



WINNIPEG
ARTS COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



CONTENTS

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The Winnipeg Arts Council is located on Treaty 1 Territory and on the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene Peoples and in the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

We offer our respect and gratitude to the traditional caretakers of this land.

Cover: *Fire Cycle* by Jonathan S. Green in Old Market Square.
Photo by Carla Hernandez.

Inside front cover: Agassiz Festival, 2019. Amy Hillis. Photo by Mark Rash.

Inside back cover: Nafro Dance, 2022. *Shuni*. Performer Julious Gambalan; choreographer Casimiro Nhussi. Photo by Leif Norman.

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

The past year was one of renewal and new beginnings for the arts sector and the Winnipeg Arts Council. It was a joy to be able to attend many in-person events and see new arts seasons being announced. We were excited to welcome Winnipeg's arts community back to the Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts for the first time since 2019. The luncheon is always an occasion to celebrate Winnipeg's artists and arts administrators. For many of us in 2022 it was also the first opportunity to reconnect with colleagues in person after several years. We look forward to many similar occasions in the coming months and years.

We know many arts workers and organizations continue to experience effects from the pandemic. To help position us to support the arts into the future, Board and staff members all contributed to updating our strategic plan to reflect what we learned from the pandemic, reinforce our commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, and respond to the current needs of the arts sector. The new strategic plan will help us ensure the Winnipeg Arts Council's programs and services are delivered in a way that best supports the artists who enrich our city.

The 2022 municipal election ushered in a new mayor and city council. We thank Mayor Bowman for his support of the arts and culture sector in our city and look forward to working with Mayor Gillingham and the new city council to grow support for Winnipeg's artists and the Public Art Program. As research undertaken in 2019 again confirmed, municipal funding for the arts is key to the social and economic well-being of all Winnipeggers.

The work of the Winnipeg Arts Council relies on the contributions of many people. Thank you to the members of the Board of Directors for volunteering your time and talents to supporting the mission of the Winnipeg Arts Council. We said farewell to some Board members this past year and thank them for their contributions. We know they will continue to be strong advocates for the arts in our city. We welcomed new members who we know will provide valuable guidance over the next year. I also want to thank Jason Granger, who ended his term as Board chair in 2022. His leadership of the Board during the past several years provided much needed stability, wisdom and empathy as we navigated some difficult times. Fortunately we get to keep him in the



Nafro Dance, 2022. *Call to Earth*. Choreographers Casimiro Nhussi + Maritel Centurion. Photo by Leif Norman.

role of past chair where we know he will continue to be a valuable resource.

Every year, the small but dedicated staff at the Winnipeg Arts Council delivers our programs to the highest professional standards. I am always impressed by the depth of their knowledge and their dedication. It is a pleasure to work with them. The Winnipeg Arts Council is so fortunate to have Executive Director Carol Phillips at the helm, whose passion for artistic excellence and commitment to making the most efficient use of every public dollar invested in the arts have benefitted our city enormously. Sincerest thanks to all of you for your efforts over the past year.

Finally, thank you to all Winnipeggers for entrusting us with this role. We look forward to the next year and seeing people from across the city out at concerts, plays, exhibitions, and festivals.

Andrew McLaren

Board Chair
Winnipeg Arts Council

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The arts returned in 2022! After more than two years of stopping, and then starting and stopping again, Winnipeg theatres, galleries and museums reopened with compelling fare. Awareness turned to the opportunity to experience live performance, music, dance, poetry. New artworks invited viewers.

Now more must be done to encourage the return of audience, and arts organizations are putting effort into rebuilding participation in the arts to pre-pandemic numbers and beyond. This is likely the current priority for the Winnipeg arts community.

The arts were well recognized by the City of Winnipeg's Downtown Action Committee as a necessity to a thriving downtown which, like that of many urban centres, is suffering. As Winnipeg Arts Council Chair Andrew McLaren wrote for the *Winnipeg Free Press*: "When the arts prosper, downtown prospers – and when downtown prospers, all of Winnipeg sees the benefits." Staff from the Winnipeg Arts Council participated in the Downtown Action Committee and two sub-committees to bring the perspective of the arts to healing downtown Winnipeg.

Contributing to the desire for human interaction, the Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts and the Winnipeg Arts Awards attracted a full house to the Hotel Fort Garry after two years of only virtual celebration. Attendants were eager just to see each other in person, and of course cheer on their colleagues. For 2022, Taylor McArthur (RBC On the Rise), Rhayne Vermette (Making a Mark) and Susan Lamberd (Making a Difference) were announced as winners. 2021 winners were also honoured as there had been no public function to celebrate their accomplishments. Tasha Spillett, Divya Mehra, Lisa Meeches, Heather Cram and Dr. Douglas MacEwan were award winners in 2021.

The Winnipeg civic election was held in 2022 and the Winnipeg Arts Council prepared and delivered a message to all candidates. In-person meetings were held with all the mayoral candidates to remind them that maintaining a thriving creative sector improves the quality of life for Winnipeggers, and the sector is clearly an important part of our economy and the City's tax base. Briefs reminded candidates of the need to reinvest in public art and demonstrated practice in cities such as Edmonton,

Calgary, Toronto and Montreal which have provided stable funding for many years. As important as the economy is, Winnipeggers deserve the benefits of a flourishing culture sector in every corner of the city, especially in terms of quality of life, civic pride and identity, along with crime reduction, youth empowerment, and reconciliation.

The thrill of the arts for everyone was demonstrated again during the 2022 version of *Nuit Blanche*. The Winnipeg Arts Council took over Old Market Square with *Fire Cycle* (see cover) by Jonathan S. Green. This public artwork was literally embraced by visitors. The visual appeal was obvious, but equally important was the profound message of resource availability following a forest fire, based on work by Anishinaabe Elders and Dr. Andrew M. Miller, courtesy of Pimachiowin Aki.

Our Poet Laureate from 2020 to 2022 concluded his term with another rousing poetry event at the West End Cultural Centre. Duncan Mercredi has been and continues to be an inspiring poet and a mentor to young writers. The same evening, Chimwemwe Undi was announced as the next Poet Laureate for Winnipeg.

The Winnipeg Arts Council did attend to house-keeping in 2022. The website was updated to current standards with new software. As well, the logo and graphic presence received a refresh. With more ease of use and location of information, a new feature was added. *Voices* presents short musings from Winnipeg artists – on their inspirations, their practices, and more. Winnipeg artists telling their own stories in their own words.

The task of assessing the need for a new strategic plan was undertaken by board and staff. After considerable discussion and deliberation, value was found in the methods of the existing strategic plan, but enhanced with updates informed by the current arts and economic environment. The new document, *Bridge to 2025*, is a planning framework review, succinct yet still providing the base for the Winnipeg Arts Council annual corporate plan. All these references can be found on the website.

The Winnipeg Arts Council maintains the priority given to equity, diversity and inclusion in its programs and organizational makeup. It will sustain the focus on the removal of barriers for artists from marginalized communities, ensure there are supports and educational opportunities for artists, and make certain that Winnipeg's demographics are represented in its grant results, public art commissions, board and staff appointments. The work is ongoing.

In 2022, preliminary planning was begun to mark the 150th anniversary of the City of Winnipeg with commemorative projects. Work will be in full swing in 2023.

The board and staff of the Winnipeg Arts Council brought the organization through the haze of the pandemic and are now working to re-establish strong footing for a municipal public funder in Winnipeg. Thank you to all for your constant, courageous and unwavering determination.

Carol A. Phillips

Executive Director
Winnipeg Arts Council

PUBLIC ART

Working within the limitations of a reduced budget, 2022 was a year of planning, consultations, and actively seeking partnerships while working with artists and communities on smaller, temporary, and event-based artworks.

We reached out to city departments with community-focused capital projects in development, including the St. James Civic Centre and Southwest

Recreation Centre Campus. We consulted with community and collaborated on the public engagement process for the integration of art into the St. Vital Bridge Rehabilitation Project. We worked closely with the Downtown Action Team to advocate for the inclusion of art in the Downtown Recovery Strategy. This community partner-driven team will help leverage additional funding and direct the City's investment in places to attract people back





downtown. We participated in the Revitalizing Spaces Committee, SHED to Chinatown Charette, and Air Canada Park Revitalization Working Group and public consultation process.

Our first Call to Communities and Artists went out in March for the WITH ART & Youth WITH ART programs. Exciting new artists joined the roster and three new community groups were accepted to undertake projects. Throughout the year we facilitated the community-led matching process, and we look forward to the work that will be produced by Sarah Crawley with the South Valour Residents Association, Jonathan S. Green with the Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition, and Kelly Campbell with the youth of the Elwick Village Community.

Let's Play Wheelchair Basketball was published in June. This art yearbook documents the WITH ART project by Sasha Amaya and Thea Pedersen with the Manitoba Wheelchair Sport Association. It is now in circulation with Winnipeg Public Library.

