



**Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows  
Arts Council Annual Report**

**2015  
/16**



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## Executive Summary

This year we celebrate another successful year for the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Arts Council and our 45th year of bringing the "Arts to the Heart of our Community." Our successes include fully integrating the re-branding of The ACT Arts Centre, and increasing the number of members and funding for our member group grants by \$5,000 to a total of \$12,500. We witnessed an increase to our arts programs and attendance at Gallery exhibitions at The ACT *Presents* performances. We also acknowledge the difficult challenge of the forthcoming end of the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows joint Parks and Leisure Commission.

Through the direction of the Board of Directors and senior staff, we were able to work with elected officials and municipal staff in both communities to highlight the great work of the arts community and reaffirm the work that we do in both Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. As we close the year we have now signed new agreements with the City of Maple Ridge to manage The ACT Arts Centre and provide arts programming, and have also been confirmed as the arts program provider for the City of Pitt Meadows. We would like to thank the staff, board of directors and our members for your tireless arts advocacy and your strong leadership as we move into new relationships with both the City of Maple Ridge and the City of Pitt Meadows. We look forward to seeing you out appreciating the works of talented artists, exploring your artistic skills, and enjoying events and exhibitions in support of a vibrant arts scene in our community.



**Korleen Carreras**  
PRESIDENT  
MAPLE RIDGE PITT MEADOWS  
ARTS COUNCIL



**Lindy Sisson**  
EXECUTIVE AND  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
MAPLE RIDGE PITT MEADOWS  
ARTS COUNCIL



## Board of Directors

PRESIDENT: **Korleen Carreras**

VICE PRESIDENT: **Dawn Flanagan**

TREASURER: **Bill Thiessen**

SECRETARY: **Linda King**

DIRECTORS: **Laura Butler, Bob D'Eith, Jason Etherington, Vicki Kipps, Mike Murray, Brad Tones, Ray Wallis**

MAPLE RIDGE PITT MEADOWS PARKS & LEISURE LIAISON: **Yvonne Chui**

CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE LIAISON: **Councillor Corissa Bell**

CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE ALTERNATE: **Councillor Craig Speirs**

CITY OF PITT MEADOWS LIAISON: **Mayor John Becker**

CITY OF PITT MEADOWS ALTERNATE: **Councillor David Murray**

SCHOOL DISTRICT 42 LIAISON: **Dave Rempel**



## Staff

**Lindy Sisson**, Executive & Artistic Director

**Carol Cheremkora**, Arts Program Manager

**Lori Ceaser**, Arts Program & Administrative Assistant

**Barbara Duncan**, Gallery Curator

**Courtney Harrod**, Gallery Assistant

**Philip Hartwick**, Business Manager

**Pilaar Yule**, Bookkeeper

**Jennifer Babstock**, Accounting Clerk

**Karen Pighin**, Communications Manager

**Neva Broadhead**, Communications Coordinator

**Karen Hendrickson**, Fundraising Coordinator

**Jenni Rempel**, Marketing & Web Content Coordinator

**Landrie Davies**, Event & Volunteer Manager

**Camila Ramos Bravo**, Community Engagement & Special Events Coordinator

**Tracey Brady**, Ticket Centre Manager

**Jennifer Babstock**, Ticket Centre Supervisor

**Ed Harris**, Operations Manager

**Alex House**, Technical Director

Technicians On-Call: **John Supeene, Kia Newton,**

**Shadoe Reisler, Don Parman, Jamie Burns, Russ Hawryzki,**

**Shawn Gommer, Karch Tan, Patrick McMullen**

Ticket Centre Attendants: **Abby Brown-John, Shannon Spindor**

Event Services Supervisors: **Melissa Harris, Chris McGill,**

**Thomas Smith, Julia Wilson**

Bartenders: **Sarah Nutbrown Bourdeau, Anthony Valentyne**

Custodian: **Colin McKay**



Canadian Brass performed November 28, 2015

## Vision

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To bring arts to the heart of our community.

