

ANNUAL REPORT 2018/2019



kingston
arts
council



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MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Kirsi Hunnakko
Kirsi Hunnakko
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Kingston Arts Council (KAC) is excited to share our Annual Report for 2018-2019, which offers a review of our granting programs, services and activities for the year. This report also features highlights of our audited year-end financials as of 31 March 2019, as well as statistics that illuminate the breadth of services we provide and reflect our continued growth.

The final year of our three-year Strategic Plan saw further movement toward our vision of strengthening arts and culture in our community by acting as a network, catalyst and facilitator of opportunities. We administered and managed our two funding programs – the City of Kingston Arts Fund and the Nan Yeomans Grant for Artistic Development – and served as a funding and professional development resource to the community by providing one-on-one meetings and workshops. We also continued to grow as Kingston’s primary hub for information about arts events, news, and opportunities. In collaboration with the City of Kingston and Ontario Culture Days, as well as other community partners, we celebrated the wealth of arts and culture in our community by supporting the second annual Mayor’s Arts Awards and serving as Kingston’s lead facilitator for the nationwide Culture Days weekend. We look forward to upcoming conversations around next steps for the KAC as we work to update our strategic plan for the current landscape and needs of our community.

We continue to be grateful for the operating support we receive from the City of Kingston and the Ontario Arts Council. This critical funding ensures we can provide professional services to our dynamic arts community and seek new opportunities to support artists and arts professionals in Kingston. We also wish to recognize the important contributions of our staff, board, volunteers, donors, partners and supporters.



Billyann Balay
Billyann Balay
CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We hope you enjoy reading this Annual Report and reflecting with us on our progress as an organization. Thank you for all you do to support the KAC and the arts in Kingston.

2016-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN

Our Strategic Plan, *Building a Creative Community*, launched in June 2016. Through extensive community consultations that directly informed the Plan's priorities, key themes speaking to a broader scope were identified: programming, funding, inclusivity and access to space, and building a stronger local arts community through information sharing, networking and professional development. This led to the creation of a renewed vision for the KAC, aiming to strengthen arts and culture by "acting as a network for diverse groups, arts organizations, and artists across all disciplines and as a catalyst and facilitator of opportunities to experience the arts as creator, viewer, participant, and/or supporter."

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN IDENTIFIES 4 KEY PRIORITIES:

1. Rebrand and reposition the KAC in its role as champion, advocate and expert on the arts community in Kingston and surrounding area
2. Strengthen and support the local arts community through communications and opportunities for funding, networking, and collaboration
3. Be a leading local arts resource, responding to key arts and community issues
4. Build Kingston Arts Council's organizational capacity

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2018-2019 INCLUDE:

- ▶ Through The Arts & Equity Project, we facilitated important peer-to-peer learning around accessibility and diversity in the arts, supporting the Kingston arts sector in undertaking this vital work
- ▶ We cultivated diverse community partnerships with KEDCO, Downtown Kingston BIA, Kingston Frontenac Public Library, WorkInCulture and the Rideau Heights Community Centre, amongst others, as well as through our involvement with the Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning, the City of Kingston's Arts Advisory Committee, and Tourism Kingston's Digital Marketing group.
- ▶ We expanded our outreach to encourage increased engagement in the City of Kingston Arts Fund program and to connect artists with other funding opportunities, with our Grants Coordinator holding forty-two meetings with artist collectives and organizations.
- ▶ Conversations with stakeholders as well as participation in the Arts Advisory Committee's Professional Development Working Group helped us to deepen our knowledge of our community and its specific professional development needs.
- ▶ We fostered connections beyond our city borders—raising the visibility of Kingston as a thriving arts community—through conversations and partnerships with groups including the London Arts Council, Ottawa Arts Council, Neighbourhood Arts Network (Toronto), Ontario Culture Days, and WorkInCulture.
- ▶ By securing the City of Kingston's support for a research and development phase around the revitalization of the City's Teaching Artists Roster, we took a huge step toward supporting arts education and becoming a facilitator for paid opportunities for arts educators in our community.