Outcroppings by Jyhling Lee was completed after many pandemic-related construction delays. Massive amounts of earth were moved to create the

Waverley Underpass, exposing thousands of years of geological deposits, and creating a steep slope along the walking and biking path. This artwork was inspired by our shared history, the ancient glacial lake that once covered Winnipeg, and the fossils found in the limestone bedrock below. It references the ever-changing story of this place and imagines the discovery of the remains of mythical giant clams, like a new type of mineral emerging from the land in golden form.

I want to see you dance when the drum beats is now writ large in Air Canada Park, literally. We installed this line from Winnipeg Poet Laureate Duncan Mercredi's poem "River City" to complement the park's four permanent artworks and to continue to celebrate the Indigenous communities who gather here. We worked with artist Rolande Souliere to update her artwork *Mediating the Treaties*. This piece was intended to speak to the ambivalence around Treaty 1 and invite the public to sit with their ancestors in the park. It featured two of the seven Chiefs who signed the treaty along with Queen Victoria in red face. We want to encourage dialogue through art, but the subtlety of this



1-2. Temporary installation by Van Wallegghem School students at *Rooster Town Kettle*. Photos by Andrew Brewster.

3-4. *Let's Play Wheelchair Basketball*, a WITH ART yearbook. Photos by WAC.

5-6. *Resilience*, WITH ART screenings and launch at REES. Photos by WAC.

7. *River City*, Winnipeg Words installation in Air Canada Park. Photo by WAC.

8. *Mediating the Treaties* updated. Photo by Carla Hernandez.





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criticism did not translate to regular park visitors, and so in consultation with the artist the image of the Queen was removed.

Resilience premiered in September. The WITH ART documentary created by Kevin Nikkel with REES (Reaching E-Quality Employment Services) had multiple well-attended showings at a community drop-in event intended to re-welcome the community to REES. The short film speaks to the struggles of job hunting faced by Winnipeggers with physical disabilities and health conditions. Watch it online anytime.

We had fun playing with fire in Old Market Square in the fall! Local artist Jonathan S. Green invited you into the woods where dancing inflatable trees became a glowing forest for Nuit Blanche. *Fire Cycle* reflects on the incidence of wildfires and the impact of human activity on the planet's climate and ecosystems. The artwork was informed by knowledge shared by Anishinaabe Elders and the work of the Indigenous Guardians of Pimachiowin Aki. With additional support from Exchange District BIZ, we were able to extend the run of *Fire Cycle* into October for the week of Downtown Culture Days and to remount *See Hear Speak* by Paul Robles in Stephen Juba Park.

Students from Van Walleghem school visited *Rooster Town Kettle* on Truth and Reconciliation Day. They temporarily placed orange hearts with messages about their commitment to the work of reconciliation and read land recognition statements that they had written while learning about the history of this displaced Red River Métis community.

We continued to strengthen relationships with existing partners and are collaborating with the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ on the development of a series of Chinatown neighbourhood banners



to complement their annual zodiac banners. We also embarked on a project with the Exchange District BIZ which will see the installation of semi-permanent seasonal artist lanterns launch as part of *Lights on the Exchange* in 2023.

Beyond the commissioning of new works, the Public Art Program is always engaging with community and working to make the Collection more accessible through *interpretive materials*. Christabel Wiebe wrote a response to Michael Dumontier's *Four Flowers*. The functionality of the Public Art Gallery was increased on our new modernized website. Artworks are now searchable by location, venue, materials, and keywords. We participated in PhD candidate Honoure Black's research on insurgent public art and attended Urban Art BIZ's panels on balancing an art practice with parenting and curating from an Indigenous perspective.

Our free guided *tour program* was popular throughout the summer. In addition to walking and biking tours, we were finally able to offer the hop on hop off Winnipeg Transit tours envisioned for the works along the BLUE line. We contributed to the Winnipeg Architecture Foundation's Hidden Winnipeg Scavenger Hunt, Heritage Winnipeg's Doors Open, led a group of visiting artists around the city with the Fibre Arts Network, and present-

ed a library art & architecture tour in collaboration with Storefront Manitoba. As always, we benefitted from our partnership with Bike Winnipeg who provided volunteer marshals and kept participating cyclists safe.

We continue to lead the *Jane's Walk Festival* and worked with community members to bring back live walking conversations while growing our library of virtual walks. The hybrid festival was presented the first weekend in May. Winnipeggers chatted about ideas, art and our city while exploring quiet residential and busy urban streets, as well as trails, creeks and rivers from the North End, to Fort Garry, Transcona and downtown. Kids were treated to a tour of Selkirk Avenue and took home a cartoon map. Ambitious hikers talked about city planning while making their way to and from the airport. Hidden details were spotted while standing on a bucket, reciting poetry in French, speaking Spanish and Portuguese, and reading in Cree.

Keeping the collection in good repair is a big part of our work. Condition reporting on all of the sited works was completed over the summer so that future maintenance can be prioritized.

Projects Completed

Let's Play Wheelchair Basketball

Youth WITH ART: Sasha Amaya & Thea Pedersen with Manitoba Wheelchair Sport Association

Location: Mayfair Recreation Centre outdoor courts and Winnipeg Public Library Catalogue

Commission: \$18,000 (2018 WAC operating budget)

Outcroppings

Artist: Jyhling Lee

Location: Waverley Underpass Active Transportation Path

Commission: \$326,000 (2018 Management agreement with Public Works, with additional support from the Land Dedication Reserve)

Resilience

WITH ART: Kevin Nikkel with Reaching E-Quality Employment Services

Location: online

Commission: \$18,000 (2015 allocation)

Fire Cycle

Artist: Jonathan S. Green

Location: Old Market Square

Production: \$53,374 (2020 allocation with additional support from the Exchange District BIZ for Culture Days Downtown)

River City (Winnipeg Words)

Artist: Duncan Mercredi

Location: Air Canada Park

Production: \$5,713 (2019 allocation)

Projects in Progress

Broadway Light-Based Project

Artist: Eduardo Aquino

Location: Broadway median at Fort Street

Commission: \$250,000 (2018 allocation, with additional support from the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ)

Expected completion: Fall 2023

BIZ Banners

Artists: TBD

Location: TBD

Budget: \$80,000 (2021 & 2022 allocation)

Expected completion: Fall 2024

Winnipeg 150

Artist: TBD

Location: Broadway median

Partial Budget: \$157,700 (2021 allocation)

Expected completion: Fall 2024

WITH ART and Youth WITH ART

The following collaborative projects are in various stages of development; project budgets were increased to \$23,000 in 2022:

- Musicians Jodi Dunlop and Stefanie Johnson with Green Action Centre (2018 allocation)
- South Valour Residents Association with lens-based artist Sarah Crawley (2018 allocation)
- Manitoba Environmental Justice Coalition with printmaker Jonathan S. Green (2023 allocation)
- Elwick Village Community with printmaker Kelly Campbell (2021 WAC operating budget)

1. Choi Ho talks boulevard gardening and neighbourhood liveability by-laws on Jane's Walk Wolseley. Photo by Jaya Beange.

2. Michael Redhead Champagne shares cartoon map on Selkirk Ave Jane's Walk for kids. Photo by Kaj Hasselriis.

3. Cyclist rides by *Outcroppings* on Waverley St. Photo by Carla Hernandez.

GRANTS PROGRAMMING

With a focus on artistic excellence and community impact, the Winnipeg Arts Council supports opportunities for the people of Winnipeg to engage with the arts as artists and as audiences. Our programs respond to evolving practices and to the needs of Winnipeg's diverse artistic community, and in 2022 we continued to support artists and arts organizations through a period of recovery and return to programming after two years of COVID-19-related shutdowns.

Winnipeg Arts Council programs support a diverse array of arts organizations, collectives, and individuals in all artistic disciplines. Programs are regularly reviewed to find improvements in the application and assessment processes and to provide opportunities to engage new and/or underserved Winnipeg artists and arts organizations.

TOTAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:	251
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$4,276,320
TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED:	158
TOTAL GRANT FUNDS AWARDED:	\$3,779,483

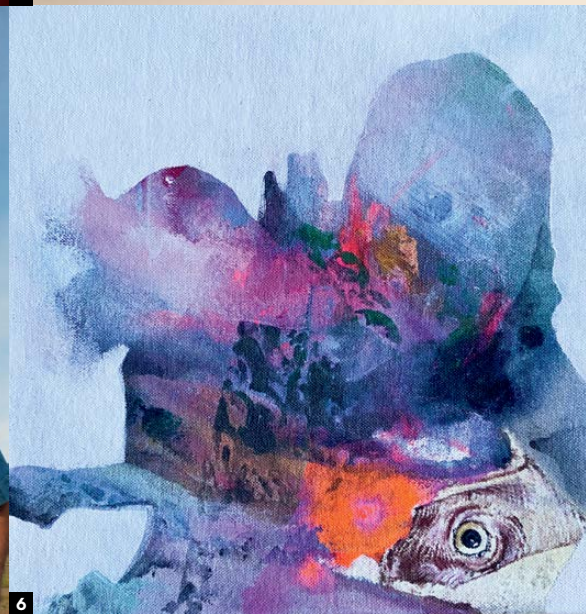
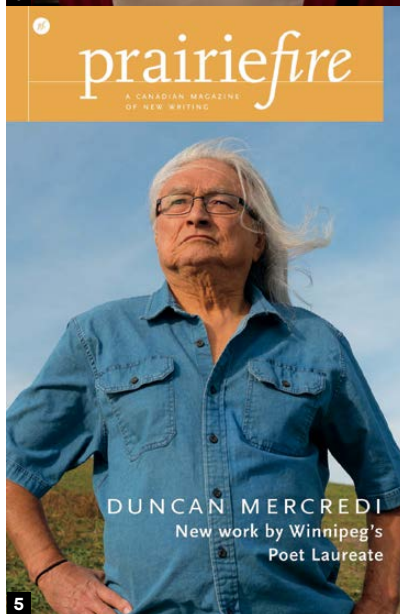
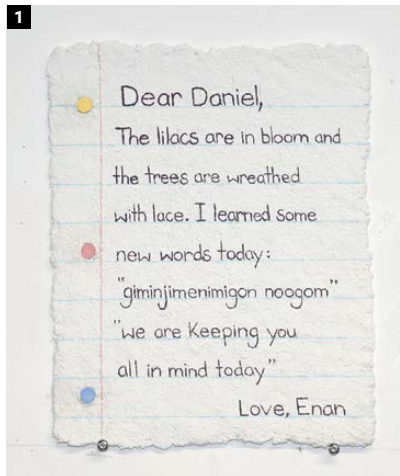
1. Flipside Opera, 2022. Soprano Millicent Scarlett performs in *In Plain Sight: Compositions by African-American Women*. Still from video by Julie Epp.
2. Manitoba Craft Museum & Library, 2022. *Collections Agency* exhibition. Photo by Leif Norman.
3. Manitoba Underground Opera, 2022. *The Marriage of Figaro*. Photo by Paul McKeen.
4. Full Of Days Collective, 2022. Patricia Hunter Jane Burpee, Megan McArton & Maggie Nagle in *Escaped Alone*.
5. Manitoba Underground Opera, 2022. *Orphee et Eurydice*. Photo by Paul McKeen.





1. Jay Stoller, 2022. Lesson on the Zulu drum with Tshidis Skeem.
2. Mariana Munoz Gomez, 2021. *A volar entre rocas*. Photo by Darren Rigo.
3. Cam Scott, 2017. *Wrestlers* book detail.
4. Freya Björg Olafson, 2022. *Field of View* video still.
5. Map fabric printing, July 2022 Altered aerial photo of Gillis Quarry and surrounding area for fabric printing (the neighbourhood beyond the quarry was removed). Photograph from Province of Manitoba; digital altering by Richard Dyck.
6. Joel Penner, 2021. Moss sporangium at 10x performed using mircoscopic focus stacking with a motorized rail.

1. Bramwell Enan, 2021. *Dear Daniel*.
2. Duncan Cox, 2022. *Afterlight* reading in Antigonish, NS. Photo by Duncan Cox.
3. MC de Navidad, 2022. Attending a screening at the Toronto International Film Festival.
4. Jonathan S. Green, 2022. Multi-layered lithograph pulled from Tyndall stone.
5. Prairie Fire Magazine cover Vol 42 No 4, Winter 2021–2022. Image of Duncan Mercredi by Pierette Boily.
6. Megan Krause, 2022. *The Hour Has Brought It*.





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1. Aboriginal Music Manitoba 2021. C-Weed Band at the Ka Ni Kanichihk pop up. Photo Alan Greyeyes.

2. Carolina Rais, 2022. *Ne tenir qu'à des fils*. Photo by Sarah Lamontagne.

3. One Trunk Theatre, 2021. *Western Chronicle*.

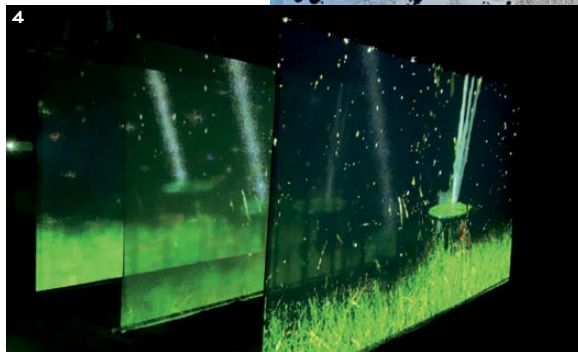
4. Manitoba Opera, 2022. Katherine Mayba reads "The Opera Cat" to students during I Love to Read Month. Photo by J. Nesbit.

5. Manitoba Theatre for Young People, 2022. *Grandmother Moon* Photo by Leif Norman.

6. Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre 2019. Cast of *The Color Purple*. Photo by Ian Jackson, Epic Photography.

7. Jazz Winnipeg, 2022. Dirty Catfish Brass Band perform in Old Market Square. Photo by John Giavedoni.

1. Manitoba Conservatory of Music & Arts, 2022. *Music Equals* program at Strathcona School. Photo by Domanie Billingham-Shadek.
2. Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers, 2022. *in between here and now*. Choreography by Jolene Bailey. Photo by Leif Norman.
3. Martha Street Studio, 2022. Cynthia Dinan-Mitchell *Floral Overload* installation. Photo by Sarah Fuller.
4. Video Pool, 2022. *Sonic Trails: Lockdown* installation by Orjan and Max Sandred. Photo by Emma Hendrix.
5. Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, 2019. Cast of *Fun Home*. Photo by Dylan Hewlett.
6. Théâtre Cercle Molière, 2021. Cast of *Inédit*. Photo by Leif Norman.
7. Festival du Voyageur, 2022. Sculpture de neige par Festival du Voyageur.



INDIGENOUS ARTS LEADERS FELLOWSHIP

The Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship was established in 2018 to provide First Nations, Metis and Inuit Winnipeggers with tools and skills to become leaders so that Indigenous people are better represented among decision-makers in Winnipeg's arts organizations. Fellows are embedded within arts organizations and each person is able to create a program of development suited to their own interests and abilities, all with access to and mentorship from senior leadership teams and departmental staff of their host organization. Rayna Masterton completed a Fellowship with Manitoba Theatre for Young People in July 2022.

In October 2021, I was awarded an Arts Leaders Fellowship with Manitoba Theatre for Young People (MTYP) thanks to the Winnipeg Arts Council. I was ecstatic. I have grown up with MTYP in some ways; I had my first introduction to theatre when they toured to my elementary school, and I took my first acting classes there as a teen. They have always provided me a safe place to grow my artistic practice and express myself in ways that I was too shy or nervous to do elsewhere. I knew that this welcoming environment would continue as I returned for the Fellowship as an adult and independent artist.

During my Fellowship, I learned about fundraising basics and best practices, administration

tasks, board governance, new play development, marketing, and how patron data is used. It was a very exciting time as I learned and worked with practically every department at MTYP. I was given a crash course in the programs used for everything behind the scenes at the theatre, as well as common spreadsheets, forms, and templates. A lot of this work I never expected to be doing, especially sitting in on the board meetings and learning those protocols and practices.

What surprised me the most was how the work was centred on relationship-building with our subscribers, donors, theatre school parents, and everyone else who walks through our doors.

Rayna Masterton (she/they) is a Métis/Scottish actor, writer, director and arts administrator from Treaty 1 Territory. She graduated from the University of Winnipeg with a BA (Hons) in Theatre, and has trained and worked with The Banff Centre, Company Link, The Globe Theatre, Green Kids Theatre, Theatre Projects Manitoba, Manitoba Theatre for Young People, Prime Mover Theatre, and Prairie Theatre Exchange. Their work has been featured in the Winnipeg Fringe Festival (2016/2017), the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre's Shakespearefest (2020), and Prime Mover's Race Cards 10x10 Commissions (2022). Rayna was a 2021–22 recipient of the Winnipeg Arts Council's Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship and currently works as Development Associate with Manitoba Theatre for Young People. She is an avid photographer, gardener, and beader.



Rayna Masterton. Photo by Calvin Lee Joseph.

Even the tiniest details matter, whether it's how we communicate important information or how we program classes, camps, and shows. At the end of the day it really is about providing the best possible experiences and making sure that MTYP is a place where people are excited to be and feel safe to be themselves. MTYP is connected to a lot of people and it has been a part of so many lives throughout generations.

Luckily for me, my work and the role I played in the company did not go unnoticed, and I began working full time as the Development Associate after the Fellowship ended in July 2022. One of the primary reasons that I stayed with MTYP is because

they provide me the flexibility and encouragement to keep working as an independent theatre artist. Whether it's taking time for auditions or contract work, MTYP has given me the freedom to seek out artistic work and bring knowledge or new experiences back to connect with the broader community. It feels right to have your workplace support your endeavours when you are working within the same circles.

