

Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows Arts Council

Impact Report 2021-2022

Vision | Mission | Values



Vision

To bring arts to the heart of our community.



Mission

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



Values

Leadership, Collaboration, Integrity, Diversity, Accessibility, Innovation, Enjoyment

Programming Mandate

Present

high-quality exhibitions and performances featuring primarily Canadian artists

Provide

a diverse balance of artistic and educational programming

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

Create

opportunities with other organizations that will strengthen and diversify the cultural sector

Engage

and support local artists and arts organizations through the delivery of vision, mission and values

We acknowledge that we are fortunate to be able to work, create, learn, and connect on the traditional unceded territories of the Katzie First Nation and Kwantlen First nation.

**"Art is not the possession of the few who are recognized writers, painters, musicians;
it is the authentic expression of any and all individuality..." - JOHN DEWEY**

Executive Summary

After more than two years into the Covid-19 pandemic, we have begun to adjust to a changed but hopeful landscape for the arts, as we plan to navigate an endemic phase of COVID 19 and its evolving variants. The organization's continuing practice of resiliency, flexibility and creativity will serve us well as we meet the challenges of further impacts.

Through the best and worst of times, the pandemic has reinforced the fact that the arts remain a basic human need. We are proud to share the impacts of the Arts Council's work in meeting that need in our community and in our sector over the last year. We have much to celebrate!

We brought our community back together, through a year-long celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Arts Council (1971-2021), in activities celebrating a legacy and future demonstrating artistic engagement as a buoyant force, elevating a 'place' into a community.

We inspired curiosity and ignited learning and creativity through The Arts Learning Programs, which had record participation throughout the year.

We re-connected live performing artists and audiences through The ACT Presents Series, offering a slowly increased series to gradually larger houses. Though the Omicron wave in early winter of 2022 forced the postponement of January

and February shows and the health landscape impacted some of our scheduled artists, we finished the season with smaller but very grateful audiences and performing artists.

We encouraged and advanced visual literacy and expression through the Art Gallery's full season of engaging exhibitions and new enhancements, offering visitors a deeper connection to the art works.

We evolved our leadership to more fully embrace diversity and inclusion by developing and adopting a Code of Conduct and seeking and welcoming more diversity among Board, staff and instructors.

We made improvements to The ACT Arts Centre, home to most of our programs and one of the most cherished spots in the City.

Through all of our activities, we thanked, thanked and **continue to thank again and again the generosity of our volunteers**, without whom we could not have continued to deliver any of the programs or operate The ACT. We are so very grateful to those who remained steadfast in their generosity of time and talents to the Arts Council.

Without question, it is clear that living through these pandemic times has affected how people now gather and participate. Some have enthusiastically jumped back into all the arts activities they love; for others, it will take more

time. For all, The Arts Council will continue to connect, inspire, and heal our community through the arts, with the support of our dedicated Board members, the incredible dedicated staff who work towards our mission every day, our committed volunteers and our many generous donors, funders and supporters.

Despite the continued challenges of our changed world, the role the arts serve in our lives remains as old as the human race - to uplift, to inspire, to help us process and understand the world and celebrate and explore our shared humanity. It has been The Arts Council's privilege to do this for a half century, and to continue on into the future.

Onwards and upwards,



Curtis Pendleton

Curtis Pendleton
Artistic & Executive Director



Kevin Binnie

Kevin Binnie
President, Board of Directors

"Creativity belongs to the artist in each of us. To create means to relate. The root meaning of the word art is "to fit together" and we all do this every day. Not all of us are painters but we are all artists. Each time we fit things together we are creating - whether it is to make a loaf of bread, a child, a day." - CORITA KENT