## Mission

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

## Values

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

## Programming Mandate

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- 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

**177 MEMBERS**  
INCLUDING  
**39 VIPS**  
**36 Member Groups**



# Our 2015/2016 Sponsors:

## Corporate



## Arts Heroes



## Arts Champions

Cottonwood Medical Clinic



Bonnie and Ralph Telep

## Special Events Supporters



## Government Funders



## Community Connections

Aboriginal Education | Ivan Boudreau | Christmas Haven | Canadian Institute of Theatre Technology (BC) | Community Network | Downtown Maple Ridge Business Improvement Association | Economic Development Maple Ridge | Friends in Need Food Bank | Garibaldi Art Club | Golden Ears Writers | Greg Moore Youth Centre | Gone Hooking Rug Group | Holy Wow Poets | Katzie First Nation | Kwantlen First Nation | Maple Ridge Festival of Lights Society | Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Artist-in-Residence Program | Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Katzie Literacy Committee | Maple Ridge Public Art Steering Committee | Meadow Ridge Rotary Club | Salvation Army | School District 42 | SFU Philosophers' Café | Ridge Meadows Association for Community Living | Ridge Meadows Recycling Society | Volunteer Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows | What's On Magazine | Whonnock Weavers and Spinners Guild

## Donors

**Individual • General:** Iola Boyce | Jack Emberly | Natasha Etherington | Jessica Fletcher | Patricia Hamer | Christine Lewis Ravana Matthews | Mary Philip | Anthony Severs | Teresa Thieman | Kendra Valois

**Individual • Gallery:** Soledad Avaria | Louise Balkwill | Laura Butler | Korleen Carreras | Britta Cederberg | Yvonne Chui Pauline Cooper | Robert D'Eith | Jean Davidson | Landrie Davies | Jason Etherington Dawn Flanagan | Isabel Gibson Jane Johnston | Lorraine Heron | Kristen Krimmel | Linda King | Vicki Kipps Tracey Lewindon | Barb MacKinnon Kerry McLaren | Doug Miltimore | Shelly Moore | Gwen Murphy | Mike Murray | Christine Pearce | Fran Pighin | Karen Pighin Phyllis Schnider | Laurie Schweers Anthony Severs | Karen Smith | Laura Stark | Carla Sulina | Katie Sullivan Simone Sullivan | Janet Symonds | Emily Tepper | Lyn Thomas | Brad Tones | Donna Wakefield | Diana Walters

**Individual • Arts Angels**  
Barry Brinkman | Cecile & Jean Daoust | Myra Hutchinson | Marla van Hilten | Barbara Kuusinen | Athenia McIntosh Vicki McLeod | Sheila Nickols | Terry Plotnikoff | Sheila Pratt | Linda Reynolds | Rotary Club of Meadow Ridge Rotary Club of Haney | Sandra Taylor | Renee Tyson | Janell Wallace



# Giving Back

We are proud to give back to our community through **Arts Program bursaries, Tickets to live performances, Member Group Grants, Scholarships, Free Events, Workshops and Art Gallery Exhibitions.**

Participation in the Arts benefits everyone and we thank all our supporters and donors who help us carry out this important work.



## Scholarships

In 2016, five graduating students from SD 42 were awarded \$1,000 each to pursue post-secondary arts education. **Since 2005, \$60,000 in scholarships has been provided** in support of arts education.

The 2016 ACT Arts Centre scholarship recipients are:

- Visual & Media Arts Scholarship: **Mason Greissel** (Garibaldi Secondary)
- Theatre Scholarship in memory of Amy Wallis: **Rachael Renaud**
- Dance Scholarship: **Cassidy Corrigan** (Westview Secondary)
- Music Scholarship in memory of Judith Bergthorson: **Stephanie Kalyk** (Maple Ridge Secondary)
- Literary Scholarship: **Inez Daly** (Samuel Robertson Tech Secondary)



2015 Scholarship Award recipients

## Member Group Grants

With the support of Chances Gaming Centre in Maple Ridge and individual donors, **15 Member Groups were awarded a total of 12,500 dollars.** This support extends out in the community in support of arts related activities. Your 2016 Member Group Grant recipients were:

- Emerald Pig Theatrical Society
- Maple Ridge Caribbean Festival
- Royal Canadian Theatre Company
- Cinema Politica / Youth Vision Film Festival
- Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Art Studio Tour
- Specc-tacular Productions
- Ridge Meadows Quilters' Guild
- Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, and Katzie Community Resource Fair
- Garibaldi Art Club of Maple Ridge
- Maple Ridge Concert Band
- Clear Focus Camera Club
- Maple Ridge Historical Society
- Odeum Theatre Society
- Maple Ridge Choral Society
- Ridge Meadows Recycling Society
- LAST Committee



# ACT presents

2015/16 was an excellent season and once again exceeded our budgeted box office goals. Artistically, the breadth of offerings stretched our audience's experiences, while including a mix of genres to meet the varying tastes of our patrons including theatre, dance, young audience/family offerings, and all types of music from classical to jazz, world and First Nations singer-songwriters, plus this year, contemporary circus.

