

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021



PHOTO CREDITS:

COVER:

- "Don't Forget to Count Your Blessings", Christina Hajjar, 2021. Photo by Taylor Buss.
- "Swan Lake", Royal Winnipeg Ballet, 2021, Dancers: Emilie Lewis, Yayoi Ban. Photo by Daniel Crump.
- "Katharsis 2", Prairie Theatre Exchange, Tracey Nepinak. Photo by Leif Norman.
- "Body and Light", Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers, Dancer: Mark Dela Cruz. Photo by Hugh Conacher.
- "Point 1A", Douglas Smith, 2020, pencil, pencil crayon on archival paper. Photo by Douglas Smith.
- "Shore", Douglas Smith, 2019, oil paint on birch panel. Photo by Leif Norman.

INSIDE COVER:

- "Magic Flute", Royal Winnipeg Ballet, 2021, Dancers: Alanna McArdie and Yosuke Mino. Photo by Daniel Crump.
- Winnipeg Art Gallery, Dene ceremony and prayers, 2021, L-R Daylin Hyslop, Victor Tsessaze, and Julia Lafreniere, WAG Head of Indigenous Initiatives. Photo by Lisa Meeches/Eagle Vision.
- Installation shot of "I'm Not Your Kinda Princess", an exhibition by Lori Blondeau at Plug In ICA. Photo courtesy of the organization.
- "Intramurale", Théâtre Cercle Molière, mural by Paetre Thomas. Photo by Buio Assis.

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- Rayannah performing at the West End Cultural Centre. Photo by Matt Duboff.
- "Balut Bison", Ellina Pe Benito, 2020, unfired clay.
- Still from "Ste. Anne" 2021, 16mm film still. Written directed and produced by Rhayne Vermette, credit to Kristiane Church & Amanda Kindzierski, image features Isabelle d'Eschambault and Rhayne Vermette.

PAGE 3:

- "Ash Tree Meta Mask (with corresponding tree)" installation detail, Connie Chappel, 2020, paper, glue, photographic print. Exhibition: "Through Distant Air"; Gallery: AllArtNow Lab, Stockholm, Sweden. Photo by: Katarina Eismann.
- "Space or Place", Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers, 2020, choreography: Jolene Bailie, dancer: Julious Gambalan. Photo by Leif Norman.

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- Installation shot of "Sadzeè / Time" by Casey Koyczan at Videopool Media Arts Centre, 2020. Photo courtesy of the organization.
- Ayumi Goto, "Sovereign Intimacies" group exhibition at Plug In ICA, 2020. Photo courtesy of the organization.

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- Elena Anciro. Photo courtesy of the artist.
- Michiko Singh. Photo courtesy of the artist.
- Jessie Januska. Photo courtesy of the artist.
- Hazel Venzon. Photo courtesy of the artist.

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- "Story of My Life: From Fisher's Peak to Daphne (Fisher) Odjig" by Joseph Sanchez, 2020, acrylic and conte on paper. Photo by Karen Asher, courtesy of Urban Shaman Gallery.
- "The Kiss" by PelmuSnowbird, 2021, digital video. Soundscape by Bret Parenteau. Photo by Robert Snowbird, courtesy of Theo Pelmus & Kris Snowbird.

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- Sidewalk Mural with Flora House. Photo by Annie Beach, courtesy of Graffiti Art Programming Inc.
- Installation shot of "Miskwaabik Animiiki / Copper Thunderbird", an exhibition of the works of Norval Morrisseau at Urban Shaman Gallery. Photo courtesy of the organization.
- Artwork collection of Westerkirk Works of Art, ON. Photo by Karen Asher, courtesy of Urban Shaman Gallery.

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- "One Gay City", Shawna Dempsey & Lorri Millan, 1997/2020, Donald Street at Broadway. School of Art, University of Manitoba, courtesy of School of Art Gallery.
- Papier-mâché mask created by a student of Highbury School. Photo courtesy of Alejandra Diaz Roman.
- Plé Collective. Photo by May Contain Studios, courtesy of the group.
- "Imagine" by Debra Plett, made together with Rosemarie Pélouin, 2020, needle felted wool hand, found cedar bark, three tue-mouche bindings using photo image transfer onto Zaansch Bord handmade paper for the covers, Strathmore drawing paper, linen thread.
- "Offering" by Debra Plett, made together with Rosemarie Pélouin, 2020, needle felted wool hands, modified pamphlets using aged Apache paper, found cedar bark, linen thread.
- "Destiny" by Franklin Fernando, 2021, acrylic on canvas. Photo courtesy of the artist.

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- Cameron Fraser-Monroe. Photo by Denis Duquette.
- Madeline Hildebrand. Photo courtesy of the artist.

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- Tasha Spillet. Photo by Red Works Studio.
- Team of volunteers at the African Movie Festival in Manitoba 2020. Photo courtesy of the Manitoba African Film Festival.

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- melannie monoceros. Photo by Mahlet Cuff.
- Lana Sinclair. Photo courtesy of the artist.
- Donna Besel. Photo courtesy of the artist.
- Still of Lana Sinclair's promotional vignette. Video by BNB Studios.
- ArtsJunktion. Photo courtesy of the organization.

INSIDE SPREAD:

- Vos idées en chanson, Le 100 NONS. Photo courtesy of the organization.
- "Santa Marta Platter", Ellina Pe Benito, 2020, ceramic.
- Roller disco, Théâtre Cercle Molière, 2020. Photo courtesy of the organization.
- Halloween Paint Party, Mid-West Arts Council. Photo courtesy of the organization.
- "Personate", Hayley Mummery. Photo by Miguel Fortier, courtesy of Théâtre Cercle Molière.
- Kristian Jordan. Photo by Leif Norman, courtesy of Prairie Theatre Exchange.
- Camera and lighting basics workshop with Quang Luong, Winnipeg Film Group. Photo by Vince Blais, courtesy of the organization.

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(until March 2021)

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Royal Winnipeg Ballet



Winnipeg Art Gallery

Vision

A Manitoba where arts and culture is at the heart of community life.

Purpose

The Manitoba Arts Council funds the creation and sharing of arts and culture for the benefit of all Manitobans.

Values

EQUITY

MAC strives for funding, programs, and policies that are equitable for all. We recognize that some groups face barriers and that achieving equity for these groups may require targeted measures.

DIVERSITY

MAC embraces the differences of all Manitobans and seeks to have this diversity represented in the work we support.

COLLABORATION

MAC seeks to develop partnerships to make efficient use of our resources, achieve common goals, and maximize our impact. We value a collaborative approach in the work of MAC funding recipients.

ACCOUNTABILITY

MAC actively listens to stakeholders and makes our decisions on behalf of the citizens of Manitoba.

CREATIVITY

MAC values the original expression of ideas in our work and the work we fund.

Mandate

The Manitoba Arts Council is an arm's-length agency of the Province of Manitoba, established in 1965 "to promote the study, enjoyment, production, and performance of works in the arts." The Council makes awards to professional arts organizations and individuals in all art forms including theatre, literature, dance, music, painting, sculpture, architecture or the graphic arts, and includes other similar creative or interpretative activity, including arts education.



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Land Acknowledgement

The Manitoba Arts Council acknowledges that it carries out its work on the land of Indigenous nations throughout Manitoba. Our office is located on Treaty 1 territory, the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabe, Ininew, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene Peoples and the homeland of the Metis Nation.

