

2025 Impact Report



Arts Development



TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The CRD conducts its business within the Territories of many First Nations, including but not limited to BOKÉCEN (Pauquachin), MÁLEXEĒ (Malahat), paaʔčiidʔatx (Pacheedaht), Spuneʼluxutth (Penelakut), Scʼianew (Beecher Bay), Songhees, STÁUTW (Tsawout), TʼSou-ke, WJOLÉĒP (Tsartlip), WSIKEM (Tseycum), and xʷsepsum (Kosapsum) Nations, 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

The 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.

The CRD Arts Development Service (the Arts Service) is a sub-regional service supported by nine 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.
Cover: Poet Hari Alluri reading for Galiano Literary festival at the Yellowhouse Arts Centre. Photo: Kelsey Maclean.

Message from the Arts Advisory Council Chair

As we look back at 2025, I reflect with gratitude on the opportunity to serve on the Arts Advisory Council both as a long-standing member and as Chair. It has been a privilege to work alongside the thoughtful, committed individuals who bring diverse perspectives and experiences, and a shared belief in the importance of the arts.

Last year, the Arts Advisory Council once again undertook the work of grant adjudication, reviewing an increasing volume of applications. The broad range of artistic practices, communities served, and creative approaches not only demonstrates the resilience of the local arts sector, but also its continued ambition, relevance and necessity.

We were proud to support so many innovative projects with a record level of arts funding. We attended many of the arts events funded by these grants and this experience reinforced our conviction of how impressive and diverse the arts scene in the region has become.

A key component of this cultural diversity are the many varieties of traditional, contemporary, and hybrid Indigenous arts practices. In this Impact Report, we're highlighting a few of the many significant projects funded by these grant



programs that empower Indigenous voices and support cultural self-determination. Support for Indigenous arts is a major component of the Arts Service's commitment to equity and continues to be a key consideration in our policy discussions and grant adjudication deliberations.

We are also acutely aware of the broader context in which our work takes place. Economic pressures continue to shape the conditions under which artists and arts organizations operate. The Arts Advisory Council is committed to remaining responsive, attentive, and open to learning, ensuring that our advice and advocacy remain grounded in the experiences of the arts community.

Sarah **REID**
Chair, CRD Arts Advisory Council

Message from the Arts Commission Chair

As we move through 2026, the Arts Development Service continues to build momentum around the implementation of its 2024–2027 Strategic Plan. Years of planning, consultation, and collaboration have translated into clear direction, guiding how we support artists and arts organizations across the region. It has been rewarding to see this shared vision actively shaping priorities, strengthening partnerships, and informing meaningful progress.

A central focus of this work has been the ongoing evolution of our funding programs. Informed by community feedback and program review, the CRD has expanded its support to better reflect the realities facing the arts sector. The new Grow Forward Grant Program adds crucial funding for capacity-building, and the new Performing Arts Facilities Service – a separate initiative from the Arts Development Service but also delivered by the CRD – achieves the long-standing goal of regional support for regional theatres. These innovative programs represent a shift toward a more holistic approach for the challenges facing the local arts ecosystem that better supports its long-term sustainability.

The commission was also gratified to see our region ranked first overall in the new nation-wide Arts Vibrancy index pro-



duced by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. This significant achievement did not occur by accident. It is the result of decades of strategic investment in local creative talent by programs like the Arts Development Service as well as a sustained commitment by the CRD to the essential role the arts play in enriching our lives and fostering connection, belonging, and resilience in our communities.

Looking ahead, the Arts Commission remains committed to cultivating a cultural landscape that is inclusive, sustainable, and responsive. By continuing to listen, adapt, and advocate, we aim to ensure the arts remain a vital source of creativity, reflection, and connection in our communities.

Marianne **ALTO**
Chair, CRD Arts Commission

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. 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 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.¹ Find the full report online: www.businessandarts.org/art-vibrancy-index/. Key takeaways include:



Creative intensity drives arts vibrancy, not population size

Communities with high arts participation, strong presence in the business ecosystem, and ripe economic conditions rank higher in the index¹



Arts and culture are central to higher quality of life

They help participants to foster connections, gain new perspectives, and build a sense of belonging in their communities¹



Arts improve other aspects of economy and society

Including social cohesion, wellbeing, talent attraction, urban development, innovation, creative economy stimulation, and more¹



Arts and culture drive talent retention outcomes in cities

Cities that create engaging cultural experiences, nurture local identity, and foster urban vibrancy are more likely to retain people¹



~\$9 in GDP generated by the cultural sector for every dollar invested by governments²



63% increase in arts, culture, heritage, and sport workers in Victoria CMA* since 2013³



Concentration of artists and cultural workers in the CRD within 10 highest in Canada⁴



75% of Canadians believe that attending arts events positively impacts their sense of belonging¹

¹ Business / Arts, Arts Vibrancy Index, 2026.