The immediate support and excitement for my artistic development provided by the Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship is undeniably special. I have so much gratitude for the opportunity and for the community at MTYP, not only in how they operate as a theatre but also as human beings.

WINNIPEG POET LAUREATE

The Poet Laureate is a literary ambassador, charged with creating and presenting new work that reflects the life of the city. Cree-Métis poet Duncan Mercredi was appointed to the position in early 2020 for what was supposed to be a two-year term. The pandemic limited Duncan's opportunities to get out into the community and so he remained in the position through the end of 2022.

And what a year it was! Duncan spent the year visiting schools all over Winnipeg, creating reams of new work, and collaborating with artists from across the spectrum.

The year began just as his book *215* was released. The volume of 40 poems, published by the Winnipeg Arts Council, is a series of reflections on unmarked graves found at Indian residential schools across the country the year before. The book garnered local and national media attention and ensured that this chapter of Canadian history continues to be addressed.

Over the course of 2022 Duncan made several high-profile appearances, including at the Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts, as a featured guest at the Agassiz Music Festival, and in a collaborative



1. Kim Wheeler
2. Trevor Greyeyes
3. Duncan Mercredi
4. Elizabeth Denny
5. Hetxw'ms Gyetxw / Brett Huson
6. Chimwemwe Undi

All photos by Matt Duboff.



performance with local musician Glenn Buhr's Fallen Angels Orchestra. This 15-piece ensemble performed music composed by Buhr as a soundtrack to Duncan's poems. Two performances played to packed houses in the Fall.

As the year drew to a close, so did Duncan's tenure as Poet Laureate. But before he left, he created an event called "*Ka-pa-achimot: coming to share stories.*" Under the *Mnidoon Giizis Oonhg* ("Little Spirit Moon" – Anishinaabe), or *Yiyikopiwi-pisim*, ("Frost Moon" – Cree), performers celebrated the coming of winter in the tradition of Duncan's early days in Misipawistik (Grand Rapids, MB). Artists

included Kim Wheeler, Ariel Gordon, David Yerex Williamson, Yelani Peris, Elizabeth Denny, Hetxw'ms Gyetxw, Jennifer Waytiuk, Jordan Wheeler, and Trevor Greyeyes. Writer and broadcaster Rosanna Deerchild presented a special work called *Lone Wolf* which she created for the occasion as a tribute to Duncan. At the conclusion of the event, Chimwemwe Undi was announced as the next Winnipeg Poet Laureate.

The Winnipeg Arts Council is grateful to have worked with Duncan for the past three years and for his tireless work as an artist and an advocate.

lone wolf
(ode to Duncan Mercredi)

By Rosanna Deerchild

lone wolf
despite your best efforts
you're being followed

we caught your scent
down mainstreet

followed your concrete
footprints
to a dusty blues bar

wolf in the city
despite your
hidden track
from north to south

we found you there
way in the back
swaying to old
medicine songs

Rosanna Deerchild (she/her) is Cree, from the community of O-Pipon-Na-Piwan Cree Nation. She has been a storyteller for more than 20 years; as a journalist, broadcaster, and a poet. She has published poetry collections including *this is a small northern town* and *calling down the sky*; the latter is a collaborative work with her mother, who was forced to attend Indian residential school. Her first play, *The Secret to Good Tea*, premiered this spring on the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre Mainstage.

and despite your
insistence
that we leave you alone
you reluctantly adopted us

this rag tag tribe
of off key troubadours
untold storytellers
& ragged poets

and old man wolf
we followed
your footsteps

you taught us
how to catch the wind
and hear its story

1. Winnipeg International Writers Festival, 2022. *Writes of Spring* Winnipeg Free Press feature. Photo by Ariel Gordon.
2. Plug In ICA, 2022. Manuel Mathieu, *World Discovered Under Other Skies* installation. Photo by Karen Asher.
3. Urban Shaman, 2022. *Reaching Our Relatives* Roseau River mural with artist Niamh Dooley. Photo by Synonym Art Consultation.
4. Winnipeg Film Group 2021. Seven Oaks MET School Workshop. Photo by Dylan Baillie.

ARTS DEVELOPMENT

The Winnipeg Arts Council regularly engages in programs which are designed to facilitate public participation in the arts. Arts Development programs are created by WAC and in partnership with other organizations to connect communities and ensure that citizens have the opportunity to participate in the arts.

The Winnipeg Arts Council has been the producing partner of Nuit Blanche Winnipeg since 2016 (with a hiatus in 2020 and 2021). After two years of socially distant Nuit Blanche Winnipeg events, the in-person celebration returned with record attendance and a renewed enthusiasm for contemporary art downtown. WAC provides leadership in the installation of major Nuit Blanche works as well as financial support for the event.

Culture Days has evolved from a weekend event to a three-week celebration that invites Winnipeggers to get hands-on and behind-the-scenes in order to experience and understand the importance of arts and culture in our communities. In addition to events hosted by arts and community organizations, Culture Days engages children and youth directly in arts activities. The 2022 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation occurred during Culture Days, and several programs created and led by First Nations, Métis, and Inuit organizers were included in the program to provide the public with learning opportunities to acknowledge and better understand, through the arts, the history and harms done by the Indian residential schools system.





The Winnipeg Arts Council manages Urban Idea, a project-based organization which explores the relationship between the arts and the design, building, and function of cities. Urban Idea's primary ongoing partnership is with the Winnipeg Architecture Foundation and the Winnipeg Film Group to stage the annual Architecture + Design Film Festival. In 2022 the festival featured a hybrid of in-person and at-home screenings, featuring 17 films from around the world as well as the Arch-iShorts 2-minute filmmaking competition.

A number of other initiatives were carried out in 2022 connecting the arts and the city. We commissioned several local artists to write short essays about what the arts in Winnipeg mean to them personally. *Voices* is a new section on our website that features these essays. WAC and Urban Idea worked to ensure the arts were represented on the city's Downtown Revitalization Action Committee and took part in a StorefrontMB design charette exploring the connections between downtown's Chinatown and SHED districts.



CAROL SHIELDS WINNIPEG BOOK AWARD

PRIX LITTÉRAIRE CAROL-SHIELDS DE LA VILLE DE WINNIPEG

The Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award honours books that evoke the special character of and contribute to the appreciation and understanding of the City of Winnipeg. It is named after the late Carol Shields, who showcased Winnipeg in her own writing. The award is sponsored with the generous support of the Winnipeg Arts Council with funding from the City of Winnipeg. The award is administered by the Association of Manitoba Book Publishers.

2022 RECIPIENT



Mont Blanc-Winnipeg Express

By Seream

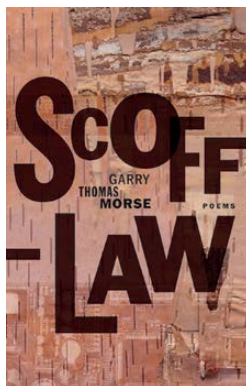
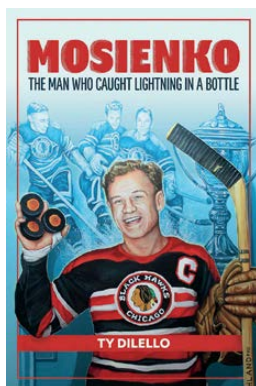
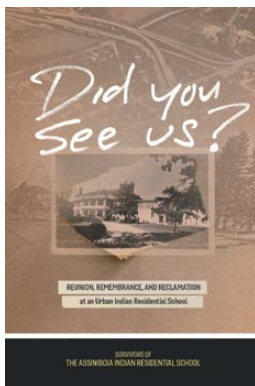
Published by Les Éditions du Blé

An immigrant poet discovers Winnipeg and the province of Manitoba. Born in France, an explorer of poetic fields, he plans to settle in Manitoba and flourish there. This *Mont Blanc-Winnipeg Express* ticket is his first work published in Canada, and the first French-language title to win the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award.

“Un regard amusant et honnête sur la ville de Winnipeg, et ce en quoi elle en est remarquable sous les yeux d’un nouvel arrivant.”

“A fun and honest look at the city of Winnipeg, and what makes it so special through the eyes of a newcomer.”

*Quotes excerpted/edited from comments by jury members Lorelei Bourrier, Aileen Clear & Eric Plamondon



SHORTLISTED TITLES

Did You See Us? Reunion, Remembrance, and Reclamation at an Urban Indian Residential School

By Survivors of the Assiniboia Indian Residential School, foreword by Theodore Fontaine, edited by Andrew Woolford
Published by University of Manitoba Press

These recollections of Assiniboia at times diverge, but together exhibit survivor resilience and the strength of the relationships that bond them to this day. The volume captures the troubled history of residential schools.