We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we recognize privilege disparities, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

Here at the Manitoba Arts Council we are committed to an approach that respects and recognizes the distinct worldview and creative culture of Indigenous communities, while aiming to make Indigenous artistic expression a source of pride for all Manitobans.



LETTER TO THE PREMIER



September 30, 2021

The Honourable Brian Pallister,
Premier and President of the Executive Council

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of *An Act to Establish the Manitoba Arts Council*, we present this report on behalf of the members of the Manitoba Arts Council, covering the activities of the Council from April 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021.

Sincerely,



Roberta Christianson
Chair, Manitoba Arts Council



Rayannah at the West End
Cultural Centre

Ellina Pe Benito



Rhayne Vermette

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Arts Council (MAC), it is my great pleasure to present the 2020-2021 Annual Report. No guidebook existed for a year like this but thankfully the fundamentals of good governance, along with a strong team, gave MAC a solid foundation on which to adapt and build.

Early in the year as the arts and cultural sector was reeling from an almost complete shutdown, it became clear that MAC's first order of business was to provide a measure of stability for our clients so they could weather the initial shock of the pandemic. MAC worked with government to advance payment to operating clients and to support individual artists, and reimagined programs for activities and projects that were no longer feasible.

As the agency of government that promotes the study, enjoyment, production, and performance of works in the arts, MAC has always enjoyed a close relationship with the Department of Sport, Culture and Heritage. This was more evident than ever this year, as MAC was asked to take the lead on establishing reopening protocols in the era of COVID-19, to assess arts and culture applications to government's new Safe at Home Manitoba program, to review reopening safety plans, and to deliver additional support through the Arts and Culture Sustainability Funds.

I thank our staff who have risen above the challenges in these new areas, and we appreciate the confidence that government has shown in MAC to assume new responsibilities and build on our leadership role in the sector.

Each year we operate within an annual budget framework and make minor adjustments to program budgets to respond to areas of increased demand. In 2020-2021, this was an ongoing exercise as we worked to support community needs. As public health orders and activity in the sector continued to change throughout the year, so did MAC's budget. This is reflected in our accompanying financial statements.

Working with our Executive Director to establish the strategic direction of MAC is one of the core responsibilities of our Board of Directors. As the pandemic took hold in Manitoba, we adapted our planning process to focus on the short-term and viewed every interaction with clients and stakeholders as an opportunity to receive important feedback that would help inform our roadmap for the next two years. Equity, community, and environmental sustainability emerged as the priorities to drive our new vision of "a Manitoba where arts and culture is at the heart of community life."

Thanks is due to our Board for their consistent and wise counsel throughout this most challenging year but especially in the development of our 2021-2023 Strategic Priorities. This is our guide as we embrace the work to find our way to a new, more equitable place of balance in a post-pandemic time.



Roberta Christianson
Chair, Manitoba Arts Council



Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers



Connie Chappel

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Artists and organizations had their worlds turned upside down by the pandemic in 2020-2021 and the precarity for many working in arts and culture was laid bare. Systemic racism and lack of equitable opportunities in our arts systems and institutions (including MAC) were exposed. Organizations scrambled to respond, and several began or accelerated work towards more equitable systems and spaces.

Among it all, artists created and organizations persevered. Thankfully, they found a way, as art was more important than ever in this year of isolation and uncertainty.

At MAC, staff went home, came back to the office, and went home again. Our Council met frequently and “Zoom fatigue” entered our vocabularies. Amid this turbulence, important work was done with a newfound nimbleness and in quantities never seen before at MAC.

Early in the year, MAC developed the micro-grant program Connecting at a Distance to quickly support artists to share their work while respecting physical distancing. It was developed in record time and, over two deadlines, supported 70 projects that showcased the creativity and innovation that is the hallmark of Manitoba artists. This early pivot set the tone for the year as almost everything at MAC was adapted in some manner, from moving to virtual peer assessment panels to shifting program budgets.

2020-2021 was the first year that MAC had responsibility for nine programs that were formerly administered by the Department of Sports, Culture and Heritage. Though we were not able to meet new clients in person as planned, there were many Zoom meetings, town halls and phone calls to welcome over 100 new organizations to MAC. The programs ran smoothly in this first year and the foundation is in place for their continued integration into MAC’s granting framework.

In the late fall, MAC was called upon by the Manitoba Government to assess arts and culture applications to its Safe at Home Manitoba program. This initiative supported artists and organizations to deliver programming for Manitobans to enjoy arts and culture from home. Over four weeks in December and January, MAC staff reviewed and assessed 469 applications to this program. It was an unprecedented volume of work in a short period of time, and I am proud of our staff for meeting the challenge to support the delivery of this important funding to the sector.

MAC heard the important calls for racial and social justice this year and there were many internal conversations about our role in creating an inequitable system and how to begin to do better. We sought guidance from BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour) artists and started our work at home with cultural competency training for staff. We also launched a leadership program for BIPOC arts leaders in partnership with the Winnipeg Foundation and released our 2021-2023 Strategic Priorities, which prominently features diversity and equity. There is much more to be done.

As we look back on 2020-2021, it is not yet clear how to contextualize this twelve-month period, when the calls for racial and social justice and the global pandemic that have defined it are ongoing. How do we reconcile the profound losses of the year with achievements that give us hope? How do we ensure that the hardships of the year lead to permanent, positive change?

I do not have all the answers, but I am grateful to be surrounded by Council and staff colleagues who showed remarkable adaptability, resilience, and commitment to our mission this year. I thank them for their dedication and know they are ready to tackle the questions ahead.



Randy Joynt
Executive Director, Manitoba Arts Council



Plug In ICA

ARTS LEADERS

In 2020, MAC announced a new program: Support – Arts Leaders, which supports building the capacity for leadership by individuals in Manitoba's arts and cultural sector who are Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Colour. This program is supported through a partnership agreement between MAC and The Winnipeg Foundation.

Meet a few of the recipients from our very first intake:

Elena Anciro

Actor and educator Elena Anciro will be completing a self-directed leadership skill development program to build upon her accessibility training and help make art in Manitoba more accessible for all. This program includes completing online courses, workshops and programs through Ryerson University, Centennial College, Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion, and Athabasca University.

"A great leader is a good listener and values diverse perspectives. They raise other people up and pursue long-term impact for the community instead of personal accolades."



Michiko Singh

Michiko Singh, a horn player currently playing with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, will be completing a 5-week course from Juilliard's Evening Division Professional Development Department on advancing anti-racist orchestra models, as well as three diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism courses from the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion, to become certified as a diversity consultant for performing arts organizations in Manitoba.

"A good leader listens to all voices and considers their perspectives when making decisions. A good leader can empathize with others."



Jessie Jannuska

Visual artist Jessie Jannuska will be completing a mentorship with Indigenous Knowledge Keeper Barb Blind in ribbon skirt making, hide tanning, ceremony, traditional medicine picking, beading, birchbark harvesting and the basics of the Anishinaabe language to carry these skills and teachings forward to future and current generations.

"My vision of leadership is that of an Indigenous one. I look up to my local elders/knowledge keepers like Barb Blind, Julia Brandon, and Frank Tacan; they possess qualities like humility, positivity, accountability, confidence and they inspire others."