² Hill Strategies, Government investment in culture: Comparisons with other indicators, 2025.

³ Hill Strategies, Smaller metropolitan areas had the highest cultural workforce increase over the past dozen years, 2026.

⁴ Hill Strategies, Many parts of B.C.'s Capital Regional District have very high concentrations of artists and other cultural workers, 2025.



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

Operating Grant | Victoria

Strategic Plan Progress Highlights

Approved in the fall of 2023 after extensive community consultation, the Arts Service's 2024-2027 Strategic Plan included five strategic priorities. In 2025, we've made significant progress on each of the supporting goals and actions below. Find the full plan on our website at www.crd.ca/arts.

CHAMPION – ADVOCATING FOR THE ARTS



- › Continued to highlight benefits of the Arts Service across the region through communications
- › Supported sectoral promotion and recognition through the Greater Victoria Regional Arts 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 new 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

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

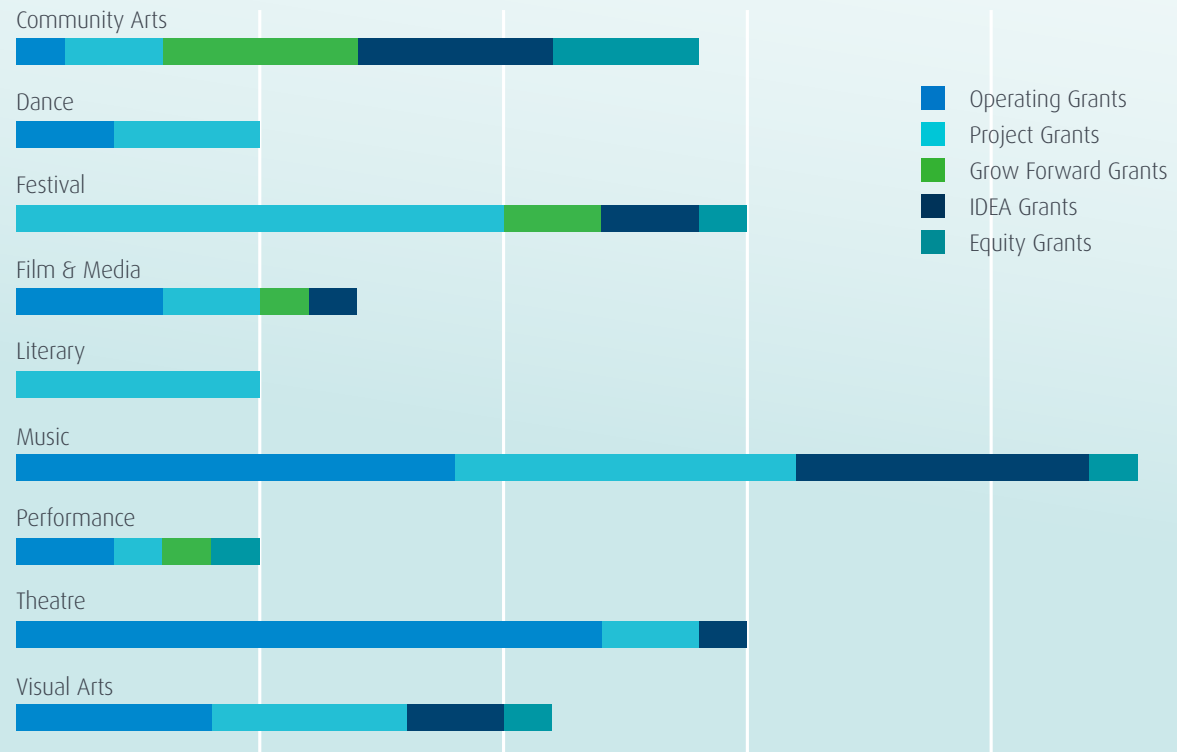


Outreach Milestones

- 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

Impact Stories: Celebrating Indigenous Arts

The qualitative impact of funding is often most effectively conveyed through storytelling. This year, we are highlighting programming that celebrated indigenous arts and self-determination across the region.



Tah'lum Indigenous Artists Collective Showcase

TAH'LUM COLLECTIVE SHOWCASE

Tah'lum Indigenous Artists Collective | Equity Grant

The Tah'lum Indigenous Artists Collective is a provincial non-profit organization based in traditional lək̓ʷəŋən territories dedicated to fostering connection, mutual support, and artistic growth among members. The Collective builds on the strength, passion and resourcefulness of Indigenous artists, allies and institutional partners.

The mandate of the collective is three-fold: to nurture the artistic practices of Indigenous artists; to build a sustainable infrastructure for the creation, production, presentation and documentation of Indigenous arts; and to cultivate relationships with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities to develop critical discourses on contemporary art.

This was the collective's second exhibition showcasing the works created during their time together. The artists challenged themselves by producing new and experimental works, exploring hide tanning, backstrap sinew production, porcupine quill harvesting, Coast Salish formline tutorials, and natural dye workshops.

