



2023 Impact Report

CRD  
Arts & Culture

## TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The CRD conducts its business within the traditional territories of many First Nations, including but not limited to BOKÉĆEN (Pauquachin), MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat), P'a:chi:da?aht (Pacheedaht), Pune'laxutth' (Penelekut), Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay), Songhees, SṪÁUTW (Tsawout), T'Sou-ke, WJOLEŁP (Tsartlip), WSIKEM (Tseycum), and x<sup>w</sup>sepsəm (Esquimalt), all of whom have a long-standing relationship with the land and waters from time immemorial that continues to this day.

We are committed to respectfully and appropriately engaging these First Nations in regional arts and culture strategies, decision-making and shared interests, recognizing that the attitudes, policies and institutions of colonization have changed Indigenous peoples' longstanding relationships with their artistic and cultural practices.



# Organizational Overview

**Capital Regional District** (CRD) delivers regional, sub-regional and local services to 13 municipalities and three electoral areas on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Governed by a 24-member Board of Directors, the CRD works collaboratively with First Nations and all levels of government to enable sustainable growth, foster community well-being, and develop cost-effective infrastructure, while continuing to provide core services to residents throughout the region.

**CRD Arts and Culture Support Service** (the Arts Service) is a sub-regional service supported by 9 jurisdictions providing grants to non-profit organizations for the development of local arts programming, creating artistic, social and economic benefits for the region.

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**All photos within this report are provided (with our thanks) courtesy of grant recipients.** Unless otherwise noted, images are of 2023 programming.

Cover: Dilly Crooner performs at **Friends of Bowker Creek Society’s** Creekside Concert in Oak Bay. Photo: Karissa Chandrakate.

# Message from the Chair of the Arts Advisory Council

Each year, as I reflect on the successes of the organizations we were able to support, I am reminded of how fortunate we are to live in a region that benefits from such a robust, imaginative arts community. In 2023, this sentiment was echoed by audiences across the region, who came back after the pandemic to engage in-person with the arts in greater and greater numbers. Our arts community matched this growing enthusiasm, demonstrating a continued resiliency and dedication that was evident in a year filled with high-quality programming in all areas of artistic practice.

Over the past four years of the 2020-23 Strategic Plan, the Arts Service has been substantially improved in many ways. I'm especially proud of the important work our EDI Subcommittee has done to bring an equity, diversity, and inclusion lens to all of our granting programs, leading to multiple changes to the application and adjudication processes that have made our granting more accessible and more responsive, ultimately better supporting the full artistic and cultural potential of the region.

I am also particularly grateful to have been a part of the meaningful conversations we were able to have with the arts community over the past year as part of the consultation process for the Arts Service's new 2024-2027 strategic plan. We had the opportunity to engage with artists, advocates, and community



members – listening to their needs, concerns, and aspirations. I'm pleased to say that the insights gained from that dialogue are well-reflected in the new strategic plan, and will continue to shape how we approach our work for years to come.

In 2023, we thanked four outgoing Arts Advisory Council members for their service and have since welcomed three new members to the council who each bring their own unique background and expertise to adjudication. We are incredibly honored to have been a part of the Arts Service's many accomplishments in 2023, from developing a 2024-2027 Strategic Plan to distributing a record-high amount of funding to doubling the maximum ask amount for equity grants. We look forward to working with the Arts Commission and CRD staff to continue delivering the vital funding the arts community relies on, and to carry on the important conversations that were started last year.

Joanna **VERANO**  
Chair, CRD Arts Advisory Council

# Message from the Chair of the Arts Commission

This past year has been marked by a strong sense of transition and momentum as we completed our 2020-2023 strategic plan and embarked on the development of a new one. Over the last four years, the Arts Service has made significant progress toward increasing the impact of its funding across the region for the benefit of all communities, and the Arts Commission's commitment to this goal continues to be our driving force as we form our strategy for the next four.

At the outset of 2023, the newly appointed members of the Arts Commission set our sights on the future by launching an extensive community consultation process to inform the creation of a new strategic plan. Throughout the first half of the year, we were immersed in conversations with arts professionals, supporters, and audience members from across the region, whose insights have been instrumental in shaping new priorities, goals, and actions for the Arts Service. A highlight for me was emceeding the Arts Champions Summit that gathered over 100 arts leaders. The level of engagement during this process was tremendous, and the resulting 2024-2027 Strategic Plan is a reflection of our arts community's collective aspirations for a well-supported, thriving arts sector.

The Arts Commission and supporting staff are keenly aware that cultural policy cannot be formed in isolation, and requires first-hand experience of



current arts events so that we can better understand the impacts of our funding and policy decisions. With that in mind, it has been immensely rewarding to see our region's theatres, galleries, and concert halls filled with the energy and enthusiasm of in-person audiences. For me, watching this uptick of well-attended events and sold-out shows after the pandemic has reaffirmed the vital role that the arts continue to play in fostering connection, stimulating economic activity, building strong communities, and nourishing the human spirit.

As we continue to move forward with implementing the new strategic plan, I am filled with optimism for the future of the region's arts. The work we have done together over the past year has laid the groundwork to build more vibrant, resilient, and equitable communities, and a strong, well-supported arts sector that can continue to provide the inspiration so vital to fulfilling the lives of our region's residents.