Hazel Venzon

Actor, director, and producer Hazel Venzon will be completing a three-part self-directed leadership/mentorship program, learning about building a non-profit business, engaging with the Filipino artistic community in Manitoba and across the country, and defining and developing an art residency-exchange to better serve Manitoba's Filipino community through her production company, U 'N I Together.

"To me, leadership is being conscious about social constructions – gender, social class, sexuality, nationality and disability – and prioritizing activity that directly addresses equity in multiple ways."



1 in 3 MAC grants in the past year were awarded to BIPOC individuals

Based on 298 awards made to individuals in 2020-2021, 98 of which went to individuals identifying as BIPOC. Data about self-identification of MAC applicants, including as Black, Indigenous (First Nations, Metis, Inuit), or a person of colour (BIPOC), is based on profile information shared by individual applicants on a strictly voluntary basis. This information is not available to assessors who review applications. Because sharing this information with MAC is optional, we do not have a complete picture of the diversity represented by the applicants and we may be underestimating the true number of applicants in these categories.

ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE

MAC invests in the sustainable delivery of high quality and impactful arts programs and services in Manitoba by assisting in the general operations of established organizations in the arts and cultural sector. This past year, organizations faced challenges throughout the pandemic as many live events, performances, and workshops were postponed or cancelled.

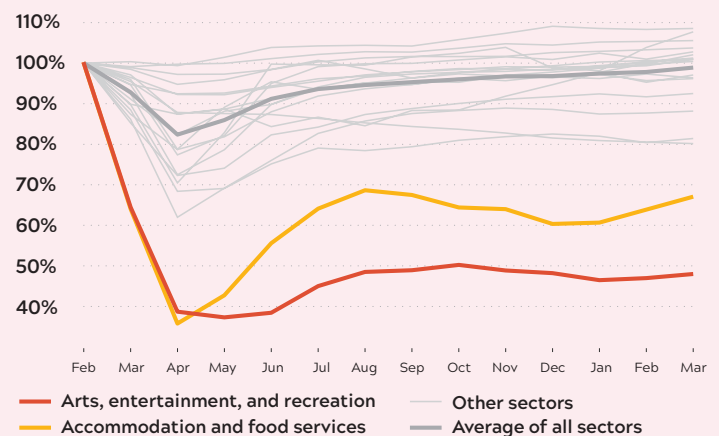
Compared to the economy as a whole, decline in the arts/culture sector has been more profound and recovery has been slower than in any other sector with the partial exception of the food and hospitality industry. As the graph shows, the income for the arts, entertainment, and recreation industry remained at about 50 per cent of pre-pandemic levels for most of last year, even as other sectors in the economy recovered. Many organizations have had to pivot drastically, showing incredible resourcefulness and creativity to ensure Manitobans have continued access to quality arts and culture.

Thanks to the Government of Manitoba's generous investment towards the sustainability of our province's arts and cultural sector, an additional \$6 million in funding will be available in 2021-2022 through the Arts and Culture Sustainability Funds to help Manitoba arts organizations weather the storm.

COVID-19 Impact on Arts and Culture

Revenue by Sector of the Economy

February 2020 - March 2021 (Feb 2020 = 100%)



Source: Statistics Canada, Table: 36-10-0434-01 – Gross domestic product (GDP) at basic prices, by industry, monthly.

Urban Shaman Contemporary Aboriginal Art

Support - Operate

Since its inception in 1996, artist-run centre Urban Shaman has been one of the foremost venues for Aboriginal artists in Canada and is a key voice in the discourse of contemporary Indigenous art regionally, nationally, and internationally.

This year, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Urban Shaman has continued its mission to meet the needs of Indigenous artists with support from an Operate grant, including virtual exhibitions, outreach with remote communities and reserves, and online projects.

"We are committed to challenging peoples' notions of 'Aboriginal art,' and while appreciating ancestral contributions, Urban Shaman focuses on promoting significant contemporary artists who continue to maintain a long tradition of image-making."

Urban Shaman
Contemporary Aboriginal Art



Graffiti Art Programming

Urban Arts Centres Operating Support

Founded in 1998, Graffiti Art Programming (GAP) in Winnipeg offers emerging young artists an opportunity to show their work at its Graffiti Gallery, as well as free programming, workshops, resources and more for children and youth. It also runs Studio 393, a free, youth-led arts and recording studio connecting emerging artists to each other and community organizations.

During the pandemic, GAP pivoted online with regular digital programming, teaching everything from dancing to beading, songwriting to podcasting, as well as distributing free art kits. Its outdoor gallery, the JPEG Gallery, has helped fulfill GAP's mission of platforming youth artists in a safe and physically distanced way.

Wasagaming Community Arts

Community Arts Council Operating Support

Wasagaming Community Arts Inc. (WCA) is a not-for-profit arts organization dedicated to serving the artistic communities of Riding Mountain National Park and beyond since 1970. Through its public art gallery, as well as its Members' Boutique, WCA supports and highlights artists both local and international.

Throughout 2020 and 2021, WCA continued hosting exhibitions, both in-person and online with video tours and photo galleries for visitors near and far. Over the winter, they held a series of video programs hosted by Manitoba artists and artisans, teaching everything from collaging to felting, from using pochoir to making bannock.

Comité culturel de St. Claude et Haywood

Comité Culturels Operating Support

The Comité Culturel de Saint-Claude et Haywood promotes the French-Canadian culture and language through local and regional programming.

This year, the Comité celebrated its 45th year with a number of virtual concerts, including an evening with Geneviève Toupin, a singer/songwriter who is originally from St. Claude and is now based out of Montreal.

Other programming included a digital Francophone Comedy tour and the virtual launch of singer/songwriter Jeannine Guyot's latest album. The latter brought in over 1150 viewers.

With their virtual programming, the Comité was able to reach a wider audience, attracting more participants than their in-person events.



Graffiti Art Programming

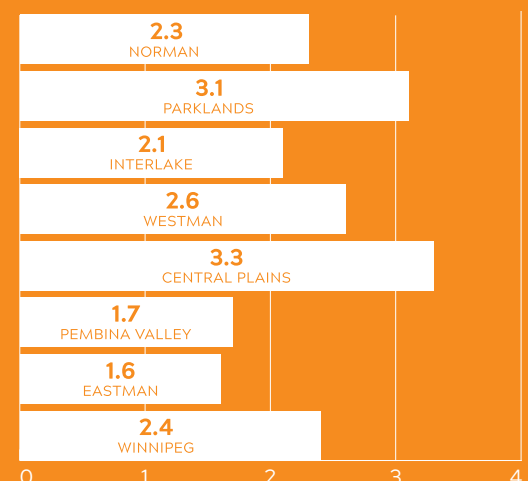


MAC's Reach Throughout the Province

MAC strives to create artistic opportunities for all Manitobans, no matter where they are in the province. We aim to serve the entire province, including communities who face barriers to accessing the arts because of their geographic location.

Based on reporting submitted to MAC during 2020-2021 for 285 projects. Regions based on census divisions used by Statistics Canada for the 2016 Census and on the Economic Regions defined by the Manitoba Bureau of Statistics.

NUMBER OF MAC-FUNDED PROJECTS PER 10,000 POPULATION



CONTINUING TO CREATE



School of Art Gallery

School of Art Gallery

Share - Present

Last year, with support from a Present grant, the University of Manitoba's School of Art Gallery (SOAG) revived a decades-old project: "Winnipeg: One Gay City!", a series of tongue-in-cheek prints by Shawna Dempsey and Lorri Millan designed in the 90's for transit shelters that celebrated Winnipeg's 2SLGBTQ+ community, and revamped it as "One Queer City."