“A raw and emotional read... a glimpse into life at this not often talked about residential school in Winnipeg through stories from the survivors.”

Mosienko: The Man Who Caught Lightning in a Bottle

By Ty Dilello
Published by Great Plains Publications

Bill Mosienko was one of Manitoba’s greatest hockey players and athletes. This is his story.

“A thoroughly enjoyable and lively account of hockey legend Billy Mosienko’s career and his gritty North End upbringing.”

Scofflaw

By Garry Thomas Morse
Published by Anvil Press

Scofflaw is a long poem, a playful exploration of Indigenous-Settler relations amid globalized pressures.

“Scofflaw is guttural, intuitive and holds no punches, yet reveals the skillful aesthetic of a seasoned poet. A thoughtful contribution to our journey towards decolonization.”

The Strangers

By Katherena Vermette
Published by Hamish Hamilton Canada

A staggering intergenerational saga that explores how connected we are, even when we’re no longer together—even when we’re forced apart.

“A beautiful and raw story of four generations of Métis women growing up in Winnipeg.”

THE MAYOR'S LUNCHEON FOR THE ARTS & THE WINNIPEG ARTS COUNCIL AWARDS

After a two year absence, the Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts and the Winnipeg Arts Council Awards returned to a full house at the Fort Garry Hotel on Thursday, June 16. There was a buzz in the air as the arts community gathered en masse for the first time since 2019 to recognize and promote the arts, artists and partnerships that make Winnipeg a centre for cultural achievement.

People mingled and socialized to the music of Argentine-born, Treaty 1-based guitarist and songwriter Gabriela Ocejo and her trio before the formalities began. The event was deftly hosted by local broadcaster, filmmaker and punk rocker Jim Agapito and featured new work by Winnipeg Poet Laureate Duncan Mercredi. In his final address to the community, Mayor Brian Bowman expressed his thanks to the artists of Winnipeg for their strength and perseverance.

Three awards were presented in 2022. Taylor McArthur (Pogé ḥaská wašté wiyá/Hummingbird Woman) received the RBC On the Rise Award in recognition of her work building the future of Indigenous digital art practice while centring her work in traditional knowledge and ways of being. Filmmaker Rhayne Vermette was presented with the Making a Mark Award acknowledging her success in Winnipeg and across Canada as an artist who merits study, support, and celebration. The Making a Difference Award was given to Susan Lamberd, who has spent more than a decade advocating for and providing professional opportunities to Winnipeg artists and patrons who identify as Deaf and/or disabled.



1. RBC On the Rise Award winner Taylor McArthur & Ken Fetherstonhaugh, RBC.
2. Luncheon guests.
3. Making a Difference Award winner Susan Lamberd & Mayor Brian Bowman
4. Kate Fenske, Carol Phillips, Councillor Sherri Rollins.
5. Luncheon guests.
6. Making a Mark Award winner Rhayne Vermette & Mayor Brian Bowman.

All photos by Darnell Collins.



THANKS

The Winnipeg Arts Council is grateful to the City of Winnipeg, The Mayor and Council, Standing Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks, for support of the arts. Thank you to the City Clerk's Office, the offices of the CAO, the COO, the CFO, and all of the city officials who assist Winnipeg Arts Council programs and initiatives. We appreciate the Winnipeg Arts Council's enthusiastic and committed Board of Directors.

We are grateful to the teams at Manitoba Theatre for Young People and Manito Ahbee for the ongoing support of the Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship and to the 2021–22 Fellows, Rayna Masterton and Émilie McKinney. Other partners who supported our work this year include Culture Days Manitoba, the Winnipeg Architecture Foundation, Audio Works Production Services, Jackie Hogue of J. Hogue & Associates, Kali Moss of Sage Solutions, as well as Lindsey Childs, Melanie Lemoine, Chelsea Peters, Janine Tschuncky and Mike Wright. The Winnipeg Arts Council collaborates with colleagues at the Edmonton Arts Council, Calgary Arts Development Authority, Toronto Arts Council and Conseil des arts de Montréal throughout the year.

The Public Art Program works closely with City of Winnipeg staff on procedures to implement the Policy and Program. We appreciate the assistance of the Planning Executive Advisory Committee and all our colleagues who are critical to the development, installation, and on-going care of the City's Public Art Collection. We are especially grateful to the Planning, Property and Development Department, our primary liaison; to Public Works, Parks, Urban Design, Winnipeg Public Library, Community Services, and the Film and Special Events office for their assistance.

Public art is a collaborative practice. We thank all our external partners and community members who are essential in the creation of meaningful artworks. We can't do it without you. Thanks to the community members who engage with the program and artworks, and most of all thanks to the artists who make our work possible and our city infinitely more dynamic!

Luncheon Host Jim Agapito. Photo by Darnell Collins.



GRANTS AWARDED

Project Grant Program

For arts organizations and collectives

This program is intended for new and developing arts organizations, established arts organizations that work on a project basis, and arts organizations undertaking a special, one-time initiative. Collectives or unincorporated groups may be eligible provided that they meet the special criteria outlined in the guidelines. The program is designed to provide partial support to a broad range of activities and art forms, reflecting different cultural traditions and art practices. A Project Grant must be applied to a specific project – with potential for artistic merit and civic impact – planned to take place within the 18 months following the notification date. This program is not open to recipients of the Winnipeg Arts Council's multi-year grants programs. The maximum grant available under this program is \$10,000.



TOTAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:	25
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$223,541
TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED:	11
TOTAL GRANT FUNDS AWARDED:	\$95,500

Green Kids, 2022. Ady Kay in *Bike and Circuses*. Photo by Leif Norman.

10 Million Squares

\$10,000

The 48 Film Challenge.

AA Battery

\$10,000

A production of *Antigone* by Sophokles, translated by Anne Carson, with original music by The Mariachi Ghost and an integrated cast of Deaf, disabled and non-disabled performers.

Canzona

\$10,000

A season of exceptional Baroque choral music featuring a newly commissioned work, masterpieces of the Baroque era, and a series of community engagement and education initiatives.

FascinAsian Film Festival

\$10,000

The FascinAsian Film Festival: a culturally specific film festival which is the only festival of its kind in the prairie provinces and only one of three such festivals in all of Canada.

Flipside Opera

\$5,000

Songs from an Open Heart: an intimate concert for classical voice and piano highlighting the music and poetry of Black women.

Manitoba Underground Opera

\$7,500

Two operatic productions that use the cultural significance of marriage to fuse together classic archetypes of storytelling and contemporary dynamics.

Polycoro Chamber Choir

\$10,000

Collective: Unconscious – an immersive, interactive season of live music enhanced with digital projections and technology featuring three concerts, each exploring the human experience through a Canadian lens.

Sick + Twisted Theatre

\$10,000

Crip Cab: A Disability Cabaret.

Theatre by the River

\$10,000

A production of the *Glad To Be Here* project, created by Theatre by the River and a diverse group of creators.

Weather Parade Dance Theatre

\$10,000

In the Dark: an event with two new works; a live performance choreographed by Mark Dela Cruz and a collaborative video presentation between Weather Parade Dance Theatre and Mark Dela Cruz.

Winnipeg Architecture Foundation

\$3,000

Winnipeg: Spaces + Places: the first comprehensive architectural guidebook to Winnipeg, produced through a collaborative research programme and released to mark the city's 150th anniversary.



Young Lung Dance Exchange, 2022. Essayist Chiamaka Barbara Ukwuegbu. Photo by Michelle Panting.



Rowan Gray, 2022. *Discordia Still*. Directed by Rowan Gray, Director of Photography Kristiane Church.

Professional Research and Development Grant Program

For artists and arts administrators

The Winnipeg Arts Council recognizes that the continued growth and development of arts professionals is essential to the cultural health of the community. The Professional Development Grant Program is designed to provide support to artists, arts administrators, or arts educators for activities that contribute to their professional development and enhance their careers in the arts. These activities may include: unique opportunities for short-term study (beyond basic training) in a formal or informal setting; attendance at events where the work of the applicant is to be presented or where the applicant is an invited speaker or resource person; or travel that is a component of such activities. The grant also supports independent research and critical writing. Professional Development grants are awarded in fixed amounts of \$250, \$500, \$750 & \$1,000 and are intended to represent a contribution not exceeding 50% of the total eligible costs.

TOTAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:	47
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$38,750
TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED:	39
TOTAL GRANT FUNDS AWARDED:	\$26,500



Nicole Shimonek, 2022. *Watching a dream* live performance. Video still by Veronika Merklein.