Marianne **ALTO**  
Chair, CRD Arts Commission



# Supporting The Region's Arts

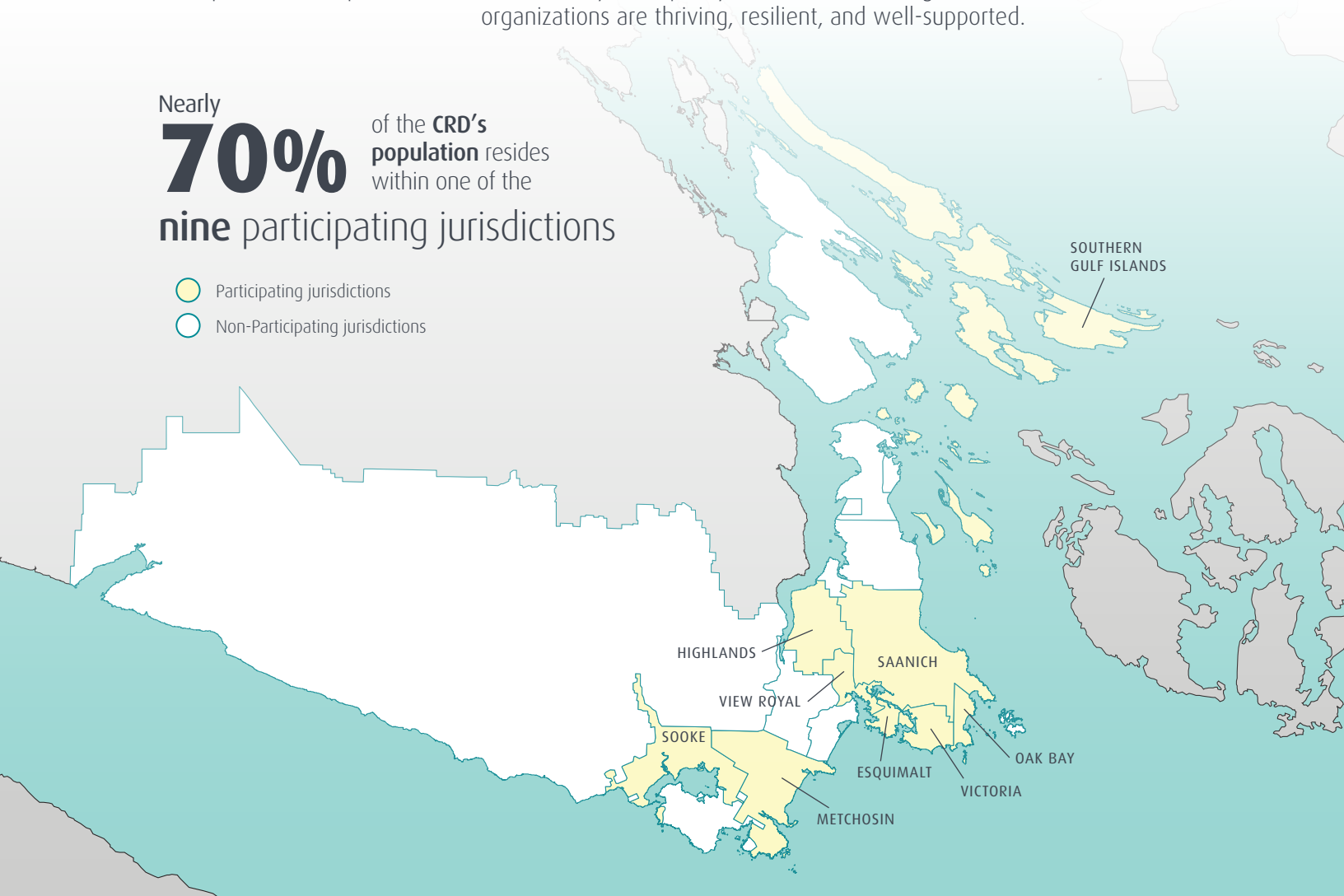
CRD Arts & Culture Support Service is a sub-regional service that distributes grants to non-profit organizations to develop local arts programming. Supported by nine jurisdictions, funding creates artistic, social and economic benefits for the region. Through outreach, the Arts Service fosters collaboration between arts organizations, funders and audiences.

**Our mission:** To support, champion & develop the arts.

**Our vision:** The arts are key drivers of community vitality, economic sustainability, and quality of life across the region, and artists and arts organizations are thriving, resilient, and well-supported.

Nearly  
**70%** of the **CRD's population** resides within one of the  
**nine** participating jurisdictions

-  Participating jurisdictions
-  Non-Participating jurisdictions





A crowd gathers to watch artists paint during the Trackside Paint Jam, organized by Esquimalt Community Arts Hub. Photo: Colin Smith.

# Delivering on Our 2020–2023 Strategic Plan Priorities & Goals

2023 marked the end of our 2020-2023 Strategic Plan, which identified five key goals and priorities that have guided our operations and initiatives for the last four years. During that time, we've made significant progress on these goals, including these highlights:



## INCREASE COMMUNITY AWARENESS

- ▶ 100% increase in grant applicants from 2020 to 2023
- ▶ Social media followers up 12%, e-newsletter subscribers up 3% since 2021
- ▶ Implemented regular information sessions, 100+ attendees to date



## INCREASE PARTICIPATION AND FUNDING

- ▶ Continued to communicate benefits of the service across the region with presentations at council meetings, targeted mailings and social media content



## MAKE ACCESS EQUITABLE

- ▶ Doubled the 2023 Equity Grant budget & maximum request amount
- ▶ Expanded eligibility & reduced complexity of Equity Grant applications & reporting
- ▶ Embedded more equity considerations into the application process & questions



## SUSTAIN CREATIVITY

- ▶ Continued the delivery of granting programs throughout the Covid-19 pandemic
- ▶ Streamlined the application and reporting to alleviate administrative burdens



## RESPOND TO GRANTING NEEDS

- ▶ Ongoing engagement with the arts sector to inform & implement necessary changes
- ▶ Record-high funding amount awarded in 2023, \$2.6 million