Dempsey and Millan's prints, as well as prints by Jean Borbridge, Mahlet Cuff, Dayna Danger, Ally Gonzalo and Larry Glawson, were installed in transit shelters from November 2020 to February 2021, showcasing different splendid facets of Winnipeg's queer community.

"For queer and racialized people, expressions of joy are acts of resistance, and it is SOAG's hope that viewers will find both levity and power in these celebratory images of resilient, radiant queers."

Plé Collective

Share - Present

The Plé Collective, comprising four Winnipeg artists (Shannon Guile, Joanna Hawkins, Laura Lussier and Andraea Sartison), produced a virtual show for elementary-aged audiences, performed simultaneously in English, French, and American Sign Language for an inclusive, barrier-free experience.

Presented by Manitoba Theatre for Young People, Plé's accessible and entertaining production was performed for schools via livestream, filmed and released on-demand, and enjoyed by children and families across Manitoba, speaking to how our need for communication brings us all together.

"Plé is a revolutionary and innovative, trilingual, theatrical experience that has the power to build bridges between hearing and Deaf communities, and to transform audiences' knowledge and curiosity about other languages and cultures."

Alejandra Diaz Roman

Learn - Artists in Schools

In partnership with Highbury School in Winnipeg, visual artist Alejandra Diaz Roman hosted a two-week papier-mâché project through the Artists in the Schools program.

Despite planning for an in-class project, Alejandra pivoted online, teaching the grade 7 and 8 students of Highbury School how to create their own papier-mâché masks based on a classical figure from Greek and Roman mythology, all done over video chat.

"I believe in the power of collaboration with teachers, helping them to plan and develop projects that will reinforce their students' learning and stimulate their creativity, and I am so grateful to have learned so many things from every single student. They make me a better artist and a better person."



Alejandra Diaz Roman



Plé Collective

Franklin Fernando

Share - Connecting at a Distance

Visual artist and musician Franklin Fernando created an original painting, recorded the process, and compiled the clips into a time-lapse video with support from a Connecting at a Distance grant.

Born in Winnipeg but raised in Sri Lanka for most of his youth, Franklin creates large-scale murals and oil paintings that capture and interpret portraits, landscapes, and political messaging. The work created with this grant, called "Destiny," is a thought-provoking art piece envisioning a post-COVID world full of beauty, chaos, and hope.

"Life is full of choices and we become who we are with the choices we make. I have chosen to be an artist and it is my purpose to share a message through art."



Franklin Fernando

Debra Plett and Rosemarie Péloquin

Share - Connecting at a Distance

With support from a Connecting at a Distance grant, visual and craft artists Debra Plett and Rosemarie Péloquin collaborated to create "To Have and To Hold," a series of sculptural pieces that combine the former's hand-bound cedar bark books with the latter's needle-felted hands.

The project, speaking to the longing for touch in a time of isolation, bridges the gaps between softness and roughage, urban and rural, and different cultures and languages.

"Before the pandemic we began our initial exploration of these ideas in person at my home studio. As the pandemic shifted our ability to meet in person, we switched to FaceTime and email, then to porch hand-offs. We have discovered meaningful ways to connect and communicate and have come to appreciate the slow process of creating together while separate."

Debra Plett and Rosemarie Péloquin



38%

of applications listed at least one collaborator.

169

applications were received in MAC's new Share - Connecting at a Distance program.

70

micro-grants were awarded through this program to individuals to create and share their work while observing social distancing protocols during the COVID-19 pandemic.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS



Cameron Fraser-Monroe



Madeline Hildebrand

Cameron Fraser-Monroe Create

With support from a Create grant, dancer Cameron Fraser-Monroe created new work with the Summer Dance Collective: a seasonal ensemble of seven artists, all connected to the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

During the summer of 2020, this artist-led collective hosted pop-up performances in collaboration with Downtown Winnipeg BIZ and The Beer Can, presented a preview of their upcoming dance film "Rail Against" at Nuit Blanche, and more, performing original work by three of the six dancers.

"Pushing what is possible on hard floors, dusty streets, and varied elevations is an exciting challenge contrasting with the hyper controlled environment of ballet...You gain a whole new perspective on choreography and performance when you have viewers 360 degrees around you as we often do in the project."

Madeline Hildebrand Recognize - Scholarships

With support from a Scholarships grant, Madeline Hildebrand is pursuing a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Piano Performance at Stony Brook University. Through the program, she is studying the global composers of her generation and programming innovative Canadian composers in her recitals as part of her thesis.

Originally from rural Manitoba, Madeline's piano career has taken her throughout Manitoba and beyond. She has shared her knowledge of piano pedagogy with students at Brandon University, Canadian Mennonite University, Manitoba Conservatory of Music and Arts, and more.

"It is my career aspiration to further my development as an artist in hopes of impacting my music community both here and abroad through concerts, teaching, collaboration, and events coordination while keeping Manitoba's composers front of mind."

Manitoba Cultural Society of the Deaf Share - Artists in Communities

Manitoba Cultural Society for the Deaf (MCSD) is offering an opportunity for Deaf and Hard of Hearing dancers to practice their art form with full consideration of their physical, linguistic, and cultural expectations.

As part of its project "A New Rhythm: Teaching Dance Beyond Sound," MCSD is developing a series of jazz, hip hop, and contemporary dance classes in partnership with Dance Manitoba. Class content and teaching strategies have been developed into video manuals that will be shared on the MCSD and Dance Manitoba's websites available to anyone.

"There are opportunities in Manitoba for Deaf dancers to access communication accommodations in dance classes, but it is seldom they get opportunities to access a class that takes into account the very different relationship a Deaf dancer has with rhythm, vibration and dance. This project teaches dance teachers about this relationship so they better understand what strategies work best in teaching deaf students and why."

194

applications received were submitted by first-time applicants.

33%

of applications listed more than one artistic discipline as relevant.

17.6%

of individuals with a profile in MAC's online application system identify as First Nations, Metis, or Inuit.

Profile information shared by clients on a voluntary basis - this information is not seen by assessors who review applications. Note: In 2016, 17.4% of Manitoban census respondents identified as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit.

Tasha Spillett

Indigenous 360 - Create

Poet and Indigenous Knowledge Keeper Tasha Spillett is working on a poetry and spoken word project entitled "The World Will Be Reborn" that will take both written form and be recorded over music to create an extended play (EP).

She notes that with the current global pandemic, this project is of even greater importance as parents are navigating birthing and parenting in isolation, which is in stark contrast to traditional Indigenous ways of birthing and parenting communally.

"This project will highlight the experiences, hopes and heartaches of myself, an Afro-Indigenous woman, navigating being a new mother in the midst of a global pandemic and in the continued throws of colonial, racialized, and gender-based violence."



Tasha Spillett

Manitoba African Film Festival

Share - Artists in Communities

The 3rd Annual African Movie Festival in Manitoba 2020 welcomed over 150 attendees and screened documentaries, shorts, features, and animation from 7 African countries.

"This year, we planned twice and executed the event once – taking us in a surprising but positive direction. The result: one of the best events we ever hosted!"

As part of the Festival, the Manitoba African Film Festival (MAFF) ran the Filmmaking Master Class, an intro to filmmaking workshop for inner city youth, in partnership with African Communities of Manitoba Inc.

