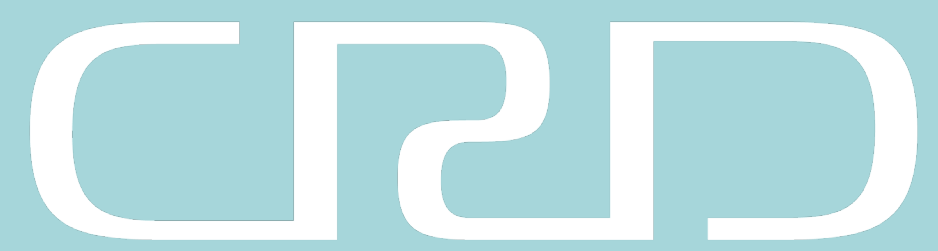


2025 Impact Report



Arts Development



Supporting the Region's Arts

CRD Arts Development 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.

Nearly **70%**
of the region's population lives within
one of the nine participating jurisdictions:

-  Participating jurisdictions
-  Non-Participating jurisdictions



State of the Arts

OUR REGION RANKS #1 IN THE COUNTRY FOR ARTS VIBRANCY

The Arts Vibrancy Index is a new tool used to track the impact of Canadian arts communities on local economic activity. Most closely representing our region, the Victoria Census Metropolitan Area ranked #1 in the country, indicating both a thriving local arts community and broader economic activity.



Creative intensity drives arts vibrancy, not population size



Arts and culture are central to higher quality of life



Arts improve other aspects of economy and society



Arts and culture drive talent retention outcomes in cities



~\$9 in GDP generated by the cultural sector for every dollar invested by governments



63% increase in arts, culture, heritage, and sport workers in Victoria CMA since 2013



Concentration of artists and cultural workers in the CRD within 10 highest in Canada



75% of Canadians believe that attending arts events positively impacts their sense of belonging

Strategic Plan Progress Highlights



CHAMPION – ADVOCATING FOR THE ARTS

- › Continued to highlight benefits of the Arts Service through communications
- › Supported sectoral promotion and recognition through the GVRA awards
- › Implemented Impact Stories series to demonstrate value of the arts with qualitative data



CONNECT – ENHANCING COLLABORATION

- › Implemented new Grow Forward Grant program to support sectoral collaboration
- › Hosted networking and convening event: 2025 Arts Champions Summit



CULTIVATE – DEVELOPING THE ARTS ECOSYSTEM

- › Retired the Incubator grant program
- › Implemented the Grow Forward Grant program to support planning and capacity-building
- › Received record-high number of applications
- › Awarded record-high funding amount (\$2.8 million)



EXTEND – BROADENING THE SCOPE OF IMPACT

- › Continued training to provide more accessible service and resources to grant applicants
- › Developed arts career pathways resources to support youth in the arts sector
- › Completed program review of Operating Grant program



ENGAGE – SHARING OUR STORY AND LEARNING

- › Implemented new Communications & Outreach plan for the Arts Service
- › Conducted information sessions for over 100 prospective grant applicants

Amanda Lisman as The Moon in Puente Theatre's *Blood Wedding: The Forest Remembers*. Photo: Helene Cyr.
Operating Grant | Victoria

2025 Funding Impact

\$2.81 M

invested in the arts (record high!)

