pilaar Yule**
 Accounting Clerk: **Jennifer Babstock**
 Communications and Development Manager: **Karen Pighin**
 Marketing & Communications Supervisor: **Anna Black**
 Marketing & Web Content: **Matthew Seligman**
 Event & Volunteer Manager: **Landrie Davies**
 Event Services Supervisors: **Melissa Harris, Thomas Smith, Whitney Fox**

Bartenders: **Anthony Valentyne, Chris McGill**
 Community Engagement & Special Events Coordinator: **Camila Ramos Bravo**
 Ticket Centre Manager: **Tracey Brady**
 Ticket Centre Supervisor and Accounting Clerk: **Jennifer Babstock**
 Ticket Centre Attendants: **Abby Brown-John, Vienna Chisholm, Cindy Ingram**
 Facility Manager: **David Law**
 Custodian: **Colin McKay**
 Technical Director: **Alex House**
 Technicians On-Call: **John Supeene, Shadoe Reisler, Don Parman, Stephanie Bruce, Marian Greksa, Kyle Myhre, Brady Veltin, Taylor Jackson, Cameron Davies-Conley**





VISION

To bring arts to the heart of our community.

MISSION

We work in partnership with the community to develop, promote and celebrate the arts.

VALUES

Leadership • Collaboration • Integrity • Diversity • Accessibility • Innovation • Enjoyment

PROGRAMMING MANDATE

- to present high quality exhibitions and performances featuring primarily Canadian artists
 - to present a diverse balance of artistic and educational programming
- to develop The ACT Arts Centre as an inclusive centre for arts and culture within the community, appealing to a wide range of interests and ages
- to create mutually beneficial co-presenting opportunities, within our resources, with other not-for-profit arts and community organizations that will strengthen and diversify the cultural sector
- to encourage and support local artists and arts organizations through the execution of our vision, mission and values



BJM performed October 23, 2016

Funders, Donors and Sponsors

Funders



Corporate Sponsors

CRE8 Youth Arts Day



Classical Coffee Concerts,
Volunteer Program &
The ACT Art Gallery



Media Sponsor



ACT Presents Arts Hero and Champion Sponsors



COTTONWOOD
Medical Clinic



Maple Ridge Festival of BC Film Sponsors



Corporate Donors

Coast Capital Savings Credit Union | Chances Maple Ridge / Great Canadian Gaming | Meadow Ridge Rotary | Rotary Club of Haney
The Ridge Studios | Xi Epsilon Mu Women's Group | Westminster Savings Credit Union

Individual Donors

Douglas Bing | Helen Bing | Anna Black | Doug Botting | Iola Boyce | Laura Butler | Korleen & Diego Carreras | Susan Chambers
Betty Coy | Julia Coustol | Jean Davidson | Corry De Haan | Christine Duamel | Barbara Duncan | Kim Eriksson | Leah Faulkner
Dawn Flanagan | Kevin Freer | Patricia Hamer | Jeff Holden | Myra Hutchinson | Barb Kark | Linda King | Vicki Kipps | Berit Korsvold
Margaret Kury | Michelle Lannon | Tony Lee | Blaine Lewis | Barb MacKinnon | Sandra McKenzie | Kerry McLaren | Antonio Medeiros
Carla Mellado | Connie-Jean Moore | Gabriella Morrison | Gwen Murphy | Sheila Nickols | Janice O'Brien | Erin Olde | Paula Panek
Gerry Pinel | Sandra Pinner | Sheila Pratt | Linda & Les Raskewicz | Stephen Raskewicz | Valerie Robertson-McCaffrey | Sandra Russell
Warin Rychkun | Lynda Sangster | Hanna Schlayintweit | Phyllis Schnider | Laura Stark | Heather Steele | Simone Sullivan
Micheline Surridge | Janet Symonds | Sandra Taylor | Lyn Thomas | Renne Tyson | Kendra Valois | Desmond Wilson

2016 Chair-ity Raffle

Harbour Air | Pan Pacific Whistler Mountainside | Pitt Meadows Golf Club | Stomping Grounds Café | Holley Neisen | Duso's Pasta and Sauces

2017 TeaGarden

Piroche Plants | Karla's Specialteas | *TeaGarden individual donors listed above*

204
MEMBERS

INCLUDING

55 VIPS

35 Group
Members

SUPPORTING ARTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Through our Arts Angels and School Access program, and the generosity of Westminster Savings Credit Union, the Ridge Meadows Rotary, the Haney Rotary and numerous donors, who support these programs, we provide access to art programs, live performances, and Art Gallery workshops.