"Equity Principles in Action" Panel, March 2019.
PHOTO: Liz Cooper



GRANTS

The Kingston Arts Council administers two key funding programs: the City of Kingston Arts Fund and the Nan Yeomans Grant for Artistic Development.

The City of Kingston Arts Fund (CKAF) provides grants to local arts organizations and collectives to foster creativity at all levels and enrich how Kingston residents experience and engage with the arts.

It is administered by the KAC and applications are assessed by a jury of peers from the Kingston arts community.

CKAF is comprised of two funding categories: operating grants and project grants. Operating grants provide a crucial foundation for non-profit arts organizations, increasing administrative capacities and professional and artistic development opportunities. Project grants fund the creation and presentation of artistic projects and connect diverse audiences with arts activities across the city. Through CKAF, arts organizations and collectives are able to develop programming, activities, partnerships and initiatives that encourage arts engagement, learning opportunities and participation.

LEFT TO RIGHT:

Kent Monkman's Artist Talk in Shame and Prejudice: A Story of Resilience at Agnes Etherington Art Centre.
PHOTO: Garrett Elliott

Theatre Kingston performance of 'Almighty Voice and His Wife'

These funds are an investment in Kingston's cultural capital and they foster cultural vitality, increase the capacity of the arts community, encourage residents to connect with the arts and ultimately enhance Kingston's cultural economy, promoting financial stability and sustainability of the sector.

2017 CKAF Impact Report

The CKAF Impact Report highlights the most recent fully-completed CKAF program cycle (2017) and includes a combination of statistics, images, and information as reported to the KAC from recipients.

2017 CKAF Impact Report continued

2017 RECIPIENTS - OPERATING

Agnes Etherington Art Centre	\$71,400
Cantabile Choirs of Kingston	\$26,650
Le Centre Culturel Frontenac	\$15,422
H'art Centre	\$10,000
Kingston Canadian Film Festival	\$42,000
Kingston Symphony Association	\$75,000
Kingston WritersFest	\$35,000
Modern Fuel Artist Run Centre	\$46,980
Reelout Arts Project Inc	\$20,978
Theatre Kingston	\$41,000
Union Gallery	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$394,431

2017 JURY - OPERATING

Kamille Parkinson (Chair),
Dave Gordon,
Marjorie Sim,
Rick Revelle,
Sunita Gupta,
Virginia Clark

Ex officio:

Mary Rita
Holland,
Colin Wiginton,
Danika Lochhead,
Jacquelin Heichert,
Diana Gore

2017 RECIPIENTS - PROJECT

Electric Circuits Festival, Electric Circuits Collective	\$8,700
Five Concert Series, Kingston Chamber Choir	\$16,000
2018 Fun House Concert Series, Kingston Punk Productions	\$4,482
Igniting Imaginations: Immersive Theatre for Young Audiences, Single Thread Theatre Company s	\$12,000
The Juvenis Festival 2018, Blue Canoe Productions	\$20,000
Kingston Multicultural Arts Festival, Kingston Community Health Centres	\$17,333
Live Wire Music Series 2017-2018, Live Wire Music Series	\$4,000
The Limestone City Tattoo and Arts Festival, Tattoo and Arts Collective	\$16,000
Melos' Pilgrimage to Bethlehem with Sine Normine, Melos Choir and Period Instruments	\$4,305
The Revolutions, SpiderWebShow	\$14,500
Skeleton Park Arts Festival 2018, Skeleton Park Arts Festival	\$18,500
Tone Deaf Festival 2017-2018 Season, Tone Deaf Collective	\$7,500
First Capital Highland Gathering, Kingston Pipe Band	\$7,932
2018 Winter Concert Series: Building Awareness, Kingston Jazz Society	\$6,177
Who is Bruce Kauffman?, Live in Kingston Productions	\$12,000
TOTAL	\$169,430

2017 JURY - PROJECT

Kamille Parkinson (Chair),
Aara Macauley,
Anne Gutknecht,
Chris Alfano,
Georgina Riel,
Robert Schlosser

Ex officio:

Liz Schell,
Colin Wiginton,
Danika Lochhead,
Jacquelin Heichert,
Diana Gore

2017 CKAF OPERATING

\$394,431
AWARDED THROUGH 11
OPERATING GRANTS

17
PUBLIC ACTIVITIES
SUPPORTED

118,519
ATTENDANCE/NUMBER
OF PARTICIPANTS

166
NEW WORKS CREATED

566
ARTISTS ENGAGED

132
POSITIONS FUNDED

46
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT
STAFF

1,576
VOLUNTEERS

61,658
VOLUNTEER HOURS

\$1,606,597
ARTISTS' AND PROFESSIONAL
FEES PAID BY SUPPORTED
ORGANIZATIONS

\$5,385,238
TOTAL REVENUE

2017 CKAF PROJECT

\$169,430
AWARDED THROUGH 15
PROJECT GRANTS

3:2
RATIO OF NON-PROFITS TO
COLLECTIVES

692
ARTISTS PAID

\$318,628
PAID TO ARTISTS

1,314
VOLUNTEERS

44,479
VOLUNTEER HOURS

267
ACTIVITIES (PERFORMANCES,
EXHIBITIONS, SCREENINGS,
WORKSHOPS, READINGS,
PRESENTATIONS, ETC.)

630
NEW WORKS CREATED

26,742
AUDIENCE MEMBERS

25,896
OTHER PARTICIPANTS/
NON-ARTISTIC

\$508,723
REVENUE EARNED

CKAF INVESTMENT
TO DATE 2007-2019

\$6.4 million
TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED

\$10.1 million
TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED

329
TOTAL # OF GRANTS
AWARDED

531
TOTAL # OF APPLICATIONS

65%
OVERALL SUCCESS RATE
OF CKAF APPLICATIONS

11
ARTS ORGANIZATIONS'
OPERATIONS SUPPORTED
THROUGH OPERATIONAL
FUNDING

212
TOTAL # OF GRANTS
AWARDED THROUGH
PROJECT FUNDING

158%
AVERAGE PERCENTAGE OF
REQUEST COMPARED TO
AMOUNT AVAILABLE

**\$4.67
per capita**
CONTRIBUTION TO
THE ARTS (BASED ON
2016 FUNDING AMOUNT
AND 2016 KINGSTON
POPULATION)

CKAF 2017 OPERATING &
PROJECT GRANT PROGRAM

1,258
ARTISTS PAID

\$1,925,225
PAID TO ARTISTS (INCLUDES ARTISTS' AND PROFESSIONAL
FEES AND ARTISTIC SALARIES - PERMANENT & TEMPORARY
EMPLOYEES)

2,890
VOLUNTEERS

106, 047
ESTIMATED # OF VOLUNTEER HOURS

284
ACTIVITIES (PERFORMANCES, EXHIBITIONS, SCREENINGS,
WORKSHOPS, READINGS, PRESENTATIONS, ETC.)

796
NEW WORKS CREATED

171,157
TOTAL ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPANTS

\$5,893,961
TOTAL REVENUES

2018 CKAF RECIPIENTS

In the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the 2017 CKAF program was completed (as highlighted in the CKAF Impact Report section) and the 2018 CKAF program was administered. Below is a list of the 2018 CKAF recipients.

2018 RECIPIENTS - OPERATING

Agnes Etherington Art Centre	\$75,000
Cantabile Choirs of Kingston	\$26,650
Le Centre Culturel Frontenac	\$15,730
H'art Centre	\$10,200
Kingston Canadian Film Festival	\$42,840
Kingston Symphony Association	\$75,000
Kingston WritersFest	\$38,120
Modern Fuel Artist Run Centre	\$46,980
Reelout Arts Project Inc	\$20,978
Theatre Kingston	\$41,000
Union Gallery	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$402,500

2018 JURY - OPERATING

Ashley-Elizabeth Best,
Julia Stroud,
Maggie Hulbert,
Mike Sheppard,
Rheni Tauchid
Ex-officio:
Councillor Rob Hutchison,
Colin Wiginton,
Danika Lochhead (Chair),
Felix Lee,
Diana Gore