15,850+

arts events and performances activated by our grant recipients across the region

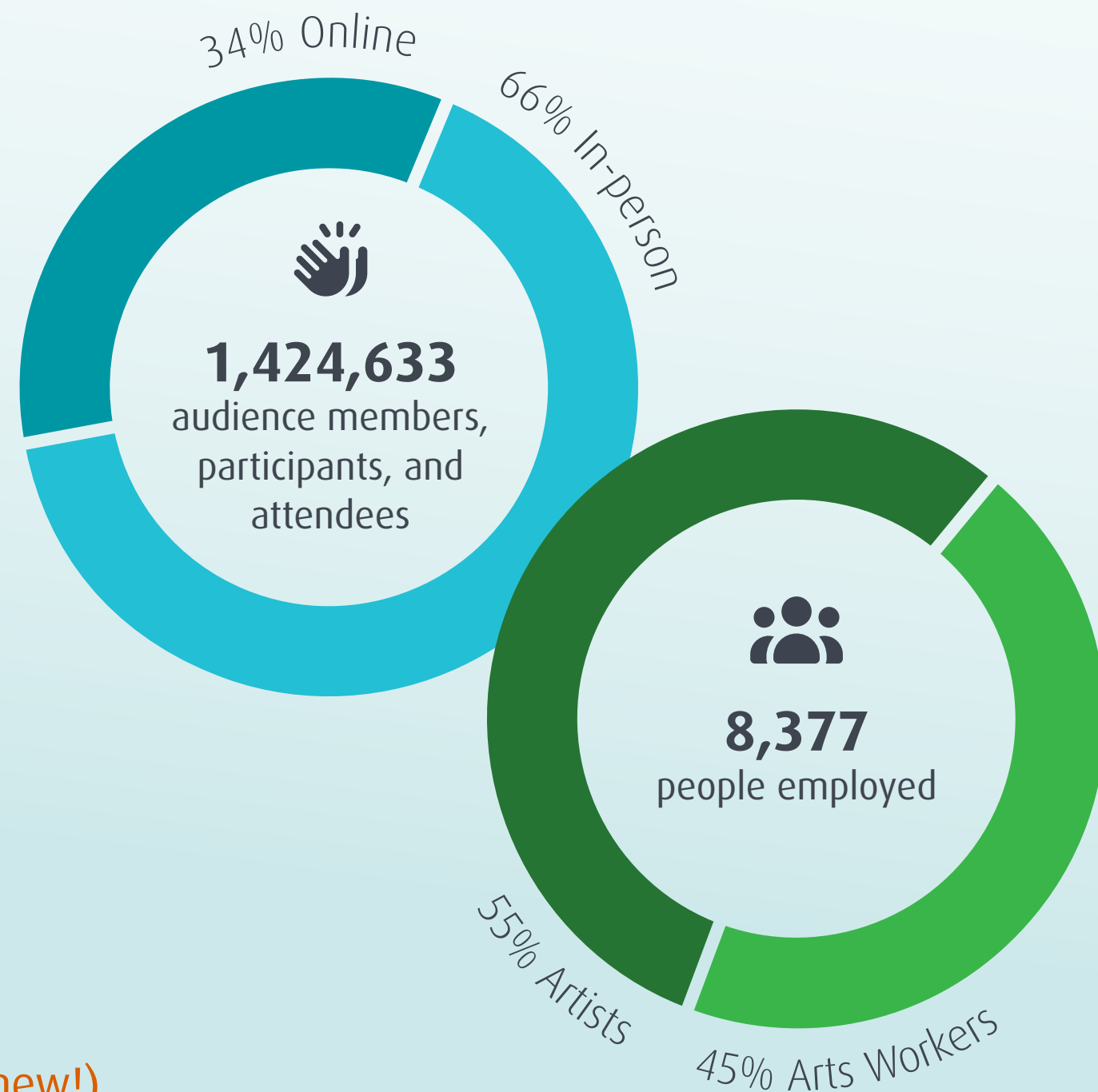


9 Grow Forward Grant Projects (new!)

Creating forward-facing, lasting impact to help the arts sector to grow



The Grow Forward Grant Program provides funding to arts organizations for capacity-building, planning, mentorships, sectoral initiatives, and the process of investigating, identifying, planning and executing significant and strategic adaptations in their operations.



Number of grants distributed:

100

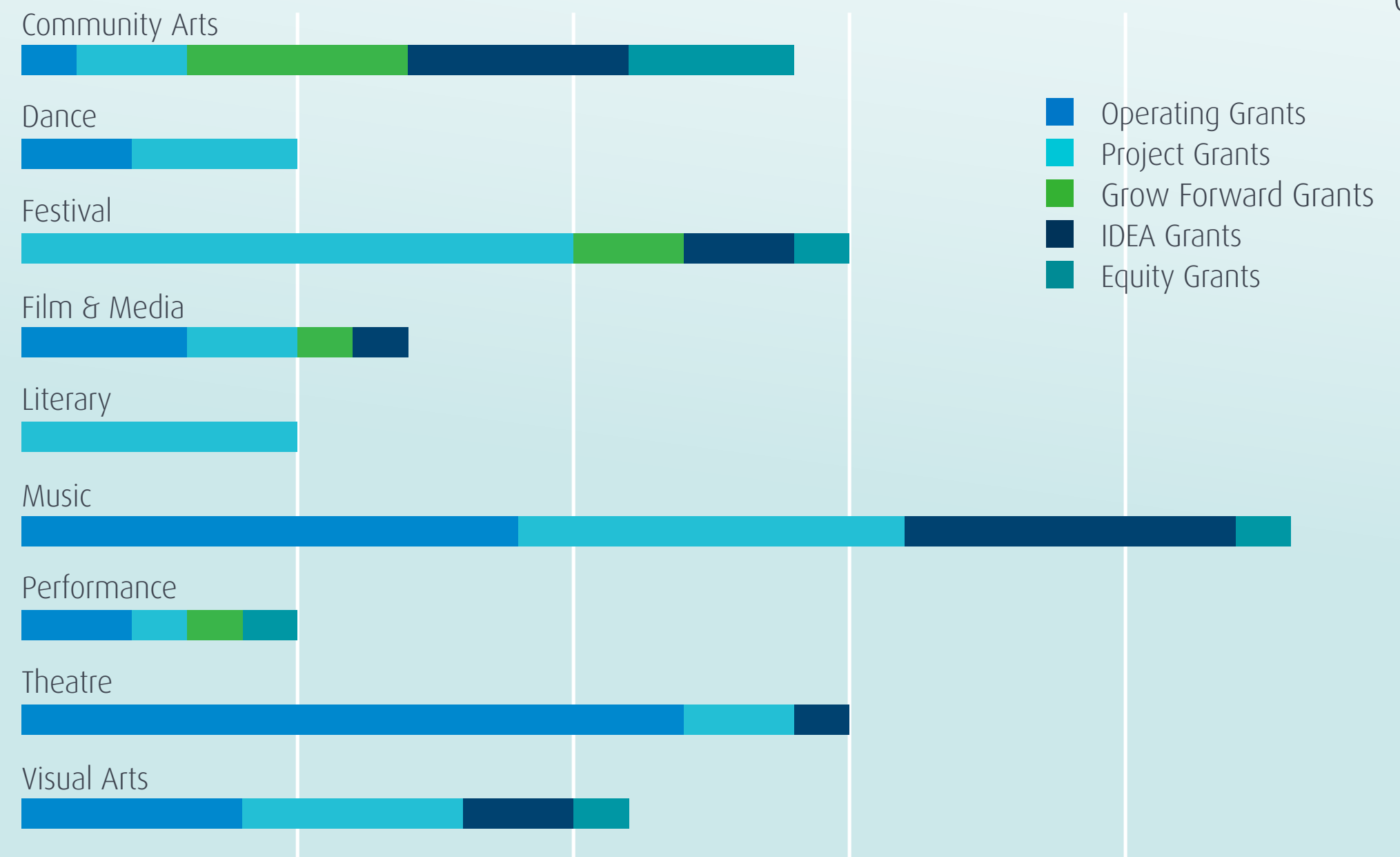


Outreach Milestones

168 grant applicants
125 workshop registrants
2840+ social media followers

7+ local news article features
1446 e-newsletter subscribers
4th biennial Arts Champions Summit

Distribution of grants by discipline and program:



95 organizations supported

12+ new grant recipients

60% applicant success rate



*First Talkback with Sweet Summer Pow Wow filmmakers.
Operating Grant | Victoria*

Impact Stories: Celebrating Indigenous Arts

TAH'LUM COLLECTIVE SHOWCASE

Fostering conversations and creating space for Indigenous artists to learn, grow, create together.

XWII XWA ATHEANA PICHA ART EXHIBIT

Uplifting emerging indigenous youth artists and establishing new connections.

AN EVENING FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION: MUSIC, ART, AND DIALOGUE

Honouring truth and reconciliation in a living, breathing way.

ETUAPTMUMK / TWO-EYED SEEING

Fostering dialogue between indigenous knowledge holders and youth on the climate crisis.

LƏLÉ?NƏŃ LISTENING-WITH

Asking how our experiences affect how we listen and sound within the territories of the ləkʷəŋən peoples.

TRADITIONAL CEDAR WEAVING WORKSHOP

Centering indigenous voices and enriching understandings of indigenous artistic practices.

F1RST: A CELEBRATION OF INDIGENOUS FILMS

Showcasing the incredible depth, diversity, and impact of filmmaking by Indigenous artists.

DANCERS OF DAMELAHAMID

Illuminating the integral role of women in holding cultural knowledge through dance.



Three on the Tree Productions Society's Magic Lake Lantern Festival. Photo: Kenta Kikuchi.

Project Grant | Southern Gulf Islands

Thank you!