The giving continues through Arts Scholarships and Member Group Grants.



Scholarships

The ACT Arts Centre is proud to award five deserving Grade 12 students from School District 42 scholarships of \$1,500 each. Scholarships are applicable to any accredited post-secondary institution to support their continued arts education.

This year The ACT Arts Centre scholarship recipients are:

- Visual & Media Arts Scholarship: **Alex Waite** (Thomas Haney Secondary)
- Theatre Scholarship in memory of Amy Wallis: **Victoria Caitlin Dufficy** (Garibaldi Secondary)
- Dance Scholarship: **Brianna MacDonald** (Maple Ridge Secondary)
- Music Scholarship in memory of Judith Berghorson: **Boyana Makedonska** (Pitt Meadows Secondary)
- Literary Scholarship: **Georgia Masaki** (Maple Ridge Secondary)



"To be supported in my love for literature and writing by the ACT Arts Centre has made me feel valid and valued in my love for the arts. I cannot wait to pursue a creative future, and allow my passions to carry me to a fulfilling career with which I may not only build a life for myself, but be provided the means to encourage others to live their dream as I plan on living mine."

— Georgia Masaki

LEFT: 2017 Scholarship Award recipients with Board members Susan Chambers (L) and Brad Tones (R)



Garibaldi Art Club of Maple Ridge

Member Group Grants

With the support of Chances Maple Ridge, The ACT Arts Council provides support for arts related activities in the community through Member Group Grants. This year, 16 grants were awarded for a total of \$10,000 dollars to the following Member Groups:

- Specc-tacular Productions
- Art Studio Tour – Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows
- Maple Ridge Concert Band Association
- Ridge Meadows Quilters' Guild
- Garibaldi Art Club of Maple Ridge
- Maple Ridge Caribbean Festival Society
- Royal Canadian Theatre Company
- Emerald Pig Theatrical Society
- Clear Focus Camera Club
- Maple Ridge Historical Society
- Odeum Theatre Society
- Maple Ridge Choral Society
- Ridge Meadows Recycling Society
- Golden Ears Writers
- Variete D'Arts Society
- Alouette River Management Society



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Culture Day



Family Day



A Christmas Tradition



A "HOP"ening Time



Newcomers Welcome Event



Halloween



Maple Ridge Festival of BC Film



THE ACT PRESENTS

What fun we had over the 2016/17 season, starting with a roaring performance by *Chibi Taiko* in front of The ACT Arts Centre as part of our Japanese focus for Culture Day. Our audiences came out in full force to enjoy the Classical Coffee Concert and Arts Club Series, plus the always intriguing ALT Fest! Thanks to a new BC Touring Council fund called "Warming up the Act," we were able to feature up and coming performances by *Duro Collective*, *Camilo the Magician* and *Maya Rae* at the festival. The season started with Cuban rhythms and ended with those of Flamenco. Music offerings included swing, boogie-woogie piano, country, rock unplugged and blues to the max!

Made possible through a partnership with Made in BC Dance on Tour, audiences were blown away by the dynamic performance of *Ballet Jazz de Montreal* and treated to the tap musical *Love. Be. Best. Free*. Families had fun with *Norman Foote* on Halloween and *DuffleBag Theatre* at the Christmas Tradition event as well as *Charlotte Diamond* on Family Day. Our holiday season performances included the return of the *B3 Kings* and a first time sold out performance by the *North Shore Celtic Ensemble*. Through our School Access program, supported by Westminster Savings and the Rotary Club of Haney and the Rotary Club of Meadow Ridge, over 1,000 school-aged children were able to attend free performances of *Good Night Moon* by Mermaid Theatre from Nova Scotia.

The inaugural Maple Ridge Festival of BC Film was a great success and was well supported and attended by the BC Film industry. We were very proud to facilitate dialogue between the audience and the filmmakers themselves through question and answer periods following each of the six films. Having benefited from the film industry, and wanting to support its growth and increase exposure for BC films, The ACT Arts Centre and the Ridge Film Studios, with the support of the City of Maple Ridge, created this festival to provide an opportunity for B.C. filmmakers to showcase their work and to highlight the positive impact the film industry has on the community.