2018 RECIPIENTS - PROJECT

Early Music and Dance from the Mid-East to France, 9th -19th Centuries, Melos Choir and Period Instruments	\$6,708
Electric Circuits Festival, Electric Circuits Collective	\$18,000
Five Concert Season, Kingston Chamber Choir	\$10,000
Floating Archives, Corridor Culture	\$8,250
Fun House Concert Series, Kingston Punk Productions	\$4,460
King Con, King Con Collective	\$17,823
Kingston Multicultural Arts Festival, Kingston Community Health Centres	\$13,212
Live Wire Music Series, Live Wire Music Series	\$5,000
Solstice Celebration, Calliope Collective	\$18,000
Skeleton Park Arts Festival, Skeleton Park Arts Festival	\$18,500
Tone Deaf Festival and Satellite Concerts, Tone Deaf Collective	\$18,000
What Happens at the Grad Club, Cellar Door Project	\$3,750
2019 Juvenis Festival, Blue Canoe Productions	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$172,500

2017 JURY - PROJECT

Chantal Prud'homme,
Georgina Riel,
Sayyida Jaffer,
Su Sheedy,
Sunny Kerr
Ex-officio:
Councillor Liz Schell,
Colin Wiginton,
Danika Lochhead (Chair),
Felix Lee,
Diana Gore

MAYOR'S ARTS AWARDS

2018 RECIPIENTS

Erin Ball
CREATOR AWARD

Onagottay Blanchard
CREATOR AWARD

Clarke Mackey
CREATOR AWARD

Karen Peperkorn
ARTS CHAMPION AWARD

Kim Renders
LIMESTONE ARTS LEGACY AWARD

2018 Nominations Working Group

Ashleigh McKeil, Chair
Jane Karges, Member, Arts Advisory Committee
Cathie Hamilton, Arts Advisory Committee
Jim Neill, Ex-Officio, Member, Arts Advisory Committee
Dave Coon, Public Appointee
Armand Garnet Ruffo, 2017 Mayor's Arts Awards Recipient

OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP TO BOTTOM:

Erin Ball, video still

Onagottay Blanchard, video still

Clarke Mackey, video still

Karen Peperkorn, video still

Kim Renders, video still

Thank you to Make Hay Media for the support in creating profile videos for all the recipients. You can view the videos on the City of Kingston and Kingston Arts Council websites.

The Mayor's Arts Awards is an annual recognition program that celebrates artistic achievement as well as extraordinary support for and contributions to the arts.

By increasing the profile for the arts in Kingston, the Mayor's Arts Awards affirms the value of the arts as a source of creativity, innovation and pride and nurtures the sustained development of the cultural sector to the benefit of all Kingston residents. The City of Kingston, through the Cultural Services department, administers the Mayor's Arts Awards program. The Kingston Arts Council leads the production of video profiles of the recipients and promotion of the awards to its networks.

The Creator Award recognizes living artists, artistic collectives, or arts organizations. Three Creator Awards will be given each year to honour artistic merit and/or innovation that advances the arts in the City, contributes to the development of the art form and expresses the cultural vitality of Kingston.

The Arts Champion Award recognizes a living individual, organization or corporation who makes an extraordinary, leading contribution to the arts in Kingston as a volunteer, advocate, supporter, sponsor and/or philanthropist.

The Limestone Arts Legacy Award recognizes individuals whose sustained and substantial contributions have built the artistic vitality of the City, nurturing and enabling forms of creation, participation, presentation and enjoyment, whose leadership has inspired others, and whose influence has been felt in the region and beyond.