In addition to our 2015/16 ACT *Presents* Series we presented two shows each by Flip FabriQue and Motus O for 1,858 school children through the support of a new BCAC Youth Engagement grant and Arts Angels/School Access donations. In addition to the Arts Club On Tour series, our theatre presentations included the Porte Parole production of *SEEDS*, plus we presented our second ALT FEST in the Studio Theatre which included three theatre presentations, one jazz concert



Ballet Jörgen performed  
*Sleeping Beauty* February 25, 2016

and fun pre-show acts. We wish to thank Sarah Hagen for initiating and programming our Classical Concert Series, which she is now passing along to the Bergmann Piano Duo.

**36 PRESENTATIONS**  
**9,700 Attendees**

**COMMUNITY INITIATIVES:**

**397 Workshops, Co-presentations,  
Partnership & Outreach Activities**  
**4,573 PARTICIPANTS**

## Community Outreach and Engagement

Community Outreach and Engagement increased last season. Most of our performances include artist 'meet and greets' after the show. Post-show talks were held for the Porte Parole production of *SEEDS* and the Ballet Jörgen Canada presentation of *Sleeping Beauty*, and a VIP event at our season's final concert with Kinnie Starr and Leela Gilday which also included a theatre tour. We celebrated the Circus Community at a post-show reception for Flip FabriQue. Two artistic engagement programs were delivered: Coastal Sound Children's Choir had a workshop with Alpha Yaya Diallo and dancer N'nato Camara in advance of their pre-show performance and participation in the West African Summit concert. Thirty-five community members were involved in a two day residency with Motus O and performed in their production of *ALICE in Wonderland*.

**"I had a great time ... [Motus O] encouraged people of all ages to get up there and just have fun! It was a privilege to work with Motus O and their talented cast!"** — Molly Burgess

The Arts Centre remains a catalyst in our region in terms of developing partnerships and increasing arts participation in various sectors of society. Partnership highlights included partnering with School District #42 to produce the first Arts Pro D Day, and the Canadian Institute of Theatre Technicians (CITT BC) to produce the TechNique training weekend for aspiring technicians. Other significant continuing community partnership initiatives include our free weekly Lobby Nights with local arts groups and our annual CRE8 Arts Day during youth week.

# ACT arts programs



Arts Programs offers students of all ages and abilities the opportunity to experience and develop an appreciation of the arts. Connecting artists with citizens through participation, social interaction and skill building through arts exploration. We continue to strive to introduce new, creative, educational and diverse programming providing the Cities of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows increasing opportunities and accessibility.

Highlights for new programming this past year included; Artrageous Family Fun, Disney Fun for Tiny Stars for pre-schoolers, Masterpieces: Egyption Pots to Monet's Dots, Young Artist's Studio, Wear Your Art and Magic Fun for children. New adult programs included All I Can Draw Are Stickmen!, Painting: Analysis in Acrylic and our new artBAR evenings, led by our professional artists, an evening of fine arts and wine.



**2,734**  
participants  
ATTENDED  
**584**  
programs





# ACT art gallery



Abstracted

Our season opener, the art quilt exhibition, *Abstracted*, was a spectacular show that drew in fibre arts aficionados and regular visitors from throughout the province. Then, in mid-October, we were fortunate enough to be able to feature Kelowna artist, Alexandra Edmonds' visions of Iceland—always so great to be able to welcome an accomplished out-of-town artist to our space. The Christmas show, *Ensemble*, proved to be the most popular ever, with record sales to prove it! We started off January with a brand new artist duo, Amelia Epp and Aaron Moran, who created our first ever commissioned installation. We followed up with another collaboration in which the stunning water views presented in Jane Duford-Johnston's paintings were shown with Laurie Rolland's mystical ceramic art. And, how great to be able to welcome the Garibaldi Club back for their juried spring show, *Places & Spaces!* Finally, we were pleased to be able shine a light on the artwork local artists-in-residence Kat Wahamaa, Rebecca Fisher and Robi Smith, each of whom had a visual voice in the nature-inspired presentation, *Confluence*.