The exhibition was a small sample of what can happen when a community of Indigenous artists show up for each other and have space to learn, grow, & create together, fostering conversations with Elders and facilitating connections with other Indigenous artists.



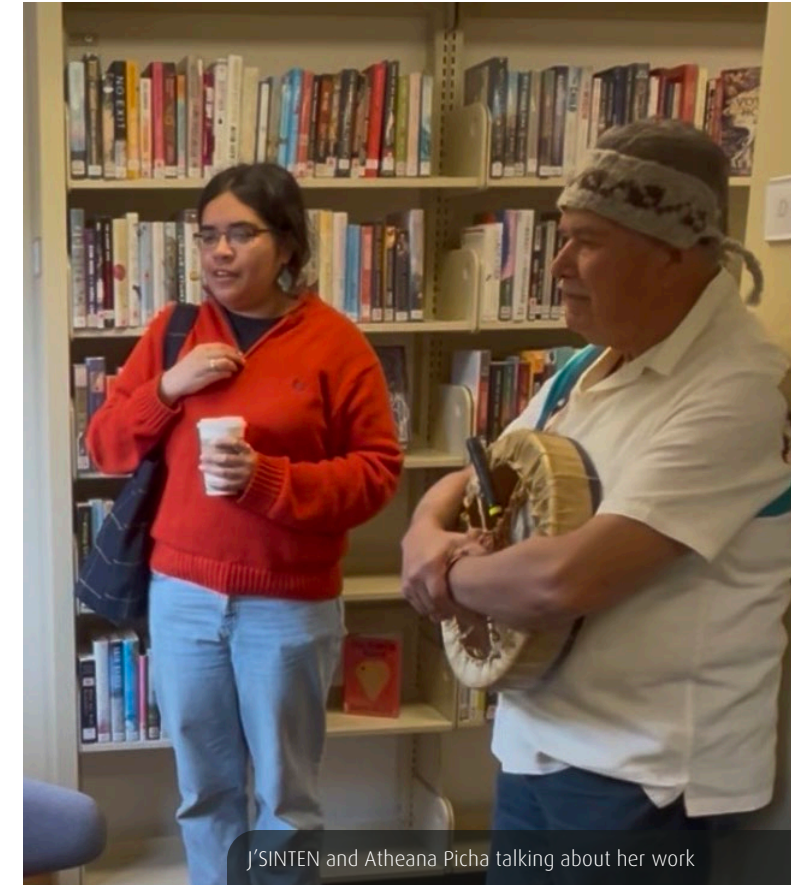
Atheana Picha, J'SINTEN and W̱SÁNEĆ relatives at Atheana's exhibition opening

XWII XWA ATHEANA PICHA ART EXHIBIT

Campbell Bay Music Festival | Project Grant

Atheana Picha is an interdisciplinary Salish artist from the Kwantlen First Nation whose practice is grounded in learning more about Salish design through studying the old pieces, observing nature, and learning from her elders and teachers. Campbell Bay Music Festival's third annual Salish art exhibit, XWII XWA highlighted Atheana's work in serigraph, intaglio print, digital drawing, weaving, and painting on hide and on wood.

At the opening of her exhibit at the Mayne Island Library, Atheana was able to establish new connections with her W̱SÁNEĆ relatives, including Elder J'SINTEN, who delivered opening remarks. The exhibition helped increase the visibility of her work both within and beyond the community. On the final day of Atheana's six-week exhibition at the Library, CBC broadcast an interview between the Atheana and *North by Northwest's* Margaret Gallagher. This media exposure led to a listener traveling to visit the exhibit and purchasing one of Atheana's triptychs.



J'SINTEN and Atheana Picha talking about her work

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

Victoria Conservatory of Music | Operating Grant

“This year marks ten years since the release of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action. It is more important than ever to keep the dialogue alive and thriving in our community,” says Ry Moran. “Music and the arts are so important in helping continue this journey.”

The Victoria Conservatory of Music’s *Evening for Truth and Reconciliation* event featured performances, conversation, and collaborative artmaking co-hosted by Hip hop artist and filmmaker Nikky Ermineskin (Nikky E) and Ry Moran, guest faculty in Music and Reconciliation at the Conservatory.

Musical performers included Cedar Lopateck, flutist Tyler Evans-Knott, singer-songwriter Colleen Eccleston, and Good Medicine, a group of Indigenous youth sharing their culture through drumming, dancing, and song. Visual artists Bradley Dick (Yuxwelupton Qwal’ qaxala), Francis Dick and Jesse Campbell also contributed their work.

“Reconciliation lives in action. By uplifting Indigenous youth,” says Nikky Ermineskin, “we are not only empowering the present — we are sustaining the culture, language, art and music that have carried us through generations. This is how we honour Truth and Reconciliation in a living, breathing way.”