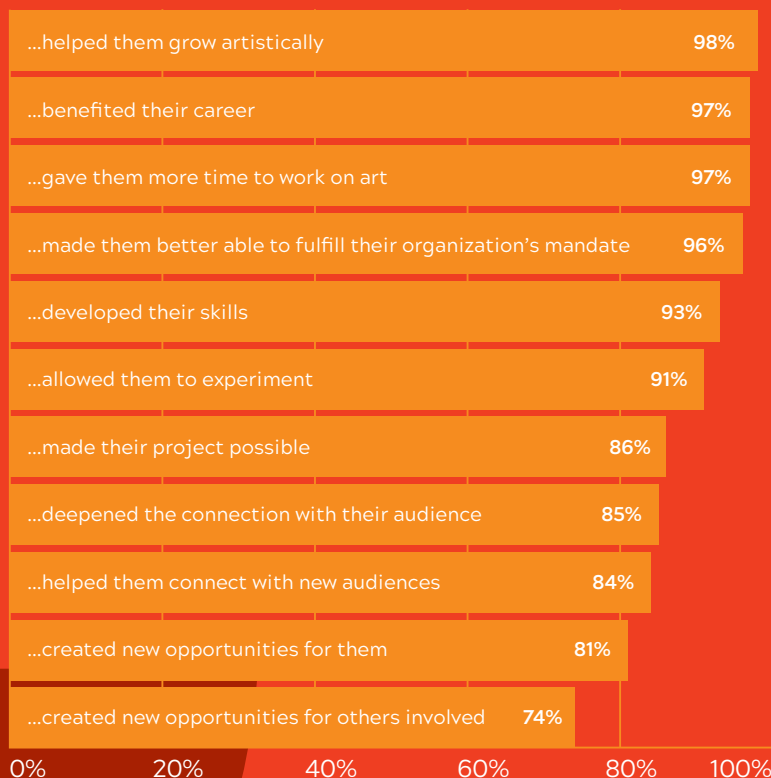
Beyond presenting films, the Festival creates a platform for dialogue on important social issues. This year, the MAFF opened a dialogue on "Cinema and the representation of blackness" following the global calls for diversity and equality associated with the murder of George Floyd.



Manitoba African Film Festival

Impact of MAC Project Funding

Percentage of respondents who (strongly) agree that the grant they received...



0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Source: Based on reporting submitted to MAC during 2020-2021 for 285 projects.

2021 PRIZES IN THE ARTS

In 2021, MAC announced the four recipients of the Prizes in the Arts program.

Each recipient was nominated by a member of the Manitoba arts community, and received a \$10,000 award.

Following public health orders, this year's event was held online, and recipients were announced via a premiered video on Facebook and YouTube. MAC also partnered with Winnipeg-based video production team BNB Studios to record four video vignettes, featuring each prize recipient and their artistic career.

melannie monoceros

2021 Emerging Excellence Prize

Recognizing emerging artists for their achievements and potential.

melannie monoceros is a poet and interdisciplinary artist exploring polysensory production and somatic grief through text/ile. Their work considers the collective grip (queer+crip) consciousness by connecting to marvelous bodies living with complexity as sick or disabled. A Black creator of Taino and Arawak heritage, they live in Treaty 1/Winnipeg. In 2019, melannie was awarded the JRG Emerging Artist Award for their continued pursuit, integrating technology and accessibility through film via their series "ancestoradio". melannie's work was hosted by Gallery 1C03, Window Gallery, and the C2 Centre for Craft, Manitoba Craft Council (Winnipeg) in 2020 and can be found at the School of Art Gallery at the University of Manitoba in 2021.

"With this award, I look forward to deepening my commitments to care and rest as essential practices for survival and sustainability, as well as continued intersectional, interdependent relationship building and access to the arts through slow, crip-centered creation and experience."

Lana Sinclair

2021 Indigenous Full Circle Prize

Recognizing Indigenous artists or Knowledge Keepers for their achievements.

Lana Sinclair is a fashion designer, Indigenous Knowledge Keeper and teacher based in Winnipeg. Originally from Fisher River Cree Nation, Lana combines haute couture designs with traditional materials such as leather, hide, beadwork, and furs. For over 25 years, Lana has presented her work at fashion shows, exhibitions and gatherings across Manitoba. She has shared her knowledge of traditional practices – taught by her Elders, grandmothers and grandfathers – with dozens of schools and youth workshops over the past two decades with organizations including Art City, New Directions, Ndinawe Youth Resource Centre, and more.

"Giving back the knowledge of our culture is a big part of who we are, and our land, respect for Mother Earth, the water, sky – that's my focus, is to keep the knowledge alive through arts and the traditional culture within our way of life, which was lost."



melannie monoceros

Lana Sinclair

Donna Besel

2021 Rural Recognition Prize

Recognizing rural artists, arts groups, or arts organizations for their achievements.

Donna Besel loves writing of all kinds, and does presentations for schools, libraries, universities, conferences, and retreats. The forests of Eastern Manitoba, where she has always lived, provide endless ideas and settings for her “boreal stories.” Her work has gained recognition from CBC Literary Awards and won national contests. A collection of short stories, *Lessons from a Nude Man*, earned two nominations for Manitoba Book Awards and a spot on McNally Robinson’s annual bestseller list. Recently, Prairie Fire Magazine awarded her story, “A Bay Filly,” first place in their annual nonfiction contest. Her memoir, *The Unravelling*, will be available in the fall of 2021.

“The thing about all of those taboos and all of those traumatic things is, people try to avoid it, and what happens is it becomes more stigmatized, more taboo, it’s harder to talk about. So my goal in life is to make them less unspeakable and more accessible.”



Donna Besel

ArtsJunktion

2021 Connecting Creative Communities Prize

Recognizing professional arts groups and organizations for exceptional collaboration.

ArtsJunktion MB Inc. is a community-based, charitable organization committed to redistributing reusable materials made available via a take-what-you-need, pay-what-you-can basis. Its mandate is to support the creative community by providing accessible materials and a creative space; provide art workshops with an emphasis on repurposed materials; and to support artists through promotion of their art and through fairly paid employment opportunities. ArtsJunktion also works to reduce landfill waste by receiving materials from businesses, organizations and individuals for distribution to the public, and to increase environmental awareness through community engagement and programming. ArtsJunktion seeks to provide a safe and inclusive space for all community members, and to support its neighbourhood, city, and province through vibrant, reciprocal partnerships. ArtsJunktion is located on Treaty One Territory and the homeland of the Metis Nation, and is committed to the work of reconciliation.

“The really magical thing here at the depot is seeing the community and people just coming to paint their canvases, they’re coming to make their creations, and then going out and selling their art in this neighbourhood, and I think that’s a sense of mutual aid that we offer and support, and creating a space where people can come as they are.”



Lana Sinclair



ArtsJunktion

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management's Responsibility for Financial Reporting

The accompanying financial statements are the responsibility of management of Manitoba Arts Council and have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards as issued by the Public Sector Accounting Board. In management's opinion, the financial statements have been properly prepared within reasonable limits of materiality, incorporating management's best judgments regarding all necessary estimates and data available as at the date of approval of the financial statements. The financial statements have been reviewed by the Audit and Finance Committee and approved by Council on June 29, 2021.