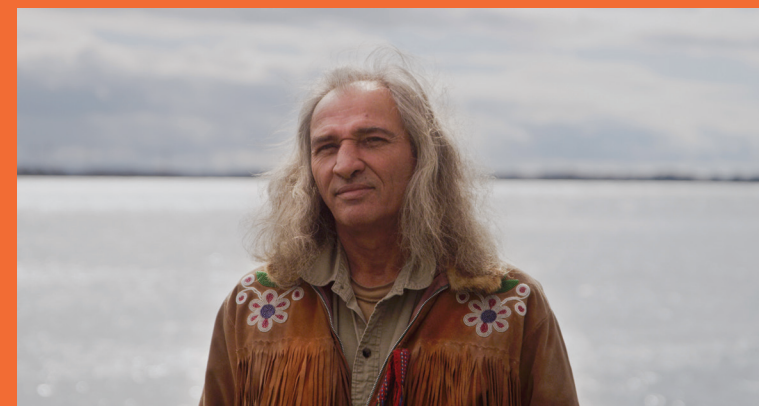
Erin Ball is a Kingston-based circus artist whose disciplines include aerial silks and trapeze, wheelchair acrobatics, aerial wheelchair, aerial hoop, partner acrobatics, hand balancing and hooping. In 2014, Erin faced life-changing events that resulted in the loss of her lower legs. Since returning to her passion of performing, training and coaching, Erin has used her perspective and experiences to tell stories, inspire others and explore the possibilities of movement. Today, Erin is the owner of Kingston Circus Arts where she teaches circus arts to all bodies, shapes, sizes, ages and situations.

Onagottay Blanchard's work spans from traditional media - such as birchbark, horn, leather and beadwork - to canvas-based acrylics and large public works. Having studied under the world-renowned Ojibwe artist Norval Morrisseau and engaged in Midewiwin training as a medicine person, his work is informed by Anishinaabe intellectual tradition and is emblematic of woodlands art, which spans centuries.

Clarke Mackey is a Kingston director, cinematographer, editor, producer and writer whose work spans feature films, experimental video works and documentaries. Clarke shared his talents with innumerable students during his thirty-year career at Queen's University and has been engaged more recently in community activism in Eastern Ontario, producing micro-budget documentaries on subjects such as the closing of the prison farm in Kingston. Clarke is an active member of the community and sits on numerous arts boards.

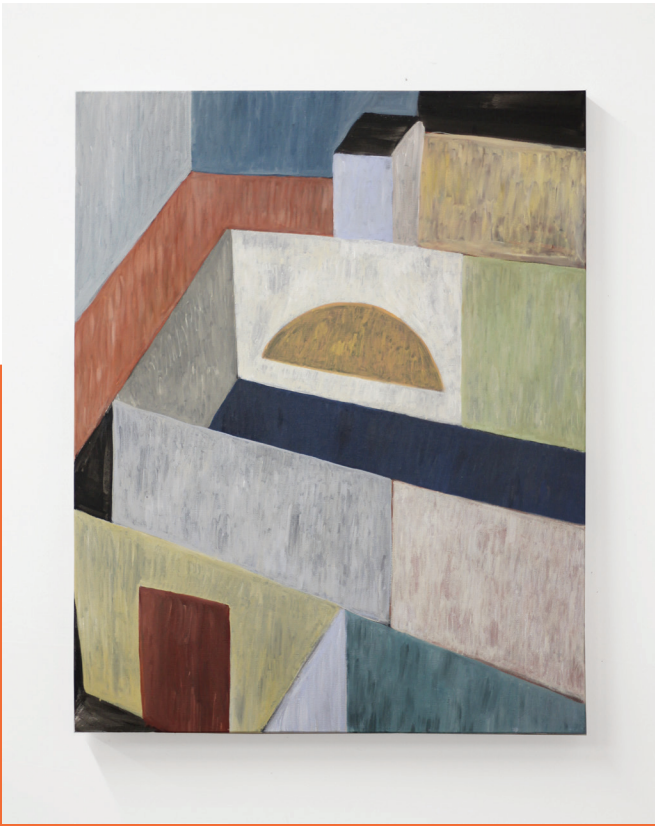
Described as an artist whose medium is teaching and whose students are her art work, **Karen Peperkorn** is a high school teacher who has shaped the lives of students through arts education in Kingston. In 1990, Karen founded the Creative Arts Focus program at QECVI, which provides students interested in fine art and design with training in media, techniques, community participation and a uniquely collaborative education experience. Karen has devoted her life to sharing the power and potential of the arts and finding innovative ways to support the artistic pursuits of young people.