Zorya Baskier-Pasternak	\$750	Kevin Longfield	\$250	Andrea Roberts	\$1,000
Madeline Bogoch	\$500	Chelsey Mark	\$500	Joshua Ruth	\$750
Carol-Ann Bohrn	\$500	Carmelo Militano	\$1,000	Katelyn Sawatzky	\$500
Ksenia Broda-Milian	\$750	Milos Mitrovic	\$750	Lara Secord-Haid	\$1,000
Joyce Clouston	\$500	Mariana Muñoz Gomez	\$500	Nicole Shimonek	\$750
Charles Copenace	\$750	Fawnda Neckoway	\$1,000	Suzie Smith	\$750
Duncan Cox	\$750	Olivia Norquay	\$500	Mary Sparks	\$500
Mahlet Cuff	\$500	Ellen Peterson	\$750	Jay Stoller	\$1,000
Maria de Natividad	\$500	Heidi Phillips	\$500	Michael Swickis	\$750
Nicole Fletcher	\$500	Debra Plett	\$500	Chukwudubem Ukaigwe	\$500
Christina Hajjar	\$750	Victoria Popp	\$750	Melissa Van Soelen	\$1,000
Matthew Joudrey	\$1,000	Sue Proctor	\$750	Andrea von Wichert	\$500
Olivia Min Hee Kang	\$500	Erin Propp	\$500	Tanja Woloshen	\$1,000



1. 2022. *THE EYE COLLECTOR*, written by Jonathan Ball, art by GMB Chomichuk, letters by Lyndon Radchenka. 2. Joel Penner, 2021. Moss growth at 5x performed using microscopic focus stacking with a motorized rail.

Individual Artist Grant Program

For Winnipeg artists working in all artistic disciplines

The Winnipeg Arts Council recognizes the individual artist as the primary source of creative activity in all artistic disciplines. The Individual Artist Grant Program is intended to support the creation of new work in any art form, or the development, production, curation, or exhibition of works of art by Winnipeg artists.

Two types of grants are available, depending on an artist's level of accomplishment and experience in the discipline of the proposed project. The (A) grant for mid-career and established artists has a maximum of \$7,000 and the (B) grant for emerging artists has a maximum of \$3,000.

TOTAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:	111
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$573,421
TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED:	40
TOTAL GRANT FUNDS AWARDED:	216,875

3. 2021. Poster for *Cliff: A Portrait of an Artist*, a film by Adam Brooks.

4. 2018. Still from video installation *Always Stay Touching* by Suzie Smith in collaboration with dancers Natasha Torres-Garner and Ali Robson.

5. Divya Mehra, 2021: *"Remember, say NO to discomfort, guilt, anguish or psychological distress."* Billboard installation in Tulsa OK 2021. Photo by Richard Zimmerman.

Brady Allard	\$3,000	Sacha Kopelow	\$3,000	Andrea Roberts	\$7,000
Abigail Auld	\$7,000	Laura Lewis	\$7,000	Alison Robson	\$7,000
Ian Bawa	\$7,000	Hope McIntyre	\$2,500	Adam Schwartz	\$7,000
Amanda Jean Borbridge	\$3,000	Lasha Mowchun	\$3,000	Tyler Sneesby	\$7,000
Alyssa Bornn	\$3,000	Abimbola Opaleke	\$7,000	Mandeep Sodhi	\$7,000
Keith Cadieux	\$5,000	Leaf Pankratz	\$3,000	Mary Sparks	\$7,000
Sarah Crawley	\$7,000	Bev Pike	\$7,000	Ella Steele	\$3,000
Misha Falk	\$3,000	Cale Plett	\$3,000	Lisa Stinner-Kun	\$7,000
Gordon Fitzell	\$6,915	Laurent Poliquin	\$7,000	Elizabeth Surdhar	\$7,000
Waawaate Fobister	\$7,000	Shayna Pollock	\$3,000	Chukwudubem Ukaigwe	\$7,000
Sarah Fuller	\$7,000	Sandy Pool	\$7,000	Rhayne Vermette	\$7,000
Jonathan Green	\$7,000	Lyndon Radchenka	\$2,660	Elio Zarrillo	\$3,000
Christina Hajjar	\$3,000	Robert Evan Reeve	\$2,800		
Ingrid Johnson	\$7,000	Reza Rezai	\$7,000		





Royal Winnipeg Ballet, 2021. RWB Company of *The Nutcracker*. Photo by Daniel Crump.

Multi-year Grant Programs

For arts organizations

Three-year Operating Grants and two-year Program Support Grants make contributions to the operations of established arts organizations that have a continuing presence in Winnipeg throughout the year or seasonally, and have a track record of high-quality programming or services. Organizations are invited to apply to either the two-year or three-year program depending on a variety of factors including budget size, scope of programming, and number of staff. All organizations receiving multi-year grants must have a history of consistent programming/presentation, and public support, and must provide regular reporting to ensure that they continue to meet the objectives of the program.

TOTAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:	63
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$3,199,708
TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED:	63
TOTAL GRANT FUNDS AWARDED:	\$3,199,708



1. Winnipeg Folk Festival, 2022. Photo by April Carandang. 2. Jazz Winnipeg, 2022. Super Duty Tough Work perform in Old Market Square. Photo by Matt Duboff. 3. Manitoba Craft Council & Manitoba Blacksmiths Guild, 2022. *Forge and Enclume* at Fort Gibraltar. Photo by Veronica Warkentin.

2022 was the second year of both two-year and three-year agreements.

Operating (three-year) grants:

aceartinc.	\$35,280
Arts Manitoba Publications	\$18,000
Le Cercle Molière	\$63,000
Festival du Voyageur	\$90,000
Folk Arts Council of Winnipeg	\$97,200
Freeze Frame: Storyline FX	\$25,740
Gas Station Arts Centre	\$18,000
Jazz Winnipeg	\$39,600
Manito Ahbee Festival	\$45,000
Manitoba Chamber Orchestra	\$49,500
Manitoba Conservatory of Music & Arts	\$36,000

Manitoba Opera Association	\$121,500
Manitoba Printmakers Association	\$29,700
Manitoba Theatre for Young People	\$106,434
Mentoring Artists for Women's Art	\$37,575
National Screen Institute – Canada	\$23,625
PLATFORM: centre for photographic + digital arts	\$24,750
Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art	\$95,940
Prairie Fire Press	\$36,384
Prairie Theatre Exchange	\$130,500
Rainbow Stage	\$49,005
Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre	\$306,000

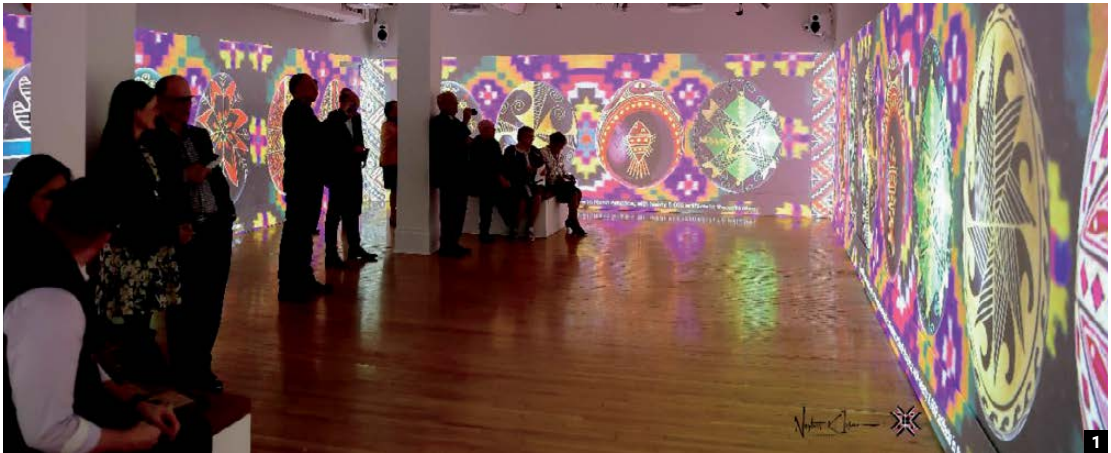
Royal Winnipeg Ballet	\$298,350
The School of Contemporary Dancers	\$30,600
Shakespeare in the Ruins	\$28,170
Theatre Projects Manitoba	\$41,220
Urban Shaman:	
Contemporary Aboriginal Art	\$42,300
Video Pool Media Arts Centre	\$32,175
West End Cultural Centre	\$31,500
Winnipeg Art Gallery	\$358,020
Winnipeg Centennial Folk Festival	\$92,700
Winnipeg Film Group	\$49,275
Winnipeg International	
Children's Festival	\$55,935
Winnipeg International	
Writers Festival	\$24,750
Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra	\$19,260
Winnipeg Jewish Theatre	\$29,700
Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra	\$275,220
Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers	\$27,000

Program Support (two-year) grants:

Aboriginal Music Manitoba	\$10,000
Agassiz Music	\$9,500
Association of	
Manitoba Book Publishers	\$12,600
Camerata Nova	\$15,000
Contemporary Verse 2	\$7,200
Dry Cold Productions	\$12,000
First Fridays in the Exchange	\$8,000
GroundSwell	\$15,000
Little Opera Company	\$8,800
La Maison des artistes	
visuels francophones	\$13,000
Manitoba Association of Playwrights	\$20,000
Manitoba Choral Association	\$15,000
Manitoba Craft Council	\$10,000
Music n Mavens / Rady JCC	\$6,000
NAafro Dance Productions	\$15,000
Rosamunde Summer	
Music Academy	\$11,000
send + receive: a festival of sound	\$12,000
Virtuosi Concerts	\$10,000
Winnipeg Gay and Lesbian	
Film Society	\$7,000
Winnipeg Music Festival	\$13,900
Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir	\$9,300
The Winnipeg Singers	\$15,000
Winnipeg Youth Orchestras	\$6,700
WNDX	\$12,800
Young Lungs Dance Exchange	\$10,000



Folk Arts Council, 2022. Folklorama Tamil Pavilion. Photo by Dr. Tse Li Luk.