Management maintains internal controls to properly safeguard the assets of Manitoba Arts Council and to provide reasonable assurance that the books and records from which the financial statements are derived accurately reflect all transactions and that established policies and procedures are followed.

The financial statements of Manitoba Arts Council have been audited by Magnus LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, independent external auditors. The responsibility of the auditor is to express an independent opinion on whether the financial statements of Manitoba Arts Council are fairly presented, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards. The Independent Auditor's Report outlines the scope of the audit examination and provides the audit opinion on the financial statements.

On behalf of Management of Manitoba Arts Council,



Randy Joynt
Executive Director



Bridget Hartwich
Senior Accountant

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of the Council of Manitoba Arts Council

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Manitoba Arts Council (the "Council"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2021, and the statements of operations, change in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2021, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

BASIS FOR OPINION

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

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

Magnus LLP Chartered Professional Accountants





June 29, 2021
Winnipeg, Canada

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2021

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 949,663	\$ 550,131
Accounts receivable (Note 4)	5,750,016	26,233
Portfolio investments (Note 5)	221,687	221,070
Recoverable from the Province of Manitoba (Note 7)	36,000	36,000
	6,957,366	833,434
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 6)	136,430	96,792
Commitments for grants and programs	501,535	80,608
Employee future benefits (Note 7)	125,672	111,742
Sustainability funding (Note 8)	5,750,000	-
	6,513,637	289,142
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	443,729	544,292
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets (Note 9)	295,502	67,900
Prepaid expenses	1,955	1,955
	297,457	69,855
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$ 741,186	\$ 614,147
Designated assets (Notes 4 and 7) - Collections (Note 10) - Commitments (Note 11)		
Approved on behalf of Council:		
	Council Chair	Audit and Finance Committee Chair

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2021

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
REVENUE:			
Province of Manitoba - operating and other grants	\$ 9,748,775	\$ 9,778,775	\$ 9,796,900
Province of Manitoba - Arts Branch funding	2,624,385	2,624,325	-
Province of Manitoba - Department of Education	20,000	-	20,000
Partnerships and other contributions	46,000	115,096	19,213
Investment income	20,000	3,050	32,604
	12,459,160	12,521,246	9,868,717
EXPENSES:			
Grants:			
Create (Schedule 1)	748,000	807,596	597,077
Share (Schedule 1)	922,400	940,979	887,814
Support (Schedule 1)	5,945,040	5,982,813	5,881,215
Learn (Schedule 1)	304,560	242,933	661,441
Indigenous 360 (Schedule 1)	200,000	216,838	127,771
Recognize (Schedule 1)	122,000	121,100	135,500
	8,242,000	8,312,259	8,290,818
Arts Branch Program grants (Schedule 2)	2,504,385	2,499,766	-
	10,746,385	10,812,025	8,290,818
Arts community services (Schedule 3)	145,208	105,917	145,420
Administration (Schedule 3)	1,567,567	1,476,265	1,486,938
Total expenses	12,459,160	12,394,207	9,923,176
NET OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	-	127,039	(54,459)
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year	-	614,147	668,606
Accumulated surplus, end of year	\$ -	\$ 741,186	\$ 614,147

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Net operating surplus (deficit) for the year	\$ -	\$ 127,039	\$ (54,459)
Tangible capital assets:			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	-	(285,525)	(10,721)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	58,000	57,923	66,835
Net acquisition of tangible capital assets	58,000	(227,602)	56,114
Other non-financial assets:			
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	-	-	9,300
Net acquisition of other non-financial assets	-	-	9,300
Increase (decrease) in net financial assets	58,000	(100,563)	10,955
Net financial assets, beginning of year	-	544,292	533,337
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ -	\$ 443,729	\$ 544,292

Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

Year ended March 31, 2021

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Cash provided by (applied to)		
Operating activities:		
Net operating surplus (deficit) for the year	\$ 127,039	\$ (54,459)
Adjustment for:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	57,923	66,835
	184,962	12,376
Changes in the following:		
Accounts receivable	(5,723,783)	(20,863)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	39,638	(12,427)
Commitments for grants and programs	420,927	(432,029)
Sustainability funding	5,750,000	-
Employee future benefits	13,930	(11,182)
Prepaid expenses	-	9,300
Cash provided by (applied to) operating activities	685,674	(454,825)
Investing activities:		
Change in portfolio investments	(617)	(3,525)
Cash (applied to) investing activities	(617)	(3,525)
Capital activities:		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(285,525)	(10,721)
Cash (applied to) capital activities	(285,525)	(10,721)
Change in cash and cash equivalents	399,532	(469,071)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	550,131	1,019,202
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 949,663	\$ 550,131

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2021

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2021

1. NATURE OF ORGANIZATION

The *Arts Council Act* established the Manitoba Arts Council (the "Council") in 1965 as an arm's length agency of the Province of Manitoba to "promote the study, enjoyment, production, and performance of works in the arts."

The Council provides awards to professional arts organizations and individuals in all art forms including theatre, literature, music, dance, painting, sculpture, architecture or the graphic arts and includes other similar creative or interpretative activity, including arts education.

The Council is a registered charity (Public Foundation) and, as such, is exempt from income taxes pursuant to *The Income Tax Act* (Canada).

2. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards which are Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for the public sector as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Revenue

Government transfers

Government transfers without eligibility criteria or stipulations are recognized as revenue when the transfer is authorized.

Government transfers with eligibility criteria but without stipulations are recognized as revenue when the transfer is authorized and all eligibility criteria have been met.

Government transfers with or without eligibility criteria but with stipulations are recognized as revenue in the period the transfer is authorized and all eligibility criteria have been met, except when and to the extent that the transfer gives rise to a liability.

Partnerships and other contributions

Revenue from partnerships and other contributions is recognized on the accrual basis in accordance with the underlying agreements.

Investment income

Investment income is recognized on the accrual basis.

(b) Expenses

All expenses incurred for goods and services are recorded on the accrual basis when the related goods or services are received.

(c) Financial assets

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and short term deposits and investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are recorded at the lower of cost and net realizable value. An allowance for doubtful accounts is recorded when there is uncertainty whether the amounts will be collected.

Portfolio investments

Portfolio investments are investments and deposits with original maturities of more than three months. These investments are recognized at cost.

(d) Liabilities

Liabilities are present obligations as a result of transactions and events occurring at or prior to the end of the fiscal year the settlement of which will result in the future transfer or use of assets or other form of settlement. Liabilities are recognized when there is an appropriate basis of measurement and a reasonable estimate can be made of the amount involved.

(e) Commitments for grants and programs

Grants and program commitments are recognized as expenses when the awards are formally approved and committed by the Council. Commencing with the year ended March 31, 2021, cancellations of prior year grant expenses are credited to the respective grant expense category in the year of cancellation; previously, any cancellations were separately presented as rescinded grants on the statement of operations. This change was applied retrospectively to the comparative information included in these financial statements - see Schedule 1.

(f) Non-financial assets

Non-financial assets do not normally provide resources to discharge existing liabilities of the Council. These assets are normally employed to provide future services.

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recognized at cost. Cost includes the purchase price as well as other acquisition costs. The costs of tangible capital assets, less any residual value, are amortized over their estimated useful lives as follows:

	Method	Rate
Office furniture and equipment	Straight-line	5-10 years
Computer hardware and software	Straight-line	3 years
Leasehold improvements	Straight-line	Term of lease

Prepaid expenses

Prepaid expenses are payments for goods or services which will provide economic benefits in future periods. The prepaid amount is recognized as an expense in the period the goods or services are consumed.