# 2023 FUNDING IMPACT

**\$2.6 million**  
invested in arts through  
our granting programs

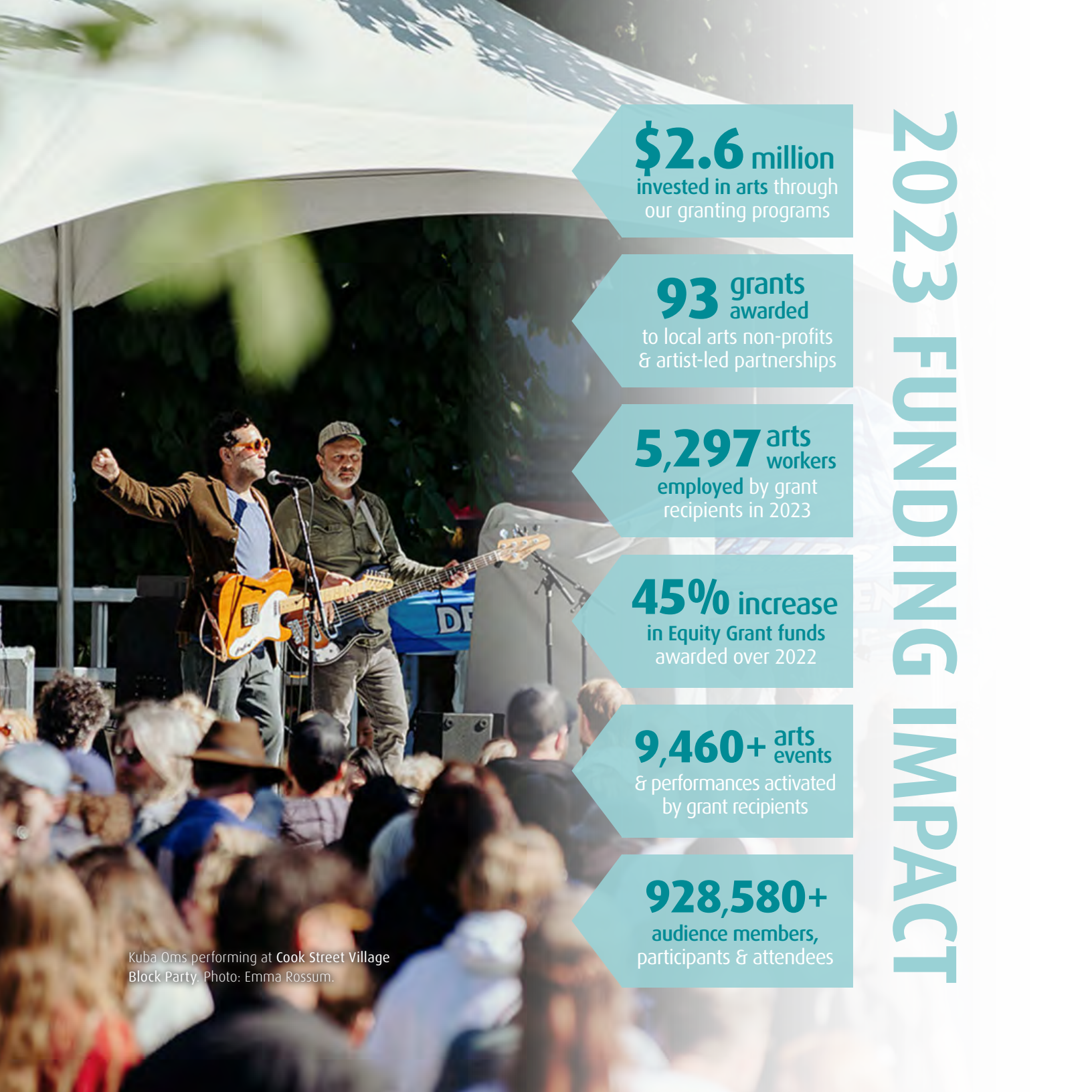
**93 grants**  
awarded  
to local arts non-profits  
& artist-led partnerships

**5,297 arts**  
workers  
employed by grant  
recipients in 2023

**45% increase**  
in Equity Grant funds  
awarded over 2022

**9,460+** arts  
events  
& performances activated  
by grant recipients

**928,580+**  
audience members,  
participants & attendees



Kuba Oms performing at Cook Street Village  
Block Party. Photo: Emma Rossum.