The launch of the new schools program with instructors Lisa Lake and Philippa Glossop was an unqualified success! Never have we been able to welcome more kids to the gallery.

Finally, our spring fundraiser TeaGarden, brought in both fresh funds and new friends to the Gallery—thank you everyone. And, finally, we must recognize our gallery sponsors, Puriste Cosmetic and Medical Dermatology and Thrifty Foods for their outstanding contribution to this year's successes!



Amelia Epp & Aaron Moran's Exhibition Under Development

## Gallery Shop

The Gallery Shop has experienced many positive improvements over the past year. During the 15/16 season, the Gallery Shop experienced significantly increased sales, was visited more often by repeat customers, and focused on establishing a stronger vision in terms of aesthetics. This was demonstrated by featuring local artists' work in a 'mini exhibition' format, highlighting a cohesive series by a single artist for two to three months at a time, totalling six solo exhibitions over the year. The Gallery Shop has also upheld a commitment to frequently changing artisanal displays, featuring a rotation of new artisans and fresh products while maintaining relationships with our best-selling artisans.

**9,012** TOTAL ATTENDANCE

**50** WORKSHOPS & TOURS

**162** Local Artists represented

**7** GALLERY EXHIBITIONS + 14 Additional Exhibits



## Volunteers

Once again the 2015/2016 season could not have happened if it were not for our wonderful team of dedicated volunteers. Volunteers have accumulated over 5,900 hours of service for our past season. We have volunteers from 5 years old to over 85 years and each one is a valuable member of our team. Whether they are ripping tickets, shredding old documents, stapling programs or selling jewellery each volunteer comes with a smile and a helping hand. We would like to express our gratitude for each moment we get to spend with this amazing group of people.

### Volunteers of the Year

Theatre • Shirley Tam  
Programs & Administration • Cheryl-ann Payne  
Art Gallery • Susan Tymchuk

### Business of the Year

Outer Limits Clothing Co Inc • Robert Mellof

2015  
/16

## 141 VOLUNTEERS

### VOLUNTEER HOURS:

Admin/Committees Marketing: 232

Board Committees: 359

Art Gallery: 1,093

Arts Programs: 122

Youth Programs: AA/YC/TC: 940

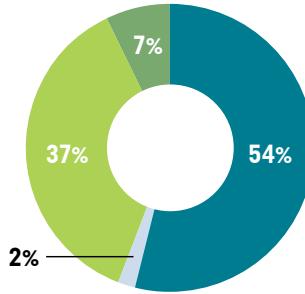
Theatre: 3,175

## Total: 5,921

# Financial Summary

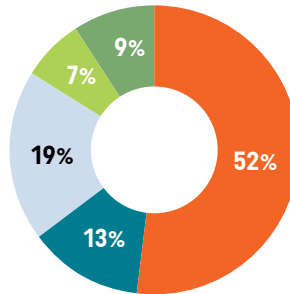
## Revenue by Category

- Earned Revenue
- Membership Services & Donations
- PLS Operating Grant
- Other Grants



## Expenses by Category

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



**73 RENTAL CLIENTS**  
**251 Rental Activities**

**42,312 Rental Activity Attendance**

**338 FACILITY USE DAYS**

## GRAND TOTALS:

**1,339 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**

**68,331 FACILITY ATTENDANCE**



## Capital Improvement Fund

In our 2015-16 year, we purchased a variety of capital equipment for the ACT Arts Centre to enhance user experiences. Among the items purchased are: ballet barres for the Studio Theatre, a replacement dishwasher for the bar, a new lighting system for the Art Gallery, a new floor in the 2D Studio, wireless microphones, a new pottery wheel, and LED lighting units for the building exterior.

**In total we spent \$71,412 on capital improvements.**

ABOVE  
 Flip FabriQue performed *Attrape-Moi*  
 October 18, 2015




COVER  
Alpha Yaya Diallo

THIS PAGE  
Laurie Rolland  
*Inflorescence*  
Hand-built ceramic  
2015  
(from *Tidal Pull*  
exhibition)  
PHOTO: LES RASKIEWICZ




Serving Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows

The ACT Arts Centre  
11944 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 6G1  
604.476.2787  
[theactmapleridge.org](http://theactmapleridge.org)

 [facebook.com/mapleridgeact](https://facebook.com/mapleridgeact)

 [@mapleridgeact](https://twitter.com/mapleridgeact)

 [YouTube: The ACT Arts Centre](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)