TOP: Charlotte Diamond and Matt Diamond performed February 13, 2017;
CENTRE: Michael Kaeshammer performed April 23, 2017;
BOTTOM: Adonis Puentes performed October 15, 2016



35

Presentations

8,838

Attendees

ACT
presents

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ARTISTIC ENGAGEMENT

The 2016-2017 season focused on increased artistic engagement and community outreach opportunities. The season began with a free **Latin Fiesta Zumba Class** with Cuban rhythms, co-hosted by Fiesta Latina Fitness. This experience warmed up the community to Latin rhythms while promoting *Adonis Puentes'* concert. We continued to engage dance lovers with a second performance by the world-renowned dance company, *Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal (BJM)*, and ACT Presents performance attendees enjoyed a pre-show talk from BJM's Artistic Director, Louis Robitaille. We also connected with local dance programs and schools to offer a **masterclass opportunity** with BJM. Thomas Haney Secondary school's dance program participants were treated to a masterclass by BJM's principal dancer, Ashley Michelle.

In February, we collaborated with **LIPS** (Local Immigration Partnerships) and hosted a **Newcomers Welcoming Event** as part of *Kiran Ahluwalia's* pre-show experience, providing the opportunity to get to know our facility and programming and to socialize and enjoy music and dance with Boris Sichon. The event welcomed over 80 new community members and we were able to invite these newcomers, through the **Arts Angels** funding program, to join us at the *Kiran Ahluwalia* concert.

In March, we coordinated a series of community engaged dance projects that reached different generations. Rising young tap talent and *Love. Be. Best. Free.* choreographer, Danny Nielsen, led a **tap workshop** at the Ridge Meadows Seniors Society with 30 seniors participating. The ACT Arts Centre also partnered with the Maple Ridge Youth Services and the Ridge Meadows Seniors Society in bringing artists Julia Carr and Meghan Goodman from the **Body Narratives Collective** to our community to facilitate a multimedia interactive dance project titled, **Puzzle People**. This project generated a space for seniors and youth to connect while utilizing dance, film, and new media as means for connecting to one another.

We continued to engage different audiences through other artistic opportunities post-show talks during the **Maple Ridge Festival of BC Film** involving numerous directors, actors, and producers that followed each film as a means of increasing connectivity between the audience and the filmmaker.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES:

280 Workshops,
Co-presentations,
Partnership & Outreach
Activities

7,456
PARTICIPANTS

Outreach Projects
TOP: Love.Be.Best.Free.
BOTTOM: Puzzle People



ARTS PROGRAMS

Our Arts Programs connect artists with the community through participation, social interaction and skill building and arts exploration. We offer students of all ages and abilities the opportunity to experience and develop an appreciation of the arts. We continue to strive to introduce new and diverse programming each season providing increased opportunities and accessibility through registered programs, Educational Arts Programs, and our Arts Bursary Program.

Highlights for new programming this year included: Speech Arts & Drama and Art Mix for Kids and Drawing in the Afternoon for Adults. Our new spring & summer camps included Fashion Design—Project Runway Upcycle, Design Your Own Skateboard, "School House Rock Mini Musical, and "Newsies" Spring Camp Mini Musical.

In addition to the broad range of diverse programs, our artBAR evenings for adults have been very successful. Led by our professional artists, these evenings provide participants a fun evening of fine arts and wine, and no experience is necessary!

ACT arts
programs

419
Arts Programs

3,038
Participants

"Art means you can embrace yourself." — Emily, 8 years old



"It's fun and I love making crafts and Arabic music." — Leen, 11 years old



ART GALLERY AND SHOP

The ACT Art Gallery showed strong representation of local artists in particular this year, with solo shows by painter/sculptor Setsuko Piroche (Pitt Meadows) and painter/mixed media artist, Zoran Malinovski (Maple Ridge). A group show on the theme of wood and wood-fired clay was definitely one of the highlights of the year, and the Christmas Group show, Ensemble, opened with its usual fanfare and good cheer as a salute to the holiday season. An exhibition by the Fraser Valley Potters showed a remarkable variety of high quality ceramics in both the functional and fine art realm. And, as part of our ongoing commitment to encouraging more experimental work, the gallery hosted a public art project designed, created and installed by Whonnock-based artists Wan-Yi Lin and Roger Chen. This project was made possible in part through a community project grant from the Maple Ridge Public Art Steering Committee. The Passagio Gallery's series of rotating exhibits by the Garibaldi Art Club added a vibrant outlook to the upstairs space, and the club clearly appreciates the opportunity to display their work on an ongoing basis.

Approximately 625 local students attended our free school art gallery program, and we are looking at ways of expanding the program to meet the demand.