# Developing a New Strategic Plan

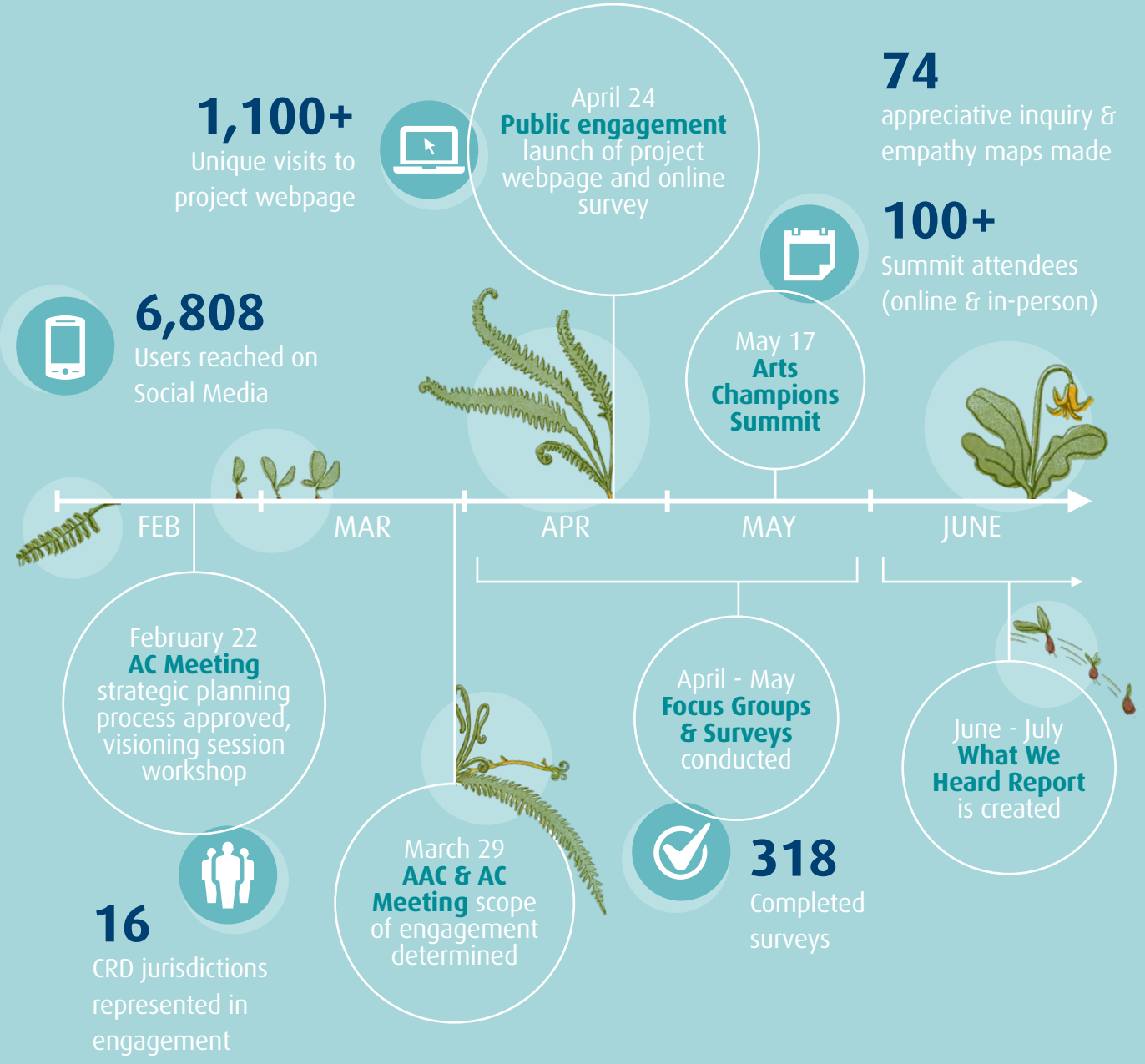
## Consulting Our Community

As we wrapped up the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan, we also began looking ahead, developing a new 2024-2027 Strategic Plan, informed both by the learnings of the past four years, and from extensive community engagement with the region's arts community throughout the first half of 2023.

To ensure that the strategic planning process would be informed by community knowledge, CRD staff facilitated surveys, focus groups and an Arts Champions Summit to gather feedback about community needs and aspirations. We heard from artists, arts organizations, the Arts Advisory Council, rural arts leaders, staff from other arts funding agencies, and arts audiences, all of whom brought forward their own unique, invaluable perspectives.



A table group in discussion at the Arts Champions Summit. Photo by Dan Russek.





Arts Champions Summit promotional artwork by Leya Tess



Above: Arts Champions Summit activity, in action. Photo by Dan Russek

## What We Heard

After the engagement period concluded in the summer of 2023, we developed a **What We Heard Report**, which reflected the feedback received from the community. It laid out several key takeaways, some of which indicated that continuity with the previous strategic plan would be appropriate in certain areas:

- ▶ A regional approach to arts funding received widespread approval.
- ▶ There is a lack of awareness about which municipalities contribute to the service.
- ▶ Barriers to access funding continue to impact the arts community.
- ▶ There is a need for increases to arts programming funding.
- ▶ The arts community is experiencing growing challenges around affordability (both for individual artists and arts spaces) and infrastructure.
- ▶ There is a need to enhance opportunities for capacity-building (e.g. mentoring, organizational development, and partnerships).
- ▶ CRD Grant programs are relied upon as key supports by the arts sector - program structure is consistent with a mature and effective service.

Victoria Dragon Boat Festival performers. Photo: Colin Smith.



# The 2024–2027 Strategic Plan

In October of 2023, the Arts and Culture Support Service 2024-2027 Strategic Plan was finalized and approved by the Arts Commission. Informed by community knowledge, related CRD strategies, staff expertise and an updated vision and mission, the plan will guide our efforts over the next four years.

The 2024-2027 Strategic Plan consists of five new strategic priorities, each supported by corresponding goals and actions. The full plan, including supporting actions, can be found on our website at [www.crd.bc.ca/arts](http://www.crd.bc.ca/arts).

## CHAMPION – ADVOCATING FOR THE ARTS



- ▶ **Goal 1:** Scale up regional participation in the Arts Service to expand its scope and impact
- ▶ **Goal 2:** Raise awareness of the value of the arts to demonstrate how it contributes to economic sustainability, community vitality, and quality of life

## CONNECT – ENHANCING COLLABORATION



- ▶ **Goal 3:** Foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing to boost organizational development
- ▶ **Goal 4:** Work collaboratively with all levels of government to connect arts organizations with support for arts spaces and other funding

## CULTIVATE – DEVELOPING THE ARTS ECOSYSTEM



- ▶ **Goal 5:** Support the region’s arts ecosystem to grow sustainably
- ▶ **Goal 6:** Align funding programs to respond to community needs

## EXTEND – BROADENING THE SCOPE OF IMPACT



- ▶ **Goal 7:** Invest in under-served and marginalized communities to support the full artistic and cultural potential of the region.
- ▶ **Goal 8:** Reduce barriers to increase access to funding.

## ENGAGE – SHARING OUR STORY AND LEARNING



- ▶ **Goal 9:** Diversify educational resources for grant applicants to enhance knowledge base
- ▶ **Goal 10:** Enhance the branding of the Arts Service to clarify its focus

# THE CAPITAL REGION'S AUDIENCES ARE BOUNCING BACK

"We emerged from the pandemic lockdowns to [perform] to **sold-out houses**... we were encouraged by **great attendance** that included new members from immigrant communities from Chile, Brazil and Mexico"

– Atomic Vaudeville



Photo: Helen Cyr

"[We] were very pleased to see an **increasing return of participants** for our Festival... We are very encouraged by this **strong response**"

– Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival



Photo: Bill Cubitt

"Last summer (2022) some audiences were still tentative to return after the pandemic. This summer **audiences were back in full force**"

– SNAFU Society of Unexpected Spectacles



Photo: Helen Cyr

"Even with the impact the Pandemic continues to have on our sector, **our audiences are expanding immensely**. A few years ago, we expected audiences in the hundreds. Now, they're in the thousands"

– Puente Theatre



photo: Jam Hamidi



Photo: Joshua Lawrence



"[We] considered this production **very successful**... We had the **entire show run sell out** over a month in advance, which helps indicate there is a need and desire for this work which we found very empowering"