Community Engagement and Access

After a previous year of welcoming only registered guests as part of health and safety precautions, we joyously

re-opened The ACT Arts Centre to the public

welcoming 495 gatherings and events

to the city's favorite public gathering spaces

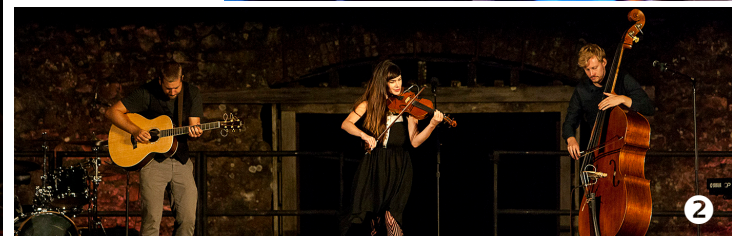
The 50th Anniversary Celebration

Included year-long activities recognizing the 50th years of the MRPM Arts Council (1971-2021). Centered around the theme of 'lift', the year celebrated a legacy and future with several projects and activities demonstrating artistic engagement as a buoyant force, elevating a 'place' into a community.

50 for 50 Outdoor Summer Concert Series

The free *50 for 50 Outdoor Summer Concert Series*, featured BC musical artists/ensembles on an outdoor stage on the front plaza steps of The ACT, re-engaging audiences and artists in the live performance experience, welcoming artists:

- ◆ Kutapira Percussion Ensemble ❶
- ◆ PureHarp
- ◆ Stephanie Cadman Trio's Celtic Blaze ❷
- ◆ City Opera Vancouver Love in Operatic Proportions
- ◆ Alpha Yaya Diallo Quintet ❸
- ◆ Tiller's Folly
- ◆ Steve Maddock Blues Project Sextet ❹



The Story Project: Raising The Ridge

The Story Project: Raising The Ridge, an oral history project which collected and published interviews from community members on memories of 50 years of the arts.

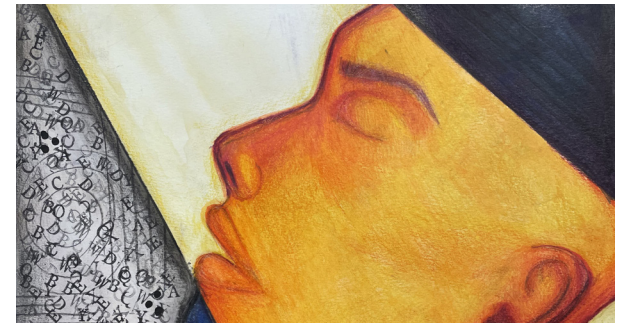
Lift – a large art installation

Lift - A large art installation created by children and other community members in the Arts Learning Programs floated above The ACT lobby January - June



Lift – a gallery exhibition

Lift: Joy through the Lens of Young Emerging Artists - Gallery exhibition in collaboration with SD 42 art students



Birthday Bash

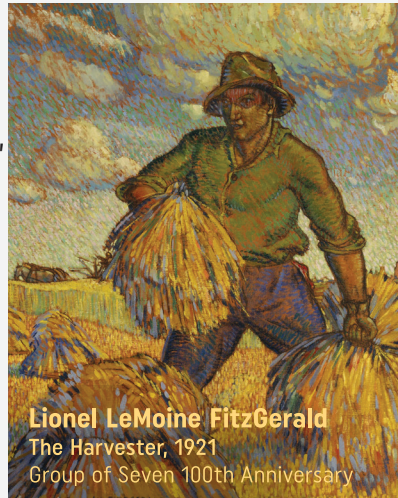
Free performances in the Mainstage Theatre, featuring physical theatre artist Trent Arterberry and The Paperboys.



Celebrating Community with Free Activities

Canada Day 2021 at the Maple Ridge Fairgrounds.

Coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the Group of Seven artists, the ACT created large reproductions of significant works, reminding Canadians, "Canada Makes Great Art" and "Art Makes Canada Great".



Welcomed visitors to **GLOW Maple Ridge** for lobby activities

Hosted the Greg Moore Youth Centre's annual **Youth Talent Show**

Welcomed guests to **Culture Days** activities in the Gallery

Hosted groups in ACT spaces for **Earth Day** and **MultiCultural Day**

Supporting Youth

Excellence in Arts Youth Scholarships awarded competitive scholarships to seven SD 42 graduating Seniors for outstanding achievements in the Arts in support of continuing post-secondary education.