Flutist Tyler Evans-Knott performing at Alix Goolden Performance Hall. Photo: Kyran Basu.



ETUAPTMUMK / TWO-EYED SEEING

Yellowhouse Arts Centre | Project Grant

Etuaptmumk or *Two-Eyed Seeing* is a concept created by leading environmental voice and Mi’kmaq Elder Advisor Albert Marshall. He describes the concept as “learning to see from one eye with the strengths of Indigenous knowledge and ways of knowing, and from the other eye with the strengths of Western knowledge and ways of knowing and learning to use both these eyes together, for the benefit of all.”

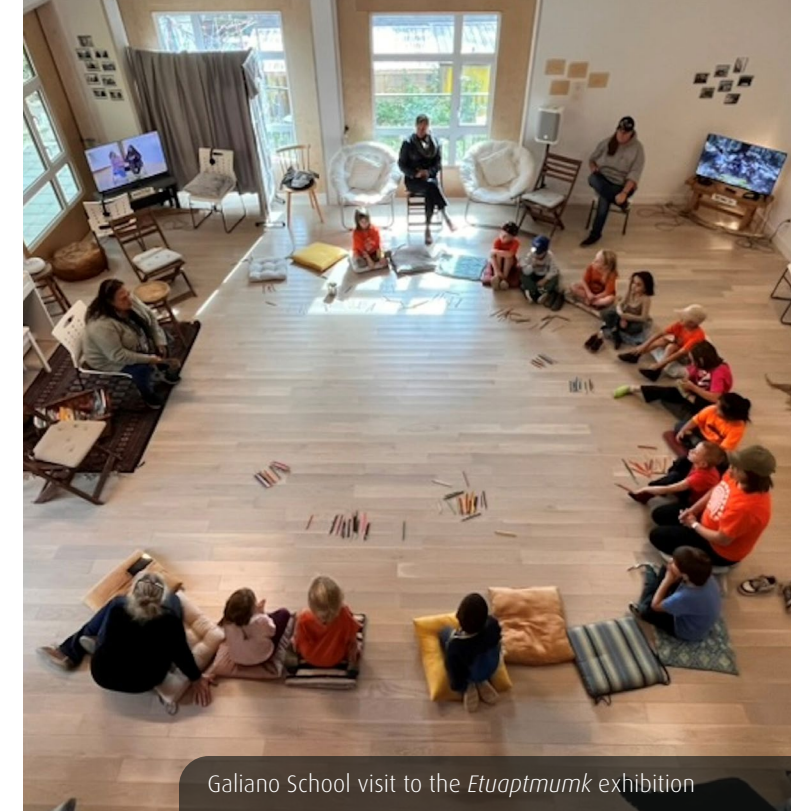
Led by Coast Salish/Sahtu Dene artist Rosemary Georgeson and her creative collaborator, theatre artist Lara Aysal, the exhibition fostered dialogue between Indigenous knowledge holders and youth on the climate crisis. The multi-media Installation highlighted the transfer of knowledge through film, photo journals, interactive displays, storytelling, elements of Mother Earth, and facilitated workshops.

LƏLÉ?NƏŃ LISTENING-WITH

Open Space Arts Society | Operating Grant

Open Space’s *Lələ?nəŃ Listening-With* was a six-week series of events that gave space and time for asking how our personal, ancestral, and professional experiences and realities affect how we listen, and how we sound, specifically within the territories of the ɫəkwəŋəŋ peoples.

The series created imaginative settings to engage in local First Nations knowledge, including workshops focusing on traditional storytelling and reflection, open conversations led by artists, audio works, and offerings from local Indigenous community members. This series stepped outside conventional music and sound programming, asking what unique ways do the land and waters of this place resonate, vibrate, and sound? How might they influence us?



Galiano School visit to the *Etuaptmumk* exhibition



Sonic Offerings for Here outdoor installation for *Listening-With*



Cedar hat weaving workshop participants at the AGGV

TRADITIONAL CEDAR WEAVING WORKSHOP

Art Gallery of Greater Victoria | Operating Grant

This workshop offered a meaningful opportunity to listen to the teachings of Jessica Sault, Nuu-chah-nulth from the Tseshaht First Nation, and Cheyanne Tinoco from the Cowichan Nation, whose knowledge is deeply rooted in the cultural practice of cedar weaving.

Participants also reflected on the works of Ursula Johnson, a Mi'kmaq artist whose practice emphasizes the power of intergenerational learning and cultural continuum, enriching our understanding of Indigenous ways of being, seeing, and walking. This workshop is just one example of the AGGV's commitment to centering indigenous voices and perspectives.

F1RST: A CELEBRATION OF INDIGENOUS FILMS

Victoria Film Festival | Operating Grant

During June 2025, the Victoria Film Festival (VFF) presented its 2nd annual *F1RST: A Celebration of Indigenous Film*. Purposefully ambitious in both scope and vision, the program featured twelve screenings of feature films by Indigenous filmmakers working in Canada which were presented along with six workshops for youth and emerging Indigenous artists.