– Noble Riot Dance Theatre Society

"The festival [was able to] **significantly increase audience attendance** for the 2023 Festival over the previous years attendance following the resumption of public concerts after the [pandemic]"

– Victoria Summer Music Festival



Photo: Victoria Photography Club

Photo: Jose Olan



"One of the highlights of our 2022/23 programming was Garden City Grooves Festival... the **highest attended festival to date**"

– Victoria BC Ska & Reggae Society

"**Ticket sales were stronger than expected during 2022/23**. We observed pre-pandemic audiences returning to the theatre, as well as new audiences joining our performances and programs"

– Dance Victoria



Photo: Thak Smith

Photo: Don Craig



"Last year, 50% of our single ticket buyers were new... **Post-pandemic growth trajectory is optimistic** and well above the national average"

– Belfry Theatre

# Stories of Impact

The qualitative impact of funding is often most effectively conveyed through storytelling. Hear from funded organizations what they were able to accomplish with the help of CRD funding this year:



HELLSET dancers at Campbell Bay Music Festival's WSÁNEĆ carved welcome post unveiling. Photo: Hannah Epperson.

## CAMPBELL BAY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Project Grant | Southern Gulf Islands

The Campbell Bay Music Festival's Saturday Market Stage was a "highly successful and enlivening" event this year, says a representative from the festival. An audience of nearly 500 people gathered around the local agricultural hall outdoor stage to take in the remarks of indigenous elder J'SINTEN, followed by performances from local community choirs, fiddlers, music students, bluegrass bands and more.

Its success as a community event showcasing youth, local and indigenous musicians has even led to talks of making the Saturday Market Stage into its own independent event, rather than a segment of the summer festival, and opened up possibilities for increased collaboration with WSÁNEĆ musicians and artists in the community.

## CINEVIC

Operating Grant | Victoria

A 2023 programming highlight, CineVic's 10th annual Short Circuit Pacific Rim Film Festival was their largest yet: "a seven-day run of in-person screenings, pitches, and artist networking events with more than 30 guest filmmakers and over 2400 total audience." The festival showcases both local and foreign artists and creators from across the Pacific Rim.

As one supporter put it, "CineVic does a wonderful job of facilitating independent film creation [and] finding the right balance of programs and support for a diverse range of indie filmmakers at all ability or experience levels."



Participants at a film production workshop presented by CineVic at Intrepid Studio. Photo: David Geiss.



Choral Evolution performing at Holy Trinity Church in Sooke. Photo: D. Titchkosky.

## CHORAL EVOLUTION

### Project Grant | Sooke

A highlight of Choral Evolution's Spring 2023 season was bringing on a professional bassist and a percussionist to accompany the choir at performances. The choir's newly enhanced performances were met with standing ovations and excited audience members who felt compelled to join the group themselves. "Music brings people together in wonderful ways," remarked a member whose own experience mirrored this audience-turned-member pipeline when they joined the group in 2022.

## AVENTA NEW MUSIC

### Operating Grant | Oak Bay

Recognized for their excellence in programming, the Globe and Mail has described Aventa Ensemble as having "a knack for putting contemporary compositions together."

This past year, the ensemble's programming highlights included the release of an album, a concert series, collaborative projects, and the development of an opera component. Showcasing local talent as well as introducing our region's audiences to visiting artists and composers, Aventa plays a vital role in the region's music community.



Aventa Ensemble performing Tremblay. Screen capture of Aventa's video recording.



Seven characters from various productions by the WONDERHEADS.  
Masks: Kate Braidwood, photo: DesignEgg



Tilda (Kate Braidwood) and Wendell (Andrew Phoenix) in *The Wilds*  
by WONDERHEADS. Masks: Kate Braidwood, photo: Tori Pintar

## WONDERHEADS

### Project Grant | Victoria

The WONDERHEADS create original productions in full-face mask, a wordless, whimsical style they describe as “visual storytelling”, or “living animation.” Full-face mask is an extremely virtuosic style of performance, and quite uncommon – the WONDERHEADS represent a very unique part of this region’s artistic community.

In 2023, the WONDERHEADS experienced a period of notable growth, touring their original stage production, *The Wilds*, across Vancouver Island, bringing the region’s arts to an even wider audience, and presenting *A WONDERHEADS Christmas Carol* for a three-week run at the Belfry theatre.

In the midst of this growth, the WONDERHEADS team looks to what’s next: “we do our best to hold that little spark cupped in our hands - the spark that started it all and asks us to explore questions about loss, love, mortality...the spark that inspires us to create with whimsy, curiosity, and playfulness...the spark that compels us to hold ourselves to the rigorous pursuit of artistic excellence... We are excited for what the future has to bring.”

*We are pleased to share that the WONDERHEADS are now Operating Grant recipients as of February 2024.*

## HISPANIC FILM SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Project Grant | View Royal

Self-described “promoters of inter-cultural exchanges,” the Hispanic Film Society’s mandate includes promoting Latin American and Spanish film-making, bringing the community together around a cultural event that is unique in the capital region.

In October of 2023, the Hispanic Film Society of Victoria put on the 13th Annual Latin American and Spanish Film Week at Cinecenta. The week’s events included a slate of five films, live music, salsa dancing, presentations, food tastings, poetry readings, dance performances and more. Through a partnership with the Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies at UVIC, the society was also able to expand the scope of the event to include academic presentations, broadening their reach and impact in the community.

## PTARMIGAN ARTS

Operating Grant | Southern Gulf Islands

“Ptarmigan’s multi -generational music and arts programs are educational, joyful, powerful and meaningful experiences for everyone involved. Their work contributes to quality of life for everyone in our island communities” says David Howe, past CRD Director, Southern Gulf Islands.

Ptarmigan Arts provides high quality, diverse, inclusive and accessible arts programming in rural island communities that help to inspire creativity, and contribute to a sense of wellness and community belonging in an area that can often be isolated. Over the past fiscal year, Ptarmigan’s artistic programs, events and sponsorships allowed a wide variety of arts initiatives to thrive in Southern Gulf Island communities.