Kim Renders was one of Canada's most daring theatre practitioners, highly respected as an actor, director, writer and professor. Kim co-founded the Nightwood Theatre Company in Toronto in 1978, was the Artistic Director of Theatre Kingston from 2007 to 2011 and co-founded the Kingston-based Chipped Off Performance Collective in 2013, which created and produced community artistic presentations from a queer and feminist perspective. A theatre pioneer, Kim used art for activism and gave a voice to the marginalized.



THE NAN YEOMANS GRANT FOR ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT

The Nan Yeomans Grant for Artistic Development is an annual fund of \$2,500 that is awarded to an emerging visual artist. The grant aims to help young promising artists and/or artisans working in visual media to further their artistic growth and education. The grant is made possible through an endowment fund administered by the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area (CFKA). The Kingston Arts Council is responsible for the administration and distribution of the grant, including processing applications and facilitating jury selection and adjudication. Since the grant was created in 2009, the total funds awarded to Kingston-based emerging visual artists is \$25,000.



Ella Gonzales, *Let Me See*, 2019, acrylic and oil on canvas

2017 NAN YEOMANS GRANT FOR ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT RECIPIENT Ella Gonzales

2018 Jury:
Jennifer Demitor, Chris Miner, Peggy Fussell

Ella Gonzales is a Filipino-Canadian artist currently residing in Kingston. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a minor in Art History and Criticism from Western University. Having spent most of her life moving between cities, countries and continents, Ella is interested in disassembling her personal and familial narratives and reassembling them as multi-dimensional spaces. The Nan Yeomans Grant will support Ella in expanding her artistic practice across mediums, including painting, video and installation. Upcoming projects will explore themes of inhabited space(s), migration, temporalities and cultural identity.

COMMUNICATIONS

E-NEWSLETTERS

We craft two different e-newsletters every month: Arts in View and ArtsBuzz. ArtsBuzz is our opportunity to inform you about behind-the-scenes work, KAC-specific programming, successes and upcoming events. Arts in View is a comprehensive resource for events, grant deadlines, classes and professional development opportunities in Kingston. To subscribe, please go to our website, artskingston.ca.

EVENTS CALENDAR

The community events calendar is a centralized resource for events in the Kingston arts community. From classes to concerts, exhibitions and workshops, the calendar reflects the variety of activities happening year-round in our community. We encourage submissions from artists, collectives and organizations: You can add your event for free on our website, which will also ensure the addition of the event in our Arts in View e-newsletter.

LEFT TO RIGHT, AS FEATURED IN THE YGK ARTS PROJECT:
Musician Michael C. Duguay,
Local band The Enrights,
Musician Erica Lamon,
Actor and arts educator Emberly Doherty,
Musician Emily Fennell

YGK ARTS PROJECT

The YGK Arts Project is an initiative that recognizes, celebrates and profiles local artists, cultural producers and community leaders around Kingston. It is hosted on our Instagram page [@kingstonartscouncil](https://www.instagram.com/kingstonartscouncil), as well as on our website.



STATISTICS

**12 ArtsBuzz
+ 24 Arts in View
Newsletters**

OF NEWSLETTERS

1409

OF NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS

48 artists

PROFILED AS PART OF THE YGK ARTS PROJECT

PROGRAMMING

PLATFORM

PLATFORM is a professional development workshop series designed to help the creative community grow its skills and make new connections.

GRANT WRITING WITH PAULINA O'KIEFFE

On 7 April 2018 we hosted Toronto-based artist and administrator Paulina O'Kieffe for a professional development workshop focused on grant writing. Participants explored the basics of preparing a grant application, how to go from an idea to a fully-formed project, what comprehensive budgets entail and more. Paulina also reviewed the importance of adhering to guidelines, connecting with grants officers, understanding eligibility criteria and evaluating projects.



Grant Writing workshop
facilitator Paulina O'Kieffe.
PHOTO: Liz Cooper

STARTING A CREATIVE BUSINESS

On 12 May 2018 we partnered with WorkInCulture and Kingston Economic Development Corporation to host the workshop *Starting a Creative Business* at the new Rideau Heights Community Centre in Kingston's north end. Funded by the Trillium Foundation, *Starting a Creative Business* is a WorkInCulture initiative to support creative professionals of diverse artistic disciplines who are thinking about building a creative enterprise. Through interactive activities that correlated with a workbook, participants got to step into the business mindframe and leave with key components of their business more clearly defined.