1. Oseredok 2022. *The Immersive World of Ukrainian Art* exhibition opening.
2. Orange Shirt Day 2022 at the Manitoba Museum.

Museum Grants

The Winnipeg Arts Council, at the direction of the City of Winnipeg, administers the City's investment in five museums. Through the Museums Grant, the Winnipeg Arts Council provides support to museums for operations and programming.

TOTAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:	5
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$240,900
TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED:	5
TOTAL GRANT FUNDS AWARDED:	\$240,900

Dalnavert Museum	\$18,900
Manitoba Children's Museum	\$108,000
The Manitoba Museum	\$49,500
Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Education Centre	\$15,000
Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada	\$49,500



IN MEMORIUM

Doreen Brownstone

Trailblazing actor Doreen Brownstone was legendary in Winnipeg and across Canada, with a career that spanned six decades across the country. She appeared in the Manitoba Theatre Centre's very first production in 1958. *A Hatful of Rain* was directed by John Hirsch and featured Doreen opposite another legendary Canadian star, Gordon Pinsent.

When she became the first Canadian stage actor to work past the age of 80, the Canadian Actors' Equity Association revamped their systems to cope with her groundbreaking career. They also awarded her a life membership for her outstanding contribution to the performing arts, as did ACTRA, for distinction in the film and television industry. Still working in 2014, in Prairie Theatre Exchange's *Vigil*, she made her mark as the country's oldest working actor.

When Doreen was nominated for the Winnipeg Arts Council's Making a Mark Award in 2013, the jury decided it was impossible to compare her career to any other before them, and it was then that she was named the first – and to date, still the only – recipient of the Winnipeg Arts Council's award for lifetime achievement in the arts.



Doreen Brownstone at the 2013 Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts. Photo by Robert Tinker.

The School of Contemporary Dancers 2022. *Unveiled*.
Choreographer: Gaile Petursson-Hiley. Photo by Kendra Hope.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

booke & partners

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**To the Directors of
Winnipeg Arts Council Inc.**

OPINION

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Winnipeg Arts Council Inc. (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2022 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Winnipeg Arts Council Inc. as at December 31, 2022 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

OTHER INFORMATION

Management is responsible for the other information which is comprised of the Organization's annual report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

The annual report is expected to be made available to us after the date of the auditors' report. If, based on the work we will perform on this other information, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact to those charged with governance.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT AND THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's

ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Winnipeg, Canada

February 27, 2023



CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

Statements of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31

2022

2021

REVENUES

City of Winnipeg (Note 6)	\$ 4,202,941	\$ 4,228,179
City of Winnipeg - Museum Grant Funds	258,570	258,570
Arts Development (Note 6)	33,323	14,000
Interest income	19,413	6,145
Other income	11,682	2,350
	4,525,929	4,509,244

EXPENSES

Program expenses (Page 54)	3,927,935	3,989,985
Administrative expenses (Page 54)	564,411	506,116
	4,492,346	4,496,101

OTHER PROJECTS

Public Art revenues (Note 6)	382,660	173,442
Public Art expenses (Page 54)	(382,660)	(173,442)
	-	-

EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES

\$ 33,583	\$ 13,143
------------------	------------------

	Unrestricted	Internally Restricted	2022 Total	2021 Total
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 131,715	\$ 376,309	\$ 508,024	\$ 494,881
Excess of revenues over expenses	33,583	-	33,583	13,143
Transfers (Note 7)	19,787	(19,787)	-	-
Net assets, end of year	\$ 185,085	\$ 356,522	\$ 541,607	\$ 508,024

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Statement of Financial Position

DECEMBER 31

2022

2021

ASSETS

CURRENT

Cash	\$ 98,814	\$ 1,743,904
Term deposits (Note 3)	1,425,000	-
Interest receivable	9,071	-
Public Service Bodies' Rebate receivable	7,712	3,860
Prepaid expenses	4,285	3,426
	\$ 1,544,882	\$ 1,751,190

LIABILITIES

CURRENT

Payables and accruals	\$ 9,183	\$ 7,200
Holdbacks (Note 5)	173,618	207,028
Deferred contributions (Note 6)	820,474	1,028,938
	1,003,275	1,243,166

NET ASSETS

UNRESTRICTED (NOTE 8)	185,085	131,715
INTERNALLY RESTRICTED (NOTE 8)	356,522	376,309
	541,607	508,024
	\$ 1,544,882	\$ 1,751,190

COMMITMENT (Note 9)

Approved by the Board



DIRECTOR



DIRECTOR

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Statements of Cash Flows

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31

2022

2021

Cash derived from (applied to):

OPERATING

EXCESS OF REVENUES

OVER EXPENSES	\$ 33,583	\$ 13,143
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CHANGE IN NON-CASH

WORKING CAPITAL

Receivables	-	5,000
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Interest receivable	(9,071)	-
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Public Service Bodies' Rebate receivable	(3,852)	6,188
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Prepaid expenses	(859)	(272)
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Payables and accruals	1,983	(9,146)
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Holdbacks	(33,410)	(15,056)
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Deferred contributions	(208,464)	(85,054)
------------------------	-----------	----------

	(220,090)	(85,197)
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INVESTING

Purchase of term deposits	(3,000,000)	-
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Redemption of term deposits	1,575,000	-
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	(1,425,000)	-
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NET DECREASE IN CASH

	(1,645,090)	(85,197)
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CASH BALANCE

BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,743,904	1,829,101
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END OF YEAR

\$ 98,814	\$ 1,743,904
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Notes to the Financial Statements

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Winnipeg Arts Council Inc. (the "Organization") funds, supports, and champions development of the arts on behalf of the people of Winnipeg.

The Organization is an incorporated not-for-profit entity and is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The significant accounting policies used are detailed as follows:

(A) EQUIPMENT AND LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS

Equipment and leasehold improvements are recorded at cost. The Organization provides for amortization using the following methods at rates designed to amortize the cost of the equipment and leasehold improvements over their estimated useful lives:

Office equipment	5 years Straight-line
Furniture and fixtures	10 years Straight-line

Amortization of leasehold improvements is recorded over the term of the lease.

(B) REVENUE RECOGNITION

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable, if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Interest income is recognized as it is accrued on the related financial instruments.

(C) ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reported period. These estimates are reviewed periodically and are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(D) FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Organization recognizes its financial instruments when the Organization becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. Financial instruments are initially recorded at fair value with subsequent reporting at amortized cost.

It is management's opinion that the Organization is not exposed to significant credit, currency, interest rate, liquidity, market, or price risks arising from its financial instruments.

3. TERM DEPOSITS

	2022	2021
Guaranteed Investment Certificate, earning interest of 3.85% per annum, matures January 4, 2023	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -
Guaranteed Investment Certificate, earning interest of 2.00% per annum, matures October 6, 2023	425,000	-
	\$ 1,425,000	\$ -

4. EQUIPMENT AND LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS

			2022 Net Book Value	2021 Net Book Value
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization		
Office equipment	\$ 6,574	\$ 6,574	\$ -	\$ -
Furniture and fixtures	34,243	34,243	-	-
Leasehold improvements	104,258	104,258	-	-
	\$ 145,075	\$ 145,075	\$ -	\$ -

Equipment and leasehold improvements are fully amortized.

5. HOLDBACKS

The Organization follows the policy of holding back a proportion of grants and fees awarded in a year until certain completion criteria have been satisfied. Furthermore, some awards will be disbursed according to a payment schedule developed with the agreement of the recipient organizations. Accordingly, this account represents the award balances which will be disbursed in the future according to the specified guide-lines.

At December 31, the composition of the holdbacks according to award category are as follows:

	2022	2021
Youth WITH ART	\$ 124,823	\$ 128,123
Individual Artist grants	30,000	52,400
Arts Development	7,500	8,000
Project grants	11,295	14,770
Professional Development grants	-	3,735
	\$ 173,618	\$ 207,028

6. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred contributions represent restricted funding and unspent externally restricted resources which relate to the subsequent year.