“Ptarmigan’s impacts are huge, ongoing and permanent,” underscores Heather Read, a Pender Island musician, “[they are] an absolute mainstay here and a major community hub... I was able to pretty much launch my career and take it to the next level because of their support.”



Salsa dancing at the Night of Latin Music with Pablo Cárdenas & the West Coast Cuban Orchestra. Photo: Dan Russek.



Community art workshop- making art with natural and recycled materials Photo: Rachel Lenkowski.

# 2023 Grant Recipients

EQ: Equity Grant ID: IDEA Grant INC: Incubator Grant OG: Operating Grant PG: Project Grant \* new recipient



BC Accordion & Tango Society PG



Active/Passive Performance Society PG



Amber Academy Youth Fine Arts ID



Aventa Ensemble OG



BC Black History Awareness Society EQ\*



Afro Latin Cultural Exchange Society PG



Art Gallery of Greater Victoria OG



Ballet Victoria OG



Belfry Theatre OG



Alter Arts Society PG



Atomic Vaudeville OG



Bayanihan Cultural & Housing Soc. EQ



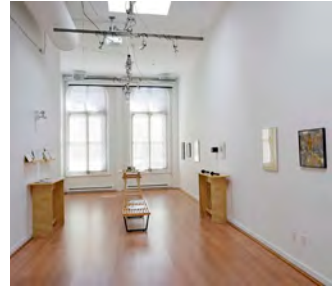
Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre PG



Bounce Performance Works [PG](#)



Choral Evolution [PG\\*](#)



Deluge Contemporary Art [OG](#)



Farheen Haq | Open Space [EQ](#)



Broken Rhythms [PG](#)



CineVic [OG](#)



Early Music Society of the Islands [OG](#)



Fifty Fifty Arts Collective [PG](#)



Campbell Bay Music Festival [PG](#)



Cook Street Village Business Association [IDEA\\*](#)



Embrace Arts Foundation [PG](#)



Flamenco de la Isla [PG](#)



Caravan World Rhythms [PG](#)



Dance Victoria [OG](#)



Esquimalt Community Arts Hub [PG](#)



Friends of Bowker Creek [IDEA](#)



Galiano Conservancy Association [IDEA\\*](#)



Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra [OG](#)



Hispanic Film Society of Victoria [PG](#)



International Tea Appreciation Society [IDEA\\*](#)



Galiano Island literary Festival [PG\\*](#)



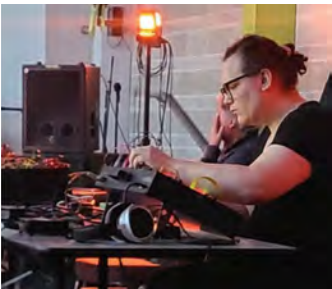
Hapax Theatre [PG](#)



Impulse Theatre [PG](#)



Intrepid Theatre [OG](#)



Garden City Electronic Music [PG](#)



Harmony Project Sooke [IDEA](#)



India Canada Cultural Association of Victoria [PG](#)



James Bay Community School [IDEA\\*](#)



Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival [OG](#)



Haus of Owl Creation Lab [INC\\*](#)



Integrate Art Society [PG](#)



Jewish Community Centre of Victoria [IDEA](#)





John Aitken | Ptarmigan Arts [EQ](#)



Ministry of Casual Living [PG](#)



Pacific Opera Victoria [OG](#)



SNAFU Society of Unexpected Spectacles [OG](#)



Kaleidoscope Theatre for Young People [OG](#)



Monoceros Education Society [EQ](#)



Ptarmigan Arts [OG](#)



Sooke Arts Council [PG](#)



Kara Stanton | Integrate Art Society [EQ\\*](#)



Noble Riot Dance Theatre [PG](#)



Puente Theatre [OG](#)



Sooke Community Choir [PG](#)



MediaNet [OG](#)



Open Space [OG](#)



SingYourJoy Young Adult Chorus [PG](#)



Southern Gulf Island Community Resource Centre [IDEA](#)



Story Theatre [OG](#)



Theatre SKAM [OG](#)



Victoria Arts Council [OG](#)



Victoria Choral Society [PG](#)



Suddenly Dance Theatre [PG](#)



Three on a Tree Productions Society [PG](#)



Victoria Baroque [OG](#)



Victoria Conservatory of Music [OG](#)



The Other Guise Theatre [PG\\*](#)



Vancouver Island Visual Arts Society [INC\\*](#)



Victoria BC Ska & Reggae Society [OG\\*](#)



Victoria Downtown Residents Association [IDEA\\*](#)



Theatre Inconnu [OG](#)



Veselka Ukrainian Dance [PG](#)



Victoria Children's Choir [OG](#)



Victoria Dragon Boat Festival [EQ\\*](#)



Victoria Festival of Authors [PG](#)



Victoria On Stage [OG](#)



Victoria Summer Music Festival [PG](#)



Wisser Developments Society [IDEA\\*](#)



Victoria Film Festival [OG](#)



Victoria Philharmonic Choir [PG](#)



Victoria Symphony [OG](#)



Wonderheads [PG](#)



Victoria Jazz Society [OG](#)



Victoria Poetry Project [PG](#)



Westshore Community Concert Band [PG\\*](#)



Xchanges Gallery & Studios [PG](#)



Victoria Native Friendship Centre [EQ](#)



Victoria Shakespeare Society [OG](#)



William Head on Stage [PG](#)



Yellowhouse Arts Centre [PG](#)

# Image Credits & Attributions

**Active/Passive Performance Society** | Adam Startin performing at Active/Passive Vol.5. Photo: Dayna Szyndrowski.

**Afro Latin Cultural Exchange Society** | Afro beat group lead by Bonifacio at the Saturday night gala. Photo: Dominic Tioseco.