(g) Collections of musical instruments and works of visual art

The Council has collections of musical instruments and works of visual art which are not recognized in these financial statements in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards. See Note 10 for information relating to the Council's collections.

(h) Financial instruments - measurement

Financial instruments are classified into one of two measurement categories: (a) fair value; or (b) cost or amortized cost.

The Council records its financial assets at cost, which include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, portfolio investments and recoverable from the Province of Manitoba. The Council also records its financial liabilities at cost, which include accounts payable and accrued liabilities and commitments for grants and programs.

Gains and losses on financial instruments measured at cost or amortized cost are recognized in the statement of operations in the period the gain or loss occurs. Gains and losses on financial instruments measured at fair value, if any, are recorded in accumulated surplus as remeasurement gains and losses until realized; upon disposition of the financial instruments, the cumulative remeasurement gains and losses are reclassified to the statement of operations.

(i) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. These estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are recognized in the period they become known. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

4. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	2021	2020
Province of Manitoba	\$ 5,750,000	\$ 20,000
Accrued interest	16	1,233
Other receivables	-	5,000
	<u>\$ 5,750,016</u>	<u>\$ 26,233</u>

As at March 31, 2021, amounts due from the Province of Manitoba are from the Department of Sport, Culture and Heritage to support the sustainability of Manitoba's arts and culture sector through the COVID-19 pandemic to foster resilience and provide support for safely restoring services and activities - see also Note 8. As at March 31, 2020, amounts due from the Province of Manitoba are from the Department of Education in support of the Artists in Schools project.

5. PORTFOLIO INVESTMENTS

As at March 31, 2021, the market value of the Council's investments was equal to cost of \$221,687 (2020 - \$221,070).

6. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	2021	2020
Trade payables and accrued liabilities	\$ 38,565	\$ 17,827
Wages Payable	12,142	6,377
Accrued vacation entitlements	84,722	69,204
Accrued overtime entitlements	1,001	2,453
Other accruals	-	931
	<u>\$ 136,430</u>	<u>\$ 96,792</u>

7. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITSPension Benefits

Employees of the Council are provided pension benefits as a result of the participation of its eligible employees in the *Civil Service Superannuation Act (CSSA)*. The Council participates on a fully funded basis and its contributions of \$63,486 (2020 - \$57,982) represents the total pension expense for the year. Pursuant to the CSSA, the Council has no further liability for pension benefits as at year end.

Severance Liability

Effective March 31, 1999, Manitoba Arts Council, as a Crown organization, is required to record a severance liability. The Province of Manitoba has recognized an opening liability of \$36,000 as at April 1, 1998 and the Council has recorded a corresponding recoverable from the Province. This recoverable from the Province is designated for future severance obligations of the Council. Any subsequent changes to the severance liability is the responsibility of the Council.

As at March 31, 2021, the Council recorded a severance liability of \$125,672 (2020 - \$111,742) based on the provisions of its Employee Handbook and management's best assumptions regarding severance rates and compensation increases. The assumptions used parallel those used by the Province of Manitoba and include a 3.2% (2020 - 3.8%) rate of return and 3.50% (2020 - 3.75%) annual salary increases. The liability is based on actuarial calculations and is updated annually based on a formula included in the most recent actuarial valuation dated December 31, 2019. The periodic actuarial valuations of this liability may determine that adjustments are needed when actual experience is different than expected or when there are changes in the actuarial assumptions used. The resulting actuarial gains or losses are amortized over the expected average remaining service life of the employee group of 15 years (2020 - 15 years).

The severance liability as at March 31 includes the following components:

	2021	2020
Severance liability, beginning of year	\$ 104,542	\$ 115,124
Actuarial (gain)	(7,215)	-
Interest cost	3,114	4,375
Current service cost	11,911	10,032
Severance benefits paid during the year	-	(24,989)
	<u>112,352</u>	<u>104,542</u>
Plus: unamortized actuarial gains	13,320	7,200
Severance liability, end of year	<u>\$ 125,672</u>	<u>\$ 111,742</u>

Total severance benefits paid during the year ended March 31, 2021 were \$nil (2020 - \$24,989).

8. SUSTAINABILITY FUNDING LIABILITY

Effective March 31, 2021, the Council was authorized to receive a transfer of \$5,750,000 from the Province of Manitoba, Department of Sport, Culture and Heritage to support the sustainability of Manitoba's arts and culture sector through the COVID-19 pandemic to foster resilience and provide support for safely restoring services and activities. A stipulation of this transfer was that this funding be expended during the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022; therefore, as at March 31, 2021, the Council has recorded a liability for these amounts which will be expended in the form of sustainability grants less \$50,000 for administration during the year ending March 31, 2022.

9. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	2021			
	Opening Balance	Additions	Disposals	Closing Balance
Cost				
Office furniture and equipment	\$ 140,979	\$ 44,787	\$ -	\$ 185,766
Computer hardware and software	713,617	-	-	713,617
Leasehold Improvements	-	240,738	-	240,738
	\$ 854,596	\$ 285,525	\$ -	\$ 1,140,121
Accumulated Amortization				
Office furniture and equipment	\$ (134,980)	\$ (1,450)	\$ -	\$ (136,430)
Computer hardware and software	(651,716)	(56,473)	-	(708,189)
	\$ (786,696)	\$ (57,923)	\$ -	\$ (844,619)
Net book value	\$ 67,900	\$ 227,602		\$ 295, 502

As at March 31, 2021, the total net book value of tangible capital assets not subject to amortization is \$285,525 (2020 - \$nil). Amortization will commence once the leasehold improvements are complete and the assets are in use.

	2020			
	Opening Balance	Additions	Disposals	Closing Balance
Cost				
Office furniture and equipment	\$ 133,730	\$ 7,249	\$ -	\$ 140,979
Computer hardware and software	710,145	3,472	-	713,617
	\$ 843,875	\$ 10,721	\$ -	\$ 854,596
Accumulated Amortization				
Office furniture and equipment	\$ (133,530)	\$ (1,450)	\$ -	\$ (134,980)
Computer hardware and software	(586,331)	(65,385)	-	(651,716)
	\$ (719,861)	\$ (66,835)	\$ -	\$ (786,696)
Net book value	\$ 124,014	\$ (56,114)	\$ -	\$ 67,900

10. COLLECTIONS

Works of visual art

The Council's collection of works of visual art is comprised of 399 pieces of art currently in the care of the Arts Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba in Brandon, Manitoba and at the Council's Winnipeg, Manitoba office. There were no acquisitions or disposals of collection items during the year (2020 \$nil). Total expenditures on collection items during the year amounted to \$nil (2020 - \$nil). The most recent appraisal of the Council's visual art collection was completed in 2005 indicating a market value of \$449,222. No amounts relating to these collection items are recognized in these financial statements.

Musical instruments

The Manitoba Arts Council jointly owns a collection of stringed instruments with the Universities of Manitoba and Brandon Schools of Music which are for the exclusive use of the students. There were no acquisitions, disposals or expenditures on stringed instruments during the year (2020 - \$nil). The most recent valuation of these instruments was completed in 2015 indicating a value of \$424,770. No amounts relating to these collection items are recognized in these financial statements.