Public Art relates to the design and execution of particular artworks to be created in public areas of Winnipeg. The commissioning and installation of public art projects is a multi-year process. This program is supported by a specified allocation from the City of Winnipeg with the occasional addition of grant funds and partnerships. Financial support to individual artists is awarded on the recommendations of selection panels facilitated by the Organization.

	2022	2021
PUBLIC ART		
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 999,284	\$ 1,029,446
CONTRIBUTIONS		
City of Winnipeg Public Art Allocation	120,000	140,063
Exchange District BIZ	83,850	-
Assiniboine Park Conservancy	-	3,150
Other	-	67
TRANSFERRED TO REVENUE	(382,660)	(173,442)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
DECREASE DURING THE YEAR	(178,810)	(30,162)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS, END OF YEAR	820,474	999,284
OPERATING FUNDS		
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	29,654	84,546
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TRANSFERRED TO REVENUE	(29,654)	(54,892)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
DECREASE DURING THE YEAR	(29,654)	(54,892)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS, END OF YEAR	-	29,654
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS, END OF YEAR	\$ 820,474	\$ 1,028,938

6. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS - CONTINUED

The following provides a breakdown by project of the unexpended balance for Public Art:

	2022	2021
PUBLIC ART PROJECTS		
Downtown Recovery Strategies	\$ 157,700	\$ -
Broadway Light-based Sculptures	109,497	188,131
Public Art Contingency	98,937	98,937
WITH ART: Community Arts Projects	91,774	139,065
Biz Banner Collaboration	80,000	40,000
Maintenance	74,783	80,341
Waverley Underpass	65,105	159,627
Lights on the Exchange	41,225	-
Poetry in Public	29,282	34,995
Temporary Installations	23,908	52,282
Public Education and Outreach	23,455	24,300
Southwest Rapid Transit	22,308	22,308
Indigenous Digital Strategies	2,500	2,500
Studio to Site	-	132,000
South Sherbrook/Cornish Library	-	24,798
	\$ 820,474	\$ 999,284

7. TRANSFERS

During the year, a net amount of \$19,787 was transferred from internally restricted net assets to unrestricted net assets (2021 - net transfer of \$12,749 from unrestricted net assets to internally restricted net assets) detailed as follows:

\$Nil (2021 - \$25,000) was transferred from unrestricted net assets to internally restricted net assets to be used towards the update and improvement of Winnipeg Arts Council's website.

\$20,000 (2021 - \$Nil) was transferred from unrestricted net assets to internally restricted net assets to be used towards strategic planning.

\$39,787 (2021 - \$12,251) was transferred from internally restricted net assets to unrestricted net assets. Specifically, \$6,407 was transferred to cover the digitization of the grant application process, \$5,500 was transferred to cover website upgrade costs, \$12,847 was transferred to cover the costs related to the Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship project and \$15,033 was transferred to cover strategic planning costs.

8. NET ASSETS

INTERNALLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	2022	2021
Cash flow assistance	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Internally restricted net assets	256,522	276,309
	\$ 356,522	\$ 376,309

The allocation for cash flow assistance was made in order to provide cash flow assistance to client organizations until such time as operating grants for their use have been received by Winnipeg Arts Council Inc. from the City of Winnipeg.

The allocation for internally restricted net assets is available for the development of new programs at the discretion of the Board of Directors and to finance future projects to engage the overall community in support of the arts in the City of Winnipeg.

UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

The Organization considers its capital to be the balance maintained in its unrestricted net assets. Capital is utilized under the direction of the Board of Directors. The primary objective of the Organization is to invest its capital in a manner that will allow it to continue as a going concern.

9. COMMITMENT

The Organization entered into a lease agreement for office space, which expires on January 31, 2027. The Organization's minimum annual lease payments total \$31,524.

10. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The volume of financial activity undertaken by the Organization with its main funding body is of sufficient magnitude that the discontinuance of their funding would endanger the ability of the Organization to continue as a going concern.

11. ENDOWMENT FUND

In 2011, the Organization established an Endowment Fund through a \$20,000 contribution to be held in perpetuity at The Winnipeg Foundation. Interest revenue earned by this fund is available to the Organization annually to support general operations. As of December 31, 2022, the Organization's cumulative contributions to the Endowment Fund totaled \$140,000 (2021 - \$140,000) with a cumulative matching grant contribution of \$40,804 (2021 - \$39,486) from The Winnipeg Foundation. The market value of the Endowment Fund at December 31, 2022 is \$269,598 (2021 - \$289,363).

Schedule of Expenses

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31

2022

2021

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Multi-year grants	\$ 3,199,708	\$ 3,189,707
Individual Artist grants	216,875	244,200
Museum grants	240,900	240,900
Project grants	95,500	129,945
Arts Development	75,366	68,809
Indigenous Arts Leaders Fellowship	35,000	22,846
Professional Development grants	26,500	29,571
Jury honoraria and expenses	13,724	18,062
Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award and Prizes	11,750	6,750
Poet Laureate	9,299	9,306
Translation services	3,313	4,889
Youth WITH ART	-	25,000
	\$ 3,927,935	\$ 3,989,985

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Salaries and benefits	410,569	382,002
Rent and utilities	63,504	60,690
Supplies and other office expenses	35,478	34,733
Professional and consultant fees	17,594	10,096
Strategic planning	15,033	-
Website upgrade	5,500	5,898
Telecommunications	4,960	5,150
Board and committee meetings	4,625	2,624
Professional development, membership and conferences	3,633	3,146
Hospitality and promotion	3,515	1,777
	\$ 564,411	\$ 506,116

PUBLIC ART EXPENSES

Artwork commission/production	239,378	42,367
Program administration	75,000	75,000
Professional services	28,094	25,470
Artwork development	20,625	2,000
Public education	14,005	25,316
Maintenance	5,558	3,289
	\$ 382,660	\$ 173,442

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

MANDATE

The Corporation is an independent not-for-profit Corporation, created and mandated by the City to carry out the objects stipulated in its Articles of Incorporation by undertaking the following responsibilities:

- managing and carrying out the City's arts and cultural funding programs, exercising final arm's length authority to approve and issue cultural grants;
- presenting for approval to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services, a three (3) year Arts and Culture Business Plan to be adopted on an annual basis;
- managing a conditional grant from the City designated to fund the approved programs;
- advising the City on cultural policy;
- exploring partnerships and initiatives with other funding bodies, foundations and other groups;
- presenting to the City an Annual Report and an Audited Financial Statement;
- developing and maintaining a cooperative relationship with all City departments and staff working in cultural areas.
- managing and administering the City's Public Art Policy and Program

MISSION

The Winnipeg Arts Council funds and supports artists and arts organizations. We initiate and promote development of the arts for the people of Winnipeg.

VISION

Winnipeg is a city of the arts, where art is woven into all people's lives. Everyone has equitable access to the arts, participates in the arts, values the arts and is enriched by the arts.

STAFF

Carol A. Phillips
Executive Director

tamara rae biebrich
Public Art Manager

Tanya Christensen
Operations Manager

Maliyah Kelly
Administrative Assistant

Dominic Lloyd
**Program & Arts
Development Manager**

Nathan Krahn
Tour Guide (Summer contract)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrew McLaren
Chair (from June 2022;
Vice Chair January–June)

Donna Fletcher
Vice Chair (from June 2022)

Kerry Dangerfield
Secretary-Treasurer

Jason Granger
Past Chair (from June 2022;
Chair January–June)

Vonnie Von Helmolt
Chair Emerita
(**Past Chair** January–June)

ARTS COMMUNITY DIRECTORS

Seema Goel
Abimbola Opaleke
Andrea Ratuski (to May 2022)
David A. Robertson
Ben Williams (from May 2022)
Erica Wilson

COUNCIL DIRECTORS

Ian August
Laurel Howard
Darrel Nadeau
Julie Penner
Liz Wreford

CITY REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTORS

Councillor Kevin Klein
(to November 2022)

Councillor Markus Chambers
(from November 2022)

John Kiernan (non-voting)

ASSESSORS

Applications to Winnipeg Arts Council programs are assessed against program criteria and guidelines by a panel of qualified persons. Panel members are selected to broadly reflect the range of artistic expression and diversity represented by the applicants. In 2022, all assessments were held virtually.

GRANT PROGRAMS

Ifeoluwa Adeniyi
Ian Bawa
Noor Bhangu
Ashley Bieniarz
Carol-Ann Bohrn
Seraph-Eden Boroditsky
Angela Chalmers
Elizabeth Denny
Meganelizabeth Diamond
Sébastien Gaillard
Katie German
Brenda Gorlick
Cathy Mattes
Sean McLachlan
Stéphanie Morin-Robert
Vic Pankratz
Alasdair Rees (Saskatoon SK)
Pierette Requier (Edmonton AB)
Jennifer Smith
Leslie Supnet
Robert Taite
Andrina Turenne
Elio Zarrillo

WAC AWARDS

Ian August
Freya Olafson
Debbie Patterson
Ben Williams





WINNIPEG
ARTS COUNCIL

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