GRANT WRITING WITH NORMA GARCIA

Support and resource sharing for our CKAF clients is one of the key services we offer and thus developing and strengthening grant writing is a priority. On 2 March 2019 we hosted Toronto-based filmmaker and arts administrator Norma Garcia for a second professional development workshop devoted to grant writing. Norma reviewed elements of a successful grant application, eligibility requirements, budget strategies and major components of grant applications. Participants crafted their own summary statements, considered how to demonstrate the learning experience provided by their project and reflected on how to select supplementary materials. Thank you to Novel Idea for sponsoring this event.

ARTS & EQUITY PROJECT

An exciting initiative that we continued this year was The Arts & Equity Project. The project explored intersectionality, diversity and inclusion to advance equity in the arts in Kingston through workshops, performances and guided discussions. The aim of the project was to provide opportunities for artists and arts organizations in Kingston to explore fundamental equity concepts, tools and frameworks, engage in peer-to-peer learning and create new connections. The Arts & Equity Project was supported by an Ontario Arts Council Arts Service Project grant and through collaborative partnerships with the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts, Kingston Immigration Partnership and H'art Centre.

CREATING A COLLECTIVE ACTION PLAN

The last workshop in The Arts & Equity Project was held in June 2018 and had participants working together to develop a framework for taking action in their work, their organizations and communities to make the arts sector more equitable. The workshop featured a collaborative audit activity to identify key areas of development (e.g. audience, programming, board, HR, strategic planning, etc.) and discuss ways to approach these areas using an equitable lens. We welcomed Camille Georgeson-Usher as the invited guest artist. Camille is a Coast Salish/Dene/Scottish scholar and artist from Galiano Island, BC.



PHOTO: Liz Cooper

ORGANIZATIONAL AUDIT TOOL

The Organizational Audit Tool was the result of group work grounded in peer-to-peer and collaborative learning by participants in the *Creating a Collective Action Plan* workshop. The Organizational Audit Tool focuses on the assessment stage of the "taking equitable actions" process and is intended to both start the process of identifying a few manageable actions and aid organizations in setting their commitments to achieve realistic goals. The Audit Tool was distributed to all those that participated in the workshops. For more information about the resource and how to access it, please contact info@artskingston.ca.



Equity Principles in Action Panel FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Cyn Rozeboom, Nikki Shaffeeullah, Kevin A. Ormsby, Diana Gore. PHOTO: Liz Cooper

EQUITY PRINCIPLES IN ACTION

We wrapped up phase 1 of The Arts & Equity Project in March 2019 with *Equity Principles in Action*, a moderated panel discussion exploring ideas and practices that relate to equity, diversity and accessibility. Guest speakers Nikki Shaffeeullah (The AMY Project), Kevin A. Ormsby (Cultural Pluralism for the Arts Ontario) and Cyn Rozeboom (Tangled Art + Disability) shared their experiences and learnings from their community-engaged work in Toronto. KAC Programming and Communications Coordinator Diana Gore moderated the discussion. We were thrilled to have local poet Abena Beloved Green as a guest artist; Abena performed a beautiful poetic summary to conclude the event.



CULTURE DAYS

Culture Days, a three-day event that celebrates arts and culture, took place in Kingston and across Canada September 28-30, 2018.

LEFT TO RIGHT, AS FEATURED IN THE YGK ARTS PROJECT:

Instrument Petting Zoo hosted by The Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts in collaboration with Joe's MILL. PHOTO: Liz Cooper

Alyssa Cooper during her poetry reading at Union Gallery. PHOTO: Liz Cooper

Jamal Saeed leading a calligraphy workshop at the Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning. PHOTO: Liz Cooper

Ballet Pop Up hosted by City of Kingston featuring dancers from The Conservatory. PHOTO: Liz Cooper

The Kingston Arts Council served as the host organization for Culture Days this year. The Culture Days events featured a variety of free activities that provided an opportunity to build connections, awareness and pride in our cultural community and promote direct interaction between creators and the public as a means to strengthen long-term participation in the arts.