Sanne Heaven	Classical Music Performance, Violin	Regent Christian r Online Academy
Hannah Mapile (Uriel)	Literary/ Journalism/Communications	Thomas Haney Secondary
Brea Franklyn	Dance	Thomas Haney Secondary
Amelie Shypilova	Visual art/2D Animation	Thomas Haney Secondary
Layla BaObaid	Visual art/2D Animation	Pitt Meadows Secondary
Sarah Penner	Visual art	Thomas Haney Secondary
Noah Severinski	Music Production	Tech Connex (SD42 Alternate)

Providing Bursaries

Provided Bursaries for 12 families in need to The Arts Learning Programs classes and activities.

35,271 attendees took part in activities at The ACT Arts Centre throughout the year

The ACT Presents Series

Reconnected Audiences and Performing Artists

delivering
36 presentations

from
137 performing artists

to a total
audience of 4,501

Musical Artists

Opening
Night with
Jill Barber ▶



▼ Montreal's **Constantinople** and acclaimed Corsican vocal ensemble **A Filetta**, in partnership Early Music Vancouver



▼ **The High Bar Gang**



▼ **Harry Manx and the Yaletown String Quartet**



▲ **Sweet Alibi** in listening lounge



▲ **Van Django** with vocalist MJ Mounteney



▲ **The Marc Atkinson Trio**



▲ **Pharis and Jason Romero**



▲ **Steve Maddock Blues Project**

Classical Music

Offerings included a belated birthday celebration for Beethoven, **Beethoven 251**, and **Coffee Concerts** by the Bergmann Piano Duo and guests, *PureHarp*, and brass ensemble *OneTwoTrio*.



▲ Beethoven 251



▲ Bergmann Piano Duo

The Mainstage Masters Theatre Series



▲ Bruce McCulloch's **Tales of Bravery and Stupidity**



▲ Royal Canadian Theatre Company's production of Norm Foster's **Screwball Comedy**



▲ Fringe darlings Stephanie- Morin Roberts' **Blindside** and Aaron Malkin's, **Dandelion**

Holiday Shows



▲ Ballet Victoria's **The Nutcracker**



▲ **Winter Harp**



▲ Double feature of the classic British animated films **The Snowman** and **The Snow Dog**

National Theatre Live Encores



▲ Continued presentations of the National Theatre Live Encore broadcasts, screened **War Horse** and **King Lear**

Family Shows



▲ Rainbow Dance Theatre's **Illumidance**

Arts Learning Programs

Ignited Creativity for All Ages

served
3,356 participants

in
361 in-person classes

guided by a team of
32 instructors

Early Childhood Learning

programs served **330**
toddlers and pre-schoolers
in 27 classes

244
elementary school students
participated in 12 gallery
tours & workshops

Youth Summer Camps

2021 welcomed
464 campers
in 49 camp activities

Youth Spring Break Camps

2022 welcomed
143 campers
to 14 activities

Home-schooling learning programs

offered classes in clay, art history, and cyber school



Drop-in programs for adult learners

13 artBARs

explored glass painting, macramé, floral arranging, ceramics, Halloween pumpkins, and paint pours on canvas

44 participated in Life Drawing

sessions, continuing a centuries-old artistic practice

Open Studio in the ceramic studio welcomed 78 registered students

to further hone their skills

18 Elementary Educators attended a Pro-D Activity

Visual Art as a Recreational Therapy

Proving the need for creating and learning



The ACT Art Gallery

Supported and Advanced Visual Literacy

for
4,751 visitors

in
5 exhibitions

featuring works by
64 visual artists

and **102 SD 42**
art students

204
local and regional artists

represented in the
Shop and Gallery

New
Volunteer Docent Program

connected community
members to each other
and the exhibitions

New
Inside/Out Series
of talks and discussions explored larger social,
cultural and artistic issues inspired by selected
exhibitions, welcomed thinkers and writers from
a wide variety of disciplines