**Alter Arts Society** | MC & Drag performer Peaches and Screams perches on the stage. Photo: Colin Smith.

**Amber Academy Youth Fine Arts** | Society logo.

**Art Gallery of Greater Victoria** | Beading workshop with Connie Paul. Photo: Natalie Rollins.

**Atomic Vaudeville** | Kathleen Greenfield & Loreto Espinoza in *Pandemonium: Fear Freedom*. Photo: Helene Cyr.

**Aventa Ensemble** | Aventa records Gilles Tremblay's *Solstices*. Screen capture provided by Aventa.

**Ballet Victoria** | *Peter Pan*. Photo: Gail Takahashi.

**Bayanihan Cultural & Housing Society** | Society logo.

**BC Accordion & Tango Society** | Payadora Tango Ensemble. Photo: Alex Richardson (2022 programming).

**BC Black History Awareness Society** | The Function Headliner crowd/performer. Photo: Femi (@indulgentimages).

**Belfry Theatre** | Jenny Brizard & Matthew G. Brown in *Intimate Apparel* by Lynn Nottage. Photo: David Cooper.

**Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre** | Danica Charlie and Lucy McNulty in *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* by Ann-Marie McDonald. Photo: Jam Hamidi.

**Bounce Performance Works** | Promotional artwork for *Dracula Trilogy of Terror* adaptation by Brian Richmond.

**Broken Rhythms** | *Knotted* by Dyana Sonik-Henderson. Photo: Helene Cyr.

**Campbell Bay Music Festival** | HELI,SET dancers at the pole unveiling. Photo: Hannah Epperson.

**Caravan World Rhythms** | Trichy Sankaran performing with ensemble at Artsprint theatre. Photo: Robert Benaroya.

**Choral Evolution** | Full choir performance. Photo: D. Titchkosky.

**CineVic** | Filmmaker Q&A at the 12th annual Short Circuit Pacific Rim Film Festival. Photo: David Geiss

**Cook Street Village Business Association** | Cook Street Village Block Party. Photo: Emma Rossum.

**Dance Victoria** | Ballet Edmonton with Victoria Symphony in *LeQuattro*. Photo: Peter Pkorny.

**Deluge Contemporary Art** | *An un-containing of things—a fluttering, a dispersal, a profusion* installation by Fred Douglas,

curated by Nellie Lamb. Photo: Deluge Contemporary Art.

**Early Music Society of the Islands** | Consone String Quartet, quartet music on original instruments. Photo: John Fitzmaurice.

**Embrace Arts Foundation** | Briny. Photo: Tristan Tjosvold.

**Esquimalt Community Arts Hub** | Trackside Paint Jam artist painting. Photo: Colin Smith.

**Farheen Haq & Open Space** | Drawing images based on riverside meditation (2022 programming). Photo: Farheen Haq.

**Fifty Fifty Arts Collective** | Laura Rosengren exhibition. Photo: Laura Rosengren (2022 programming).

**Flamenco de la Isla** | Event at bandshell. Photo: Amity Skala.

**Friends of Bowker Creek** | TEALIYE/Brianna Bear at the Creekside Concert in Oak Bay. Photo: Karissa Chandrakate.

**Galiano Conservancy Association** | Harpist Mary Greenwood playing in 2023 Musical Walkalong. Photo: Andy Beers.

**Galiano Island Literary Festival** | Cedar Bowers, Geoff Inverarity, Giselle Vriesen & Kate Hennessey panel. Photo: Donna Usher.

**Garden City Electronic Music** | Isles (Grace Workman) (no comms form).

**Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival** | Accordion player at Woodwinds Highlights Concert. Photo: Alyssa Hanke.

**Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra** | Summer Strings rehearsal at Philip T. Young Recital Hall at UVIC. Photo: Stefan Shandro.

**Hapax Theatre** | Society logo.

**Harmony Project Sooke** | *Music Reader* class Philharmonic Orchestra concert. Photo: Sheila Whincup.

**Haus of Owl Creation Lab** | *EMBER* poetry workshop with poet Xiao Yue Shan. Photo: Cole Jackson.

**Hispanic Film Society of Victoria** | Cinecenta's marquee for Latin American & Spanish Film Week. Photo: Dan Russek.

**Impulse Theatre Society** | Co-creator & performer Andrew Barret in *Soft Spaces*. Photo: Mackenzie Lawrence

**India Canada Cultural Association of Victoria** | 2019 programming photo.

**Integrate Art Society** | 2022 programming. Rose Cortez in *I Would Art Installation*, Photo: Venn de la Lune Photography

**International Tea Appreciation Society** | Society logo.

**Intrepid Theatre Company Society** | *Passenger Seat* by Library Performance Collective (Vancouver). Photo provided by artists.

**James Bay Community School** | Society logo.

**Jewish Community Centre of Victoria** | The 2023 marquee outside the Vic Theatre. Photo: Deborah Bricks.

**John Aitken & Ptarmigan Arts** | *Living on Unceded Land: A Settler's Perspective*. Screen capture provided by Johnny Aitken.

**Kaleidoscope Theatre for Young People** | Krystle Pederson as Grandmother Moon in *Frozen River*. Photo: Leif Norman.

**Kara Stanton & Integrate Arts Society** | Society logo.

**Media Net** | *The Story of the Dancing Heart* by Samay Arcentales Cajas. Still provided by Samay Arcentales Cajas.

**Ministry of Casual Living** | Teresa Vander Meer-Chassé's *Stsoo Oma Tjiiske shah kut, sh'kut tuuk dell'ál*. Photo: Ashley Ohtsijah Hall.

**Monoceros Education Society** | Queer Crafternoon artists: Claire, Sansal, Cameron, Erin, Luca, Lee. Photos: Celeste.

**Noble Riot Dance Theatre** | Kayla Henry, Alia Saurini, & Finley Rose in *Luminaries*, choreographed by Kayla Henry & Christina Medina. Photo: Joshua Lawrence.