Overall, there were forty registered events that took place in Kingston over Culture Days weekend, among them an instrument petting zoo, a drumming circle, poetry reading, live drawing with music and ballerinas, a children's book launch and an art-book-making workshop. All the events were free to the public and many featured multiple partnerships, such as the artist pop-ups that were a collaboration between The City of Kingston, local artists and Kingston Transit.

YOUTH ARTS AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The Kingston Arts Council partnered with Ontario Culture Days for the Youth Arts Ambassador Program (YAAP), which supports the next generation of community-engaged artists in our province.

The program commissions emerging professionals up to 30 years old to create works of art in their local regions to be unveiled to the public over the Culture Days weekend. In addition to the presentation of the project, YAAP gives the public insight into the artist's creative process through photos, video, writing and social media. This program was produced by Ontario Culture Days, in partnership with the Kingston Arts Council, and created with support from TD Bank.

Movement Market's performance in Market Square, as created by Kay Kenney. PHOTO: Liz Cooper

In Kingston, local dancer Kay Kenney was selected as a 2018 Culture Days Youth Arts Ambassador for her project, Movement Market / DANCE as COMMUNITY. Kay's artistic program featured two choreographic movement workshops and two performances. Featuring thirty volunteers with a passion for movement and performance art, Movement Market used dance as a medium for self-exploration, building towards a choreographed performance accompanied by local musicians Claire Bouvier, Don Loughheed and Rowan Cowan-Day on Sunday, 30 September in Market Square.

UNIT 115

Collaborative installation process led by artist
Andy Berg for her exhibition 'Mapped Terraces'.
PHOTO: Aida Sulcs

UNIT 115 is a free, inclusive and flexible exhibition space situated in the KAC office at the Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning. This past year, we featured 14 artists, with monthly rotating exhibitions. For each exhibition, we hosted opening and closing events and welcomed new audiences into our space. This space has allowed us to foster new relationships with Kingston artists, while in turn providing valuable cost-free exhibition space for artists of various disciplines.



PROGRAMMING STATISTICS

8 # OF WORKSHOPS/ EVENTS	310 # OF PARTICIPANTS AND ATTENDEES	14 # OF ARTISTS EXHIBITED (UNIT 115)	6 # OF PROGRAMMING COLLABORATORS
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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Period of 1 April 2018 ending 31 March 2019

\$175,372

TOTAL REVENUES

\$166, 518

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$8,854

EXCESS OF REVENUE
OVER EXPENSES

Revenue highlights

- Revenues increased while overall expenses remained consistent, resulting in a healthy surplus
- Partnerships with the City of Kingston on the Mayor's Arts Awards and Culture Days boosted our project grant revenue

Expenses highlights

- We increased our commitment to staff professional development, and continued to build toward providing industry standard wages
- Careful financial management resulted in savings in several expense categories while the quality of our programs and services was maintained

THE KINGSTON ARTS COUNCIL TEAM

- Danika Lochhead**
Executive Director, 2015-September 2018
- Kirsi Hunnakkko**
Executive Director, October 2018-present
- Diana Gore**
Programming and Communications Coordinator
(formerly Administrative and Communications Officer), October 2016-present
- Felix Lee**
Grants Coordinator, October 2017-present

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Billyann Balay**, Chair
- Greg Wanless**, Treasurer
- Hollie Stewart**, Secretary
- Julia Stroud**
- Katie Ross**
- Stephen Elliott**

FUNDERS



PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

- Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning
- The Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts
- H'Art Centre
- Kingston Community Health Centre
- The City of Kingston
- Novel Idea
- CFRC 101.9 FM
- Kingston Accommodation Partners
- WorkInCulture
- Make Hay Media

DONOR LIST

- Canta Arya School for Strings
- Meredith Dault
- Stephen Elliott
- Diane Fittsell
- Ally Jacob
- Karen M. Kimmett
- Donald Mitchell
- Hollie Stewart
- Greg Wanless

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