Exhibitions

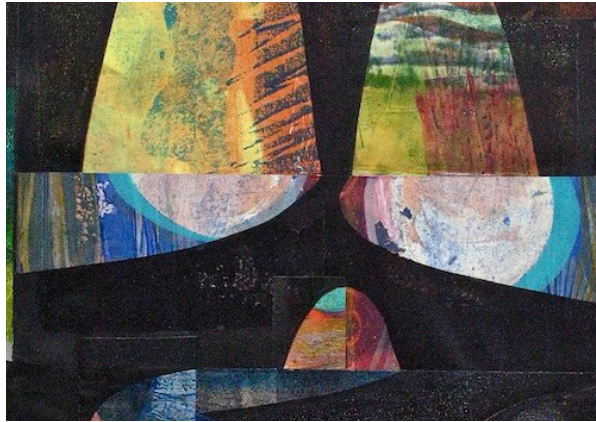


The Bee's Knees: Dressing Up In 1920s Maple Ridge, in collaboration with the MR Museum and Historical Society, featured artifacts and photographs from the Museum's archives, exploring the changing role of fashion in 1920s Maple Ridge.



A Touch of Red

Garibaldi Arts Club's energetic and uplifting show incorporated the colour red signifying happier times to come. Featured Live demonstrations of the artists' processes.



Singular/Serial: Contemporary Monoprinting

showcased artists Jennifer Love, Jen Drysdale, Greta Guzek and Kim LaFave, exploring monoprinting with a gel plate as an important element in the artistic process. A free Tour and Demonstration welcomed participants to a hands-on experience.



Goddesses: A Multimedia Exploration into the Divinely Feminine,

guest curated by Dr. Angela Clark of The Italian Cultural Centre, welcomed six female master artists working in ceramics, porcelain, painting, textile, prints and drawings, exploring feminine stereotypes and roles through the archetypal figure of the Goddess throughout the natural world



LIFT: Joy Through the Lens of Young Emerging Artists welcomed 102 young SD 42 artists who took up the challenge of creating work to uplift viewers, through painted canvases, collage, pen and ink, graphite, digital work and ceramics.

Inside/Out Tour and Discussion: PUT THAT BOOK DOWN! The Trop and Truth About Women in and Reading given by SFU's Reema Faris

The Volunteer Program at the HEART of EVERYTHING at The ACT

**65 active
volunteers**

**gave
3,141 hours to support**

- The ACT Art Gallery and gift shop
- Arts Learning Programs
- Live performances



Volunteers of the Year Awards

Theatre – Kathleen Hall

Arts Learning Programs – Tim Pylypiuk

Art Gallery – Sue Sochasky

Special Service Award – Sue Sochasky

We  our volunteers

Venue Stewardship

Opened in 2003, The ACT Arts Centre is the jewel of community spaces. The Arts Council maintained open, accessible and healthy access for over

495 gatherings and events, while making significant upgrades and replacements

Mainstage
Theatre
**curtain
system
replacement**

**Touchless
washroom
fixtures
upgrade**

Energy-saving
**LED lighting
replacements**
throughout the
facility

Administrative offices
internet re-cabling
for better connectivity

In partnership with City of Maple Ridge, identified and selected a **a replacement mainstage sound system** to bring clearer, high fidelity sound to theatre audiences , to be installed summer 2023