F1RST is a major cultural event dedicated to showcasing the incredible depth, diversity, and impact of filmmaking by Indigenous artists, storytellers, and creators from around the world. It serves as an essential platform that elevates Indigenous voices, allowing them to tell their own stories, in their own words, and through their own unique lenses. Outreach and marketing efforts were done with the goal of forming meaningful connections with Indigenous communities across South Vancouver Island.



Talkback with *Sweet Summer Pow Wow* filmmakers

DANCERS OF DAMELAHAMID

Dance Victoria | Operating Grant

In January 2025, Dance Victoria presented a sold-out performance of *Dancers of Damelahamid*, a BC Indigenous dance company founded upon over five decades of extensive work in song and dance revitalization. Co-commissioned by Dance Victoria, *Raven Mother* is a newly choreographed dance work in honour of late Elder Margaret Harris (1931–2020), who had a significant impact on the revitalization of Indigenous dance along the Northwest Coast.

The work illuminates the integral role of women in holding cultural knowledge. In *Raven Mother*, striking handcrafted traditional masks, movement, song, regalia, sculpture, and design are all interwoven with the embodied narrative. It is the company's most ambitious production to date and will be the culmination of generations of artistic and cultural work.

"A visually striking performance that blends customary Indigenous dance forms with modern media" said reviewer Istvan Dugalin, "The overall effect is stunning."

Beyond the company's performance, Artistic Director Margaret Grenier led an Indigenous movement workshop for 25 students at a local elementary school. A post-show chat with the company, moderated by University of Victoria Assistant Professor of Indigenous Arts, Dr. Mique'l Dangeli, further deepened audience engagement and understanding and was attended by approximately 200 people.

Promotional photo of Dancers of Damelahamid in *Raven Mother*. Photo: Chris Randle.