11. COMMITMENTS

During the year ended March 31, 2021, the Council entered into a lease amendment and renewal agreement with its previous landlord for leased office premises amending the space leased and effective dates of the lease for a ten year term commencing March 1, 2021 and ending February 28, 2031. The basic annual rent pursuant to this amended agreement for the period March 1, 2021 to February 28, 2026 is \$108,885 with the basic annual rent increasing to \$115,290 for the period March 1, 2026 to February 28, 2031. Expenses arising from an escalation clause for taxes, insurance, utilities and building maintenance are in addition to the basic rent.

12. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Council does not have any significant financial instruments subsequently measured at fair value or denominated in a foreign currency therefore the Council did not incur any remeasurement gains or losses during the year (2020 - \$nil).

Financial risk management – overview

The Council has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments: credit risk; liquidity risk; market risk; interest risk; and foreign currency risk.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument fails to discharge an obligation and causes financial loss to another party. Financial instruments which potentially subject the Council to credit risk are cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, recoverable from the Province of Manitoba and portfolio investments.

The maximum exposure of the Council to credit risk at March 31 is:

	2021	2020
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 949,663	\$ 550,131
Accounts receivable	5,750,016	26,233
Portfolio investments	221,687	221,070
Recoverable from the Province of Manitoba	36,000	36,000
	\$ 6,957,366	\$ 833,434

Cash and cash equivalents and portfolio investments:

The Council is not exposed to significant credit risk as these amounts are held by a reputable Canadian financial institution and by the Minister of Finance.

Accounts receivable:

The Council is not exposed to significant credit risk as the balance is primarily due from the Province of Manitoba or other government organizations and payment in full is typically collected when due. The Council manages this credit risk through close monitoring of any overdue accounts.

The Council establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts that represents its estimate of potential credit losses. The allowance for doubtful accounts is based on management's estimates and assumptions regarding current market conditions, customer analysis and historical payment trends. These factors are considered when determining whether past due accounts are allowed for or written off. The balance in the allowance for doubtful accounts as at March 31, 2021 is \$nil (2020 - \$nil).

As at March 31, 2021, the aging of accounts receivable balances is \$5,750,016 current (2020 – \$6,233 current and \$20,000 greater than 90 days).

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they come due.

The Council manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate cash balances and by review from the Province of Manitoba to ensure adequate funding will be received to meet its obligations.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as interest rates and foreign exchange rates, will affect the Council's net income (loss) or the fair values of its financial instruments.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The interest rate exposure relates to cash and cash equivalents and portfolio investments.

The interest rate risk on cash and cash equivalents is considered to be low because of their short-term nature. The interest rate risk on portfolio investments is considered low as the original deposits are reinvested at rates for investments with similar terms and conditions.

Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Council is not exposed to significant foreign currency risk as it does not have any significant financial instruments denominated in a foreign currency.

13. COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS

During March of 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. The situation is dynamic and the ultimate duration and magnitude of the impact on the economy and the financial effect on the Council's operations is unknown. Management is of the opinion that financial implications, if any, will be temporary and will not have a significant long-term impact on the Council's operations. As at the date of approval of these financial statements, the most significant financial implications include additional partnership and other contributions and other sources of funding in order to provide pandemic relief and related support in the form of grants to other eligible organizations in the arts and culture sector.

14. COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Certain of the amounts from the year ended March 31, 2020 have been reclassified to conform to the financial statement presentation adopted for the current year.

Schedule of Grants Expenses (Schedule 1)

Year ended March 31, 2021

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual (Restated – see (i) below)
Create	\$ 748,000	\$ 807,596	\$ 597,077
Share			
Present	350,000	374,577	348,799
Artists in Communities	252,700	252,651	247,765
Tour	261,700	256,751	291,250
Connecting at a Distance	58,000	57,000	
	922,400	940,979	887,814
Support			
Operate	5,713,540	5,713,540	5,705,415
Strengthen	111,500	119,604	175,800
Arts Leaders	120,000	149,669	-
	5,945,040	5,982,813	5,881,215
Learn			
Artists in Schools	217,000	189,136	497,562
Residencies	39,000	38,413	71,912
Travel/Professional Development	48,560	15,384	91,967
	304,560	242,933	661,441
Indigenous 360			
Create	130,000	151,649	67,771
Share	60,000	65,189	52,500
Learn	10,000	-	7,500
	200,000	216,838	127,771
Recognize			
Scholarships	60,000	61,000	89,000
Prizes	40,000	40,000	30,000
Competitions	22,000	20,100	16,500
	122,000	121,100	135,500
	\$ 8,242,000	\$ 8,312,259	\$ 8,290,818

(i) During the year ended March 31, 2021, the Council changed its accounting policy for cancellations of prior year grant expenses and credited the respective grant expense category for any cancellations. This change was applied retrospectively to the comparative information included in these financial statements and resulted in rescinded grants and total grants expense for the year ended March 31, 2020 decreasing by \$20,804 with no net impact on the net operating surplus (deficit) for the year ended March 31, 2020.

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Arts Branch Program Grants			
Arts Development Project Support Program	\$ 35,200	\$ 16,141	\$ -
Indigenous Cultural Initiatives Program	65,000	44,500	-
Comités Culturels Operating Support Program	63,000	62,992	-
Community Arts Council Operating Support Program	369,800	369,703	-
Consolidated Arts Program	222,300	222,300	-
Cultural Operating Grants Program	367,800	367,800	-
Major Arts Festival Operating Support Program	307,385	334,467	-
Provincial Arts Organizations Operating Support Program	317,500	317,464	-
Urban Art Centres Operating Support Program	459,400	459,400	-
Project Support	297,000	304,999	-
	\$ 2,504,385	\$ 2,499,766	\$ -

Schedule of Arts Branch Program Grants (Schedule 2)

Year ended March 31, 2021

	2021 Budget (See (i) below)	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Arts Community Services			
Peer assessment fees and expenses	\$ 70,000	\$ 66,325	\$ 92,219
Outreach	37,708	20,144	29,736
Residency support	5,000	2,338	3,286
Research	5,000	60	3,359
Accessibility costs	2,500	550	320
Northern remote allowances	10,000	1,500	16,500
Art Bank	15,000	15,000	-
	\$ 145,208	\$ 105,917	\$ 145,420

Schedule of Arts Community Services and Administration Expenses (Schedule 3)

Year ended March 31, 2021

Administration			
Salaries and benefits	\$ 1,024,567	\$ 1,038,111	\$ 1,000,781
Staff expenses	12,000	6,711	-
Rent and renovations	157,000	130,114	137,333
Council meetings and expenses	25,000	12,359	44,098
Communications	46,000	44,345	54,115
Office expenses	59,000	48,529	46,122
Amortization	58,000	57,923	66,835
IT licensing and support	85,000	52,655	74,123
Membership fees	32,000	22,936	22,113
Professional fees	69,000	62,582	41,418
	\$ 1,567,567	\$ 1,476,265	\$ 1,486,938

(i) The 2021 budgeted amounts for Administration expenses include a total budget of \$120,000 relating to the administration of the Arts Branch funding during the year which has been allocated as follows: \$60,000 to salaries and benefits, \$18,000 to rent and renovations, \$3,000 to communications, \$13,000 to office expenses, \$18,000 to IT licensing and support and \$8,000 to membership fees.

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2020-2021 GRANT RECIPIENTS

For details visit:

artscouncil.mb.ca/grants/grant-results/

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