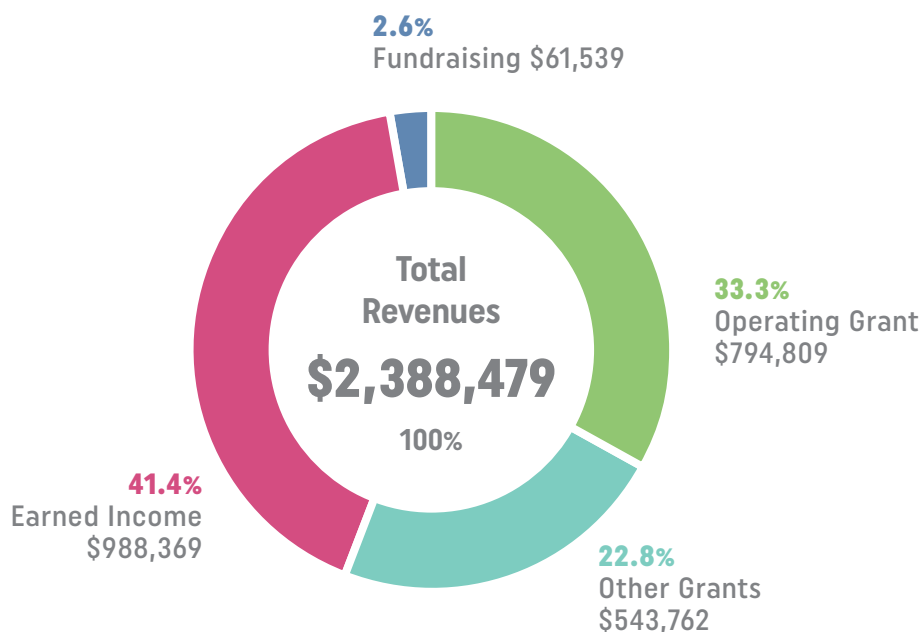


Finances, Recovery and Sustainability

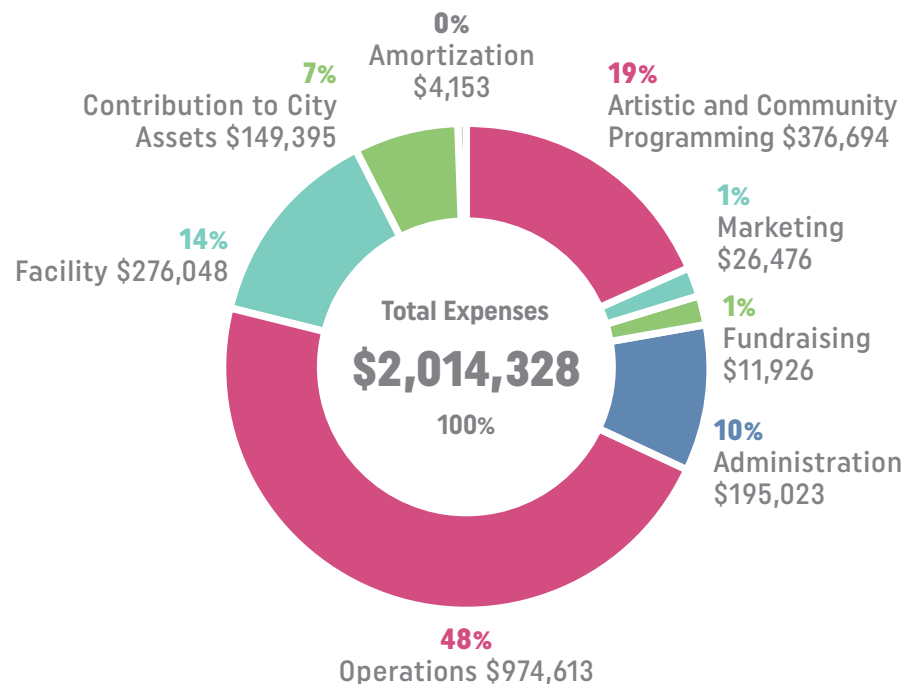
The Arts Council began to rebuild operational capacity while taking part in all recovery grant and funding programs available. The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program (CEWS) supported the organization through March, playing a crucial role in maintaining and rebuilding staff capacity as revenue recovered. Other additional pandemic funding support came from the Federal and Provincial governments. Earned revenue came primarily through registration fees and a significant increase in film shoot rentals.

Looking ahead, early audience response indicates a continued reluctance to return to theatre spaces in pre-pandemic levels. Until the Centre can operate its theatres at full capacity and re-build its audience participation, The ACT will be unable to expect significant earned revenue in this area. Operating deficits are projected for the next 3-5 years as we recover and rebuild operations and audiences. Projected sources to sustain core operations are past fiscal years' reserves, which have been restricted by the Board of Directors to sustain recovery.

Revenue



Expenses



Revenue over(under) expense **\$374,151**

Funders, Sponsors and Donors

The MRPM Arts Council gratefully acknowledges 2021/22 support from

8
funders

8
annual sponsors

226 generous
individual donors

The year saw tremendous support for The ACT and The Arts Council from our committed community of granting bodies, sponsors and individual donors, as well as new emergency funding to help weather the continuing pandemic storm.