2025 Grant Recipients

EQ EQUITY GRANT
GF GROW FORWARD GRANT

ID IDEA GRANT
OG OPERATING GRANT

PG PROJECT GRANT
***** NEW RECIPIENT



Active/Passive Performance Society **PG**



Belfry Theatre **OG**



Blue Bridge Theatre Society **PG**



Campbell Bay Music Festival Society **PG**



Caravan World Rhythms Society **PG**



Afro Latin Cultural Exchange **PG, GF**



Amber Academy Youth Fine Arts **ID**



Art Gallery of Greater Victoria **OG**



ArtisTREE Festival Society **PG**



CineVic **OG**



Creative Momenta Society **GF**



Dance Victoria **OG**



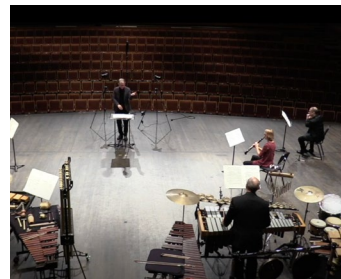
Deluge Contemporary Art **OG**



Arts and Community Infrastructure Fdn. **GF**



Atomic Vaudeville **OG**



Aventa New Music Society **OG**



AVI Health and Community Services **EQ**



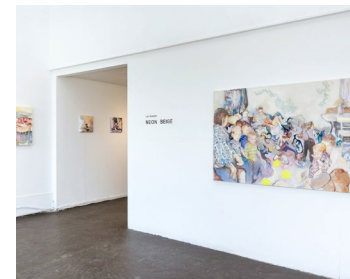
Early Music Society **OG**



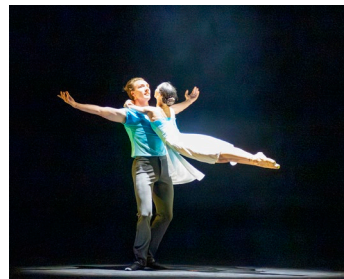
Embrace Arts Foundation **PG**



Ethno Collective **PG**



Fifty Fifty Arts Collective **PG**



Ballet Victoria Society **OG**



Bayanihan Cultural and Housing Soc. **GF**



BC Black History Awareness Society **EQ**



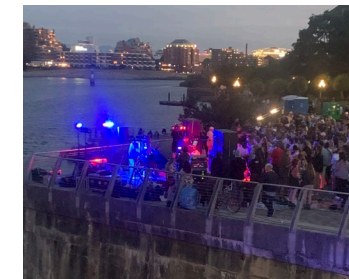
BC Museums Association **ID**



Flamenco de la Isla Society **PG**



Galiano Island Literary Festival **PG**



Garden City Electronic Music Society **PG**



Gay4Nature Collective | Victoria Baroque **EQ**



Greater Victoria Social Gathering Place **ID**



Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra **OG**



Harmony Project Sooke **ID**



Highland Heritage Park Society **ID**



Newcombe Singers Association **PG**



Noble Riot Dance Theatre Society **PG**



Oak Bay Volunteer Services Society **ID**



Open Space Arts Society **OG**



Hispanic Film Society of Victoria **GF, PG**



Impulse Theatre Society **OG**



Inter-Cultural Assn of Greater Victoria **EQ**



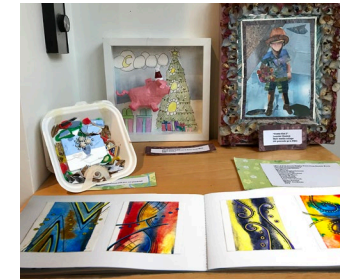
Intrepid Theatre **OG**



Our Place Society **ID**



Pacific Opera Victoria **OG**



Pandora Arts Collective Society **ID**



Pender Island Pride Society **ID**



Island Chamber Winds Society **PG**



Island Sexual Health Society **ID**



Jewish Community Centre of Victoria **ID**



Kaleidoscope Theatre **OG**



Planet Earth Poetry Reading Series **PG**



Ptarmigan Arts Society **OG**



Puente Theatre **OG**



SNAFU Dance Theatre Society **OG**



La Societe Francophone de Victoria **PG**



MediaNet **OG**



Ministry of Casual Living **PG**



Moms Against Racism (Canada) **ID**



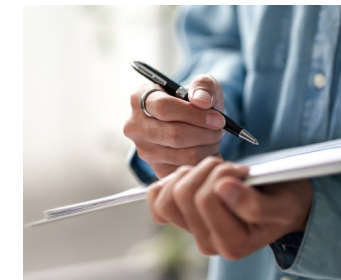
Sooke Festival Society **PG**



Sooke Radio Society **PG**



Sooke Region Historical Society **ID**



Story Studio Writing Society **PG**



Story Theatre Productions Society **OG**



Tah'lum Indigenous Artists Collective **EQ**



Theatre Inconnu **OG**



Theatre SKAM **OG**



Victoria Festival of Authors **PG**



Victoria Film Festival **OG**



Victoria Guitar Society **PG**



Victoria Hospice Society **ID**



Three on the Tree Productions **PG**



Township Community Arts Council **GF, PG**



Vancouver Island Caribbean Hub **GF, PG**



Vancouver Island Visual Arts **PG**



Victoria Jazz Society **OG**



Victoria On Stage **OG**



Victoria Poetry Project Society **PG**



Victoria Pride Society **EQ**



Veselka Ukrainian Dance **PG**



Victoria Arts Council **OG**



Victoria Baroque Players **OG**



Victoria BC Ska and Reggae Society **OG**



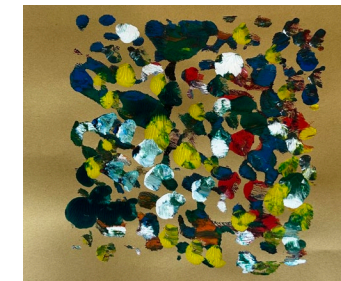
Victoria Shakespeare Society **OG**



Victoria Summer Music Festival **PG**



Victoria Symphony **OG**



Victoria Women's Transition House **EQ**



Victoria Children's Choir **OG**



Victoria Choral Society **PG**



Victoria Conservatory of Music **OG**



Victoria Downtown Residents Assn. **ID**



View Royal Community Association **ID**



Vox Humana Chamber Choir **PG**



William Head on Stage **PG**



Wonderheads **OG**



Xchanges Gallery and Studios PG



Yellowhouse Art Centre GF, PG

Credits & Attributions

Active/Passive Performance | Sidi Blue Moon performs at Active /Passive Vol. 7. Photo: Dayna Szyndrowski.

Afro Latin Cultural Exchange | Ritmo Latino performing in Centennial Square. Photo: Amadou Kane.

Amber Academy Youth Fine Arts Musical theatre production rehearsal. Photo: Keli Dunn.

Art Gallery of Greater Victoria | Cedar hat weaving workshop with Jessica Saul and Cheyanne Tinoco.

ArtisTREE Festival | Festival performer. Photo: Stasia Garraway.

Arts and Community Infrastructure Foundation. | Arts Spaces Forum panel.

Atomic Vaudeville | Jack Widow prepares in dressing room. Photo: Helene Cyr.

Aventa New Music | Screenshot of video recording *Aventa presents the music of Gilles Tremblay* (2021).

AVI Health and Community Services | *i am beauty* - one act verbatim opera workshop participants.

Ballet Victoria | Pater Nicholas-Taylor and Isabelle Jutras in *Belgian Songs*. Photo: Wendi Donaldson-Laird.

Bayanihan Cultural and Housing Soc. Tech work on *Sabay Sakay sa Alon* (Riding the Waves Together). Photo: Laila Pires.

