





**Our Belief** is that equitable access to the arts is a human right.

**Our Responsibility** is to redefine a bold and adventurous Calgary by championing and investing in creativity.

**Our Mission** is to be an inspirational force where artists, community, and organizations celebrate cultural identities, experience the full breadth of human emotions, and ignite positive change.



As stewards, we...

- Increased venue utilization by 41% year over year, exceeding pre-pandemic level of activities.
- Intentionally hosted civic events, including the LaFontaine-Baldwin Lecture (featuring Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon), and the city-wide Celebration for the Arts Hosted by Mayor Gondek.
- Were awarded the Venue of the Year Award at the 2023 YYC Music Awards.

As programmers, we...

- Celebrated 50 years of Hip Hop with a celebration in Olympic Plaza, free to Calgarians, featuring Kardinal Offishall, Kiesza, and a line-up of local hip hop artists.
- Focused on family programming, including the sold-out multi-media production of *Leonardo! A Wonderful Story About a Terrible Monster*.
- Welcomed our new Vice President of Programming, Sarah Garton Stanley, acclaimed Canadian arts thought-leader.

As educators and facilitators, we...

- We launched Arts ReimaginED, deploying 148 free arts education events during UNESCO's International Arts Education Week, including 130 in-classroom workshops (for which we had 928 requests).
- Provided 95 local, emerging artists with year-long professional development, mentorship, and networking opportunities.
- Showcased the work of 63 Calgary artists (many of them newcomers to Canada) for free in public exhibitions.

As city builders, we...

- Announced, in partnership with CMLC and The City of Calgary, the Design Team for the Olympic Plaza Transformation.
- Advanced the design of the Arts Commons Transformation expansion, which was revealed in April 2024.
- Have secured over \$425 million, exceeding 65% of our fundraising goal, well before shovels go into the ground.

In a year of uncertainty, we connected people back to the arts and to each other by:

- Advanced our commitment to Reconciliation by continuing the development of our Reconciliation Strategy under the guidance of Elders Reg and Rose Crowshoe, as well as partnering on the hosting of events such as the Elders Story Project, which had a closed door ceremony, as well as a public showcase in the Jack Singer Concert Hall.
- Hosting 677 events and welcoming 51,108 patrons to Arts Commons events.
- Providing on-site arts education programs to 13,190 students and teachers.
- Exceeding pre-pandemic venue-utilization rates by building new partnerships with local, national, and international organizations, resulting in 1,183 events hosted by our Event Services team.
- Intentionally forging new relationships with local organizations, including Four Winds Indigenous Showcase & Market, who curated music and performances in celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day.

In a year of uncertainty, we recommitted ourselves to our community by generating higher amounts of earned revenues to finance our commitment to access.

	2021	2022	2023
Earned	\$2,280,224	\$6,080,175	\$7,936,441
Contributed	\$6,482,903	\$7,062,259	\$6,552,991

And our commitment to providing Calgarians with greater and more equitable access to the arts paid off: We ended our 2022-2023 Fiscal Year in a surplus position.



We leaned into our new Mission statement and commitment to access by:

- Increasing shared services and economies of scales to users across our facilities.
- Exceeded fundraising goals by 20% (over \$1,000,000).
- Even in advance of the Arts Commons Transformation – Phase 2, we replaced obsolete boiler infrastructure with environmentally responsible technology from District Energy that is 35% more efficient, which reduces our annual greenhouse gas emissions by 1,198 metric tons. Over the 25 year life expectancy of the new system, this is a total reduction of 29,950 metric tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions (equivalent to pulling 6,300 cars off the road).
- Replacement of all toilettes and faucets throughout the facility, saving over 8,000,000 litres of water annually.