2021/2022 Funders



Bonnie &
Ralph Telep

Match Sponsors Bonnie and Ralph Telep led the board of Directors in establishing and exceeding the goal of the first matching gift campaign to the Annual Fund



Supported scholarships, bursaries and programs



Title Sponsor of The ACT Presents Season, in the third year of a three-year partnership

Funded by the
Government
of Canada



Department of Canadian Heritage, provided continued support through the Canada Arts Presentation Fund, and additional pandemic recovery support through Support for Workers in Live Arts & Music grant



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL

Provided continued operating support through the Operating Grant, and pandemic support through the Expanded Arts and Culture Resilience Supplement Award



Continued operating grant support and awarded additional Capital Project Grant funds



Awarded the Community Presenter Grant



Supported 50th anniversary activities



Provided continued operating grant

2021/2022 ACT Presents Sponsors



2021/2022 Annual Fund Donors

Honour Roll - We acknowledge the following board members for exemplary service to the arts:

Fred Armstrong | Kevin Binnie | Korleen Carreras | Mike Murray | Bonnie Telep | Roger Welch

Act Champions Circle (\$1000+)

Bonnie & Ralph Telep,
Tri-Tel Realty Ltd -
Match Campaign
Sponsor
Anonymous (2)
Mel Broitman
Haney Automotive
Bradley and Frances
Johnson of Heritage
Mountain Heating
and Cooling
Carla Reed

Act Heroes (\$500-\$999)

Downtown Maple
Ridge Business
Improvement
Association
Josine Eikelenboom
Anne Favell
Gillian Hodge
Casey Hrynkow
Shewchuk
Bryan Hutton
Ken McCaig
Meadow Ridge Rotary
Club

Curtis Pendleton &
Robert Caron
Dr. Lynn Prindle

Act Producing Associates (\$300-\$499)

Kojo Asante
Mary Blackstock
Laura Butler
Bev Collier
Jean & Larry Doran
Sandra Dunning
Victoria Gracey
In memory of Nik
Radosevic
Elisa Jensen
Linda King
Berit Korsvold
Gayle & Wayne Lyons
Cheryl MacDonald
Christine Maki
Babs McLaren
Bruce Miller
Jim Rule and Diana
Mullock
Patricia Russell
Kathleen Spiess
Janet Symonds
Janet Wurzbach

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Memory of Victor
Allen
Linda Arnold
Doug and Helen Bing
Kevin Binnie
The Bookcase
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Duncan

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Sandra Jones
Kalyk Family
Debbie Kennedy
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Sandra Walton
Linda Watt-Shymkiw
Westgate Flower
Garden
Joan Williams
Rick & Evelyn Wilson
Don Wright
Anthony Yao

Sheila Pratt
John Ricketts
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Monica Schulte
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Margaret Spratt
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Sandra Walton
Lindy Watt-Shymkiw
Westgate Flower
Garden
Joan Williams
Rick & Evelyn Wilson
Don Wright
Anthony Yao

Friends Of The Act (\$25 - \$99)

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Pauline Bentley
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Pat & Ruby Miller
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Sarah Nelson
Rosemarie Parent
Wendy Parfitt
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HDR
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Anita Roeterdink
Rosa Elena Rojas
Pearl Rooke
Bryan Rubin
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Rita Browne
Phyllis Schnider
Betty Selezinka
Diane & Craig Speirs
Garibaldi Art Club
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Betty Sylvestre
Linda Thomas
Patricia Thompson
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Marla van Hiltten
Louise Vincent
Katherine Wagner
Christina Wensley
Ahmed Yousef

We thank our generous Funders, Sponsors & Donors

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Cassie Richter, *Arts Learning Programs
Administrative Assistant*

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Davies-Conley, Chiara Guizzo, Alex House, Thomas
Osmond, John Supeene, Brady Veltin, Silvi Wool-
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Jaime Lenz, Penny Greczi, *Ticket Centre Staff*

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Andréa Sutinen, West Coast Flying Trapeze, Lauren
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Nikki Szeto, Ruby Taylor, *Arts Learning Program
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Mahnoor Faisal, Rebecca Smit, *Marketing Assistants*
Arveen Gogoani, *Assistant Volunteer Coordinator*



Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Arts Council