BC Black History Awareness Soc. | Board and members at black history month launch event. Photo: Joshua Telfer.

BC Museums Assn. | Stock image. Photo: SeventyFour.

Belfry Theatre | *Behind the Moon* by Anosh Irani. Photo: Peter Pokorny.

Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre Soc. Around the World in 80 Days (2023). Photo: Jam Hamidi.

Campbell Bay Music Festival | *Live at the Lighthouse* audience. Photo: Sandra Henderson.

Caravan World Rhythms Soc. | Zakir Hussain Trio (2024). Photo: Sunny Gill.

CineVic | Member Meetup. Photo: Paula Raimondi.

Creative Momenta Soc. | Stock image. Photo: Science Photo Library.

Dance Victoria | Dancers of Damelahamid in *Raven Mother*. Photo: Chris Randle.

Deluge Contemporary Art | Sonja Ahlers *Make Art Like Me* zine workshop.

Early Music Society | Quicksilver baroque ensemble concert. Photo: William Jamieson.

Embrace Arts Fdn. | Performance in residence at Dance Victoria Studios. Photo: Dayna Szyndrowski.

Ethno Collective | Screenshot from @ethnofashiongala Instagram post.

Fifty Fifty Arts Collective | Laura Rosengren exhibition (2022).

Flamenco de la Isla Society | Flamenco pop-up event. Photo: Stan Boychuk.

Galiano Island Literary Festival | Poet Hari Alluri reading at Yellowhouse Art Centre. Photo: Kelsey Maclean.

Garden City Electronic Music Soc. Wonderment 2025 in Songhees Park Plaza. Photo: Michael Benneyworth.

Gay4Nature Collective | Victoria Baroque | Group cast photo in green room. Photo: Anna Bigland-Pritchard.

Greater Victoria Social Gathering Place Creativity and mental health workshop.

Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra GVOY violins rehearsal. Photo: Ron Dick.

Harmony Project Sooke | Beginner Strings program. Photo: Sheila Wincup.

Highland Heritage Park Soc. | Mufaro Marimba. Photo: Zhinoos Armstrong.

Hispanic Film Society of Victoria Volunteers at 15th annual Latin American and Spanish Film Week Festival. Photo: Dan Russek.

Impulse Theatre Soc. | *the soft spaces*. Photo: Amber Downie-Back.

Inter-Cultural Assn. of Greater Victoria Workshop participants creating tapestry weavings. Photo: Isabel Gonzales Quiroz.

Intrepid Theatre | Vivian Vanderpuss in *Mouthfull*. Photo: Courtney Z.

Island Chamber Winds Society | Pender Island concert. Photo: Rachel Lenkowski.

Island Sexual Health Soc. | Stock image. Photo: Karola G.

Jewish Community Centre of Victoria The Elliot Freedman Group performing at the Victoria International Jewish Film Festival. Photo: Deborah Bricks.

Kaleidoscope Theatre | Children's program at Kaleidoscope Performing Arts Studio. Photo: Veronica Bonderud.

La Societe Francophone de Victoria Noel Franco holiday market.

MediaNet | Collage workshop with Kemi Craig for *seeing ourselves*.

Ministry of Casual Living | *of body* exhibition visitors (2024). Photo: Sean Patrick Brennan.

Moms Against Racism (Canada) Cohort participant collage.

Newcombe Singers Assn. | Emily Carr String Quartet joins the Newcombe Singers *Ocean* concert. Photo: David Randall.

Noble Riot Dance Theatre Soc. | *The Cledon*. Photo: Dayna Szyndrowski.

Oak Bay Volunteer Services Soc. Stock image. Photo: Travelarium.

Open Space Arts Soc. | *Contemplating Change* installation. Photo: Kyra Kordoski.

Our Place Soc. | Women's Therapeutic Recovery Community Manger, Lee Sundquist with Music Therapist, Supriya Crocker.

Pacific Opera Victoria | The cast of *The Little Prince* by Rachel Portman.

Pandora Arts Collective | Artworks from the Collective group show.

Pender Island Pride Soc. | Pride parade on Pender island. Photo: Kenta Kikuchi.

Planet Earth Poetry | Poetry reading series. Photo: Sandy O'Reilly.

Ptarmigan Arts Soc. | Young violins at Mosaic Festival. Photo: Kenta Kikuchi.

Puente Theatre | Blood Wedding: The Forest Remembers. Photo: Helene Cyr.

SNAFU Dance Theatre Soc. | Michelle Naidu as The Butterfly in *New Earth Bandits 2*. Photo: Colin Smith.

Sooke Festival Soc. | Gord Phillips and Friends (2024). Photo: Lindsay Neilson.

Sooke Radio Society | Edward Milne Community School Recording Studio. Photo: Ashley Green.

Sooke Region Historical Society | RDC company performs zombie thriller dance at Sooke Region Museum.

Story Studio Writing Soc. | Stock image. Photo: Mojo_cp.