**Open Space** | Tania Willard in *Daydreamer's Tea Service*. Photo: Amena Sharmin.

**Pacific Opera Victoria** | Co-creator, composer, & tenor Isaiah Bell in *The Book of My Shames*. Photo: Dahlia Katz.

**Ptarmigan Arts** | Community art workshop - making art with natural and recycled materials. Photo: Rachel Lenkowski.

**Puente Theatre** | Mirelle Fynes, Loreto Espinoza & Heather Watt in *GORGO* by Niah Davis. Photo: Jessica Burr.

**SingYourJoy Young Adult Chorus** | Performance at the Cridge Centre. Photo: SingYourJoy.

**SNAFU Dance Theatre** | William Robertson as *Vulture* in *New Earth Bandits*. Photo: Helene Cyr.

**Sooke Arts Council** | SAC President Sherry Robb painting the background.

**Sooke Community Choir** | Spring Sing Out with Sooke elementary school choirs. Photo: Sooke Community Choir.

**Southern Gulf Island Community Resource Centre** | BC World Music Collective Concert. Photo: Southern Gulf Island Community Resource Centre.

**Story Theatre** | Erica Petty's *Sound Garden*, 2022 Wee Peeks residency with Impulse Theatre. Photo: Impulse Theatre.

**Suddenly Dance Theatre** | Hoyeon Kim & Jung ah Chung in LUCKY MAYBE: HAENYEO episode 3. Photo: Miles Lowry.

**The Other Guise Theatre** | Skatepark shenanigans. Photo: Matthew Payne.

**Theatre Inconnu** | Cast of *The Black Rider; The Casting of the Magic Bullets* by Tom Waits & William S. Burroughs. Photo: Clayton Jevne.

**Theatre SKAM** | Loreto Espinoza and Jeni Luther in *Suitable Transpo: A Junk Puppet Spectacle* by Kathleen Greenfield at SKAMPede 2023. Photo: Haida Davies-McDermott.

**Three on the Tree Productions Society** | Stock image.

**Vancouver Island Visual Arts Society** | Emilie "Bertie" Berthiaume exhibition *Repos*, curated by Laveen Gammie. Photo: Laveen Gammie.

**Veselka Ukrainian Dance** | L'viv Hopak, *Lesia & the Giant Cherry*. Photo: Mitch Mihalynuk (2022 programming).

**Victoria Arts Council** | Untitled painting as seen on the VAC Old Town Billboard, Ingrid Mesquita / Victoria Arts Council.

**Victoria Baroque** | Summer Baroque Intensive Orchestra and vocalists. Photo: Kyron Basu.

**Victoria BC Ska & Reggae society** | *Chali 2na & the House of Vibe* at Victoria Ska & Reggae Festival 2023. Photo: Rob Porter, RMS Media.

**Victoria Children's Choir** | Season Finale Concert: *Songs of Love and Light*. Photo: Meghan Robertson.

**Victoria Choral Society** | Stock image.

**Victoria Conservatory of Music** | Veselka Ukrainian dancers join the BC Fiddle Orchestra & Daniel Lapp on stage. Photo: Mark Nicol.

**Victoria Downtown Residents Association** | Tasha Cadence performs at Music in the Park in Cridge Park. Photo: James Davis.

**Victoria Dragon Boat Festival** | Performer at Victoria Dragon Boast Festival. Photo: Colin Smith.

**Victoria Festival of Authors** | Panelists & audience members at the beginning of Forest Poet/Tree Walk. Photo: Mike Andrew McLean.

**Victoria Film Festival** | Two young volunteers working at a screening. Photo provided by Victoria Film Fest.

**Victoria Jazz Society** | *Fantastic Negrito* at BC Smoke Shop Harbour Blues 'n Roots Festival 2023. Photo: Doug Featherston.

**Victoria Native Friendship Centre** | Society Logo.

**Victoria On Stage** | Dan Comeau as Plankton in *The SpongeBob Musical*. Photo provided by Victoria on Stage.

**Victoria Philharmonic Choir** | VPC choir. Photo: Megan Mather.

**Victoria Poetry Project** | Winnipeg Poet Laureate performing at Victorious Voices finals. Photo: Johnny McRae.

**Victoria Shakespeare Society** | Ciarán Volke & Michelle Naidu in *All's Well That Ends Well*. Photo: Lara Eichhorn.

**Victoria Summer Music Festival Society** | Victoria Summer Music

Festival Opening Concert 2023. Photo: Victoria Photography Club.

**Victoria Symphony** | Victoria Symphony performs at the 2023 Symphony in the Summer Festival. Photo: Kevin Light.

**Westshore Community Concert Band** | Concert. Photo: Marli

**William Head on Stage** | *Eavesdrop Café* Set. Photo provided by William Head on Stage.

**Wiser Developments Society** | Stock Image.

**WONDERHEADS** | *LOON*, the story of a man who falls in love with the moon. Photo & mask: Kate Braidwood.

**Xchanges Gallery and Studios** | Regan Rasmussen *Safety Within* exhibition. Photo provided by Xchanges.

**Yellowhouse Art Centre Society** | Dominic Conway of *Malleus Trio* in concert. Photo: Gord Gibbs.



# ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Arms-length volunteer group, responsible for adjudicating grants and providing advice to the Arts Commission

Cris Caravaca	Christina Haska
Rachel Ditor	Ari Hershberg
Sue Donaldson (Funding Chair)	Sarah Reid
Richard Gale	Joanna Verano (Chair)
Will Greaves	

# ARTS COMMISSION

Elected representatives from participating jurisdictions, responsible for support and development of regional arts

ESQUIMALT	Duncan Cavens
HIGHLANDS	Karel Roessingh
METCHOSIN	Sharie Epp
OAK BAY	Carrie Smart
SAANICH	Colin Plant
SOOKE	Dana Lajeunesse
S. GULF ISLANDS	Paul Brent
VICTORIA	Marianne Alto (Arts Commission Chair)
VIEW ROYAL	Gery Lemon

# CRD STAFF

Administers programs & provides support for regional arts decision making

Abby Gibbs	Heather Heywood
Chris Gilpin	Erin Sterling





Bassist & Vocalist Nik West jumps into the air on the TD Main Stage at Bullen Park, Esquimalt, during TD JazzFest 2023, put on by **Victoria Jazz Society**. Photo: Tony Kwon



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