Our annual fundraiser, **TeaGarden**, proved to be a very popular event once again, with many local art gallery fans enjoying a garden presentation accompanied by specialty teas and treats served by our volunteers.

Gallery Shop

The lively display of solo exhibits in the shop has proved very popular with our customers, and the small space offers a friendly, intimate space for smaller, more focussed displays. We continue to respond to both local and more general trends as we bring in a variety of new 'home goods' and 'consumable' items like candles, preserves and limited edition beauty products in addition to jewelry, ceramics and other fine craft items.

Art Gallery volunteers who act as shop assistants make wonderful ambassadors for the organization. Whether they are assisting in the Shop, Gallery or elsewhere in the building, volunteers make each visitor feel welcome as they enter the space.



ACT art gallery

9,687
ATTENDANCE

38 Workshops & Tours

104 Local Artists Represented

6 GALLERY

+12 ADDITIONAL EXHIBITIONS

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Revenue

	Report	Amount	Formulas
Operating Grant	34%	727,613	34%
Other Grants	9%	199,550	9%
Earned Revenue	55%	1,190,355	55%
Membership, Sponsorship & Donations	2%	44,462	2%
	100%	2,161,980	100%

Expenses

	Report	Amount	Formulas
Artistic and Community Programming	17%	366,555	17%
Marketing and Fundraising	7%	143,318	7%
Administration	8%	163,789	8%
Payroll	49%	1,057,424	49%
Facility Expenses	19%	417,995	19%
	100%	2,149,081	100%

Amortization, grand piano 1,375

Net Income (adjusted for ACER and amortization) 11,524

74

Rental Clients

268

Rental Activities

53,285

Rental Activity Attendance

1,058

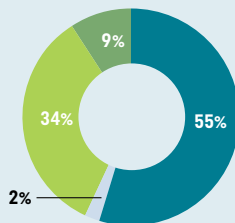
Events & Activities

82,304

PEOPLE THROUGH THE FACILITY

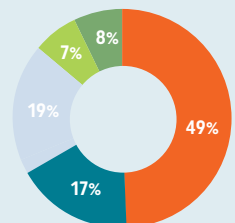
Revenue by Category

- Earned Revenue
- Membership, Sponsorships & Donations
- PLS Operating Grant
- Other Grants



Expenses by Category

- Payroll
- Artistic & Community Programming
- Facility Expenses
- Marketing & Fundraising
- Administration



"We love filming at The ACT. The staff are super helpful and always accommodating. We will book The ACT whenever we can."

— James, Film Scout • Recently filmed "Date my Dad" at The ACT Arts Centre



VOLUNTEERS

This season, the Youth Volunteer program was further developed and focused on certification, industry training and event participation. The Tech Club members provided technical support at many events including Lobby Nights, The ACT *Presents* series, and numerous community partner events. And, the youngest volunteers, our Kin Crew continued to provide Will Call support, handing out tickets to patrons before the shows.

Meanwhile, our Arts Ambassadors planned, organized and hosted our 5th annual CRE8 Youth Arts Day. They raised money at the Celebrate the Night Fireworks event in support of the ACT Arts Council youth scholarship program and even introduced a NEW event for children, A HOPening Time, which featured art projects, poetry, dance, performance, and of course Easter eggs. They managed to do this and achieve certification in World Host, Food Safe, Serving It Right, First Aid and more. There is definitely a bright future ahead for the world with this group of youth championing the arts.

While our youth volunteers were busy, the rest of our Volunteer team was equally engaged, welcoming more than 75,500 people to The ACT Arts Centre. Volunteers accumulated over 7,520 hours tearing tickets, ushering, assisting with arts programs and the Gallery Shop, serving beverages, setting up tables, handing out flyers, and providing information about arts in our community. Our team of 186 volunteers not only give of their time but also their hearts and for that, and their continued support, they cannot be thanked enough. Our Volunteers, of all ages, are truly the heART of the arts in our community.

Volunteers of the Year

- Gallery Volunteer of the Year 2017: **Susan Jeffery**
- Arts Programs Volunteer of the Year 2017: **Sasha Bacic**
- Theatre Volunteer of the Year 2017: **Jean Macrae**



186

Volunteers

5,721

Volunteer Hours

The ACT Arts Centre
(Admin, Marketing,
Special Events): **212**

Art Gallery: **913**

Arts Council Board
Committees: **348**


Arts Programs: **27**


The ACT
Theatre: **3,760**


Youth Programs
(Kin Crew, Youth Crew,
Tech Club, Arts
Ambassadors): **461**




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