Story Theatre Productions Soc. | Favour Onwuka and Tenyah Indra in *Dreamweavers* by Adonis Critter King. Photo: Maad Studios.

Tah'lum Indigenous Artists Collective Gallery wall of collective's work. Photo: Teresa Vandermeer-Chasé.

Theatre Inconnu | Performance of Queen Maeve. Photo: Clayton Jevne.

Theatre SKAM | Zella Bones in *The Strange Hour: A Brunch Variety Show*. Photo: Sam Johnson.

Three on the Tree Productions | Magic Lake Lantern Festival dancer Erin Hinton. Photo: Kenta Kikuchi.

Township Community Arts Council Esquimalt Lantern Festival-goers. Photo: TCAC volunteer photographer.

Vancouver Island Caribbean Hub Grand Parade. Photo: Avinash Productions.

Vancouver Island Visual Arts | *The Weight of Absence* exhibition by Parvin Hasani. Photo: Logan Ford.

Veselka Ukrainian Dance | Dancer in Transcarpathian costume. Photo: Meghan Nicklin.

Victoria Arts Council | Poet Laureate Marie Metaphor performing at VAC fundraiser. Photo: VAC staff.

Victoria Baroque Players | Youth Orchestra Christmas concert. Photo: Eve Daniell.

Victoria BC Ska and Reggae Soc. Crowd at Ship Point for The Pharcyde and Sister Nancy. Photo: Colin Smith.

Victoria Children's Choir | Prelude Choir at the June Signature Concert. Photo: Carla Unger Photography.

Victoria Choral Soc. | Stock image. Photo: thirdman.

Victoria Conservatory of Music | Isidora Uhlman in The Spark to Flame concert. Photo: Megan Rose Wilson.

Victoria Downtown Residents Assn. Elise LeBlanc performing at Notes of Pride. Photo: Jade Chicorelli.

Victoria Festival of Authors | Shauntelle Dick-Charleson performing at spoken word concert. Photo: John Harley.

Victoria Film Festival | World premiere of Barbara Hager's *Forbidden Music*.

Victoria Guitar Soc. | Emma Rush in concert. Photo: Troy Serson.

Victoria Hospice Soc. | Music Therapist session. Photo: Liz Rubincam.

Victoria Jazz Soc. | Makaya McCraven at Wicket Hall. Photo: Vale Fortin.

Victoria On Stage | Legally Blonde Cast. Photo: Gord Ruff.

Victoria Poetry Project Soc. | Victorious Voices. Photo: Natasha Jade.

Victoria Pride Soc. | Audience and Dancers at Victoria Pride Festival in the Park. Photo: Colin Smith.

Victoria Shakespeare Soc. | Queer rendition of Romeo and Juliet. Photo: Courtney Zbitnev.

Victoria Summer Music Festival | Dover Quartet concert. Photo: David Zussman.

Victoria Symphony | Principal Flute Arin Sarkissian in performance at the Royal Theatre. Photo: Takumi Hayashi.

Victoria Women's Transition House Healing Through the Arts program participant artwork. Photo: Lina Losier.

View Royal Community Assn. | Stock Image. Photo: Seventyfour.

Vox Humana Chamber Choir | Choir in the Plaskett Telescope Observatory. Photo: Roman Kovalenko.

William Head on Stage | Zane's dance in *Baile de la Familia*. Photo: Helene Cyr.

Wonderheads | *The Storytelling Body* intensive. Photo: Kate Braidwood.

Xchanges Gallery | Nature printing workshop (2024). Photo: Jillan Valpy.

Yellowhouse Art Centre | *Sonic Youth* Workshop. Photo: Roksan Parfitt.

ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL 2025

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

Mandart Chan	Jedidjah Noomen
Rachel Ditor	Angelica Reid
Sue Donaldson - <i>Funding Chair</i>	Sarah Reid - <i>Chair</i>
Richard Gale	Jill Smillie
Christina Haska	Paballo Tsolo
Eli Mushumanski	Joanna Verano

ARTS COMMISSION 2025-2026

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

ESQUIMALT	Andrea Boardman / Meagan Brame
HIGHLANDS	Karel Roessingh
METCHOSIN	Sharie Epp / Steve Gray
OAK BAY	Carrie Smart
SAANICH	Colin Plant
SOOKE	Jeff Bateman
S. GULF ISLANDS	Paul Brent / Rob Fawcett
VICTORIA	Marianne Alto - <i>Chair</i>
VIEW ROYAL	Gery Lemon

CRD ARTS STAFF

Responsible for administering programs & providing support for regional arts decision-making

Abby Gibbs	Community Outreach Coordinator
Chris Gilpin	Arts Manager
Erin Sterling	Administrative Assistant



Three on the Tree Productions Society's Magic Lake Lantern Festival. Photo: Kenta Kikuchi.
Project Grant | Southern Gulf Islands



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