

City of Richmond

ARTS SERVICES YEAR IN REVIEW 2022

Arts, Culture and
Heritage Services





The Vision

Richmond's thriving arts scene

- animates our city every day;
- offers rich arts education and experiences, festivals and events;
- fosters social connections and wellness;
- builds arts and culture leadership; and
- provides creative spaces



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Introduction

Following two years of shifting public health orders and physical distancing protocols, 2022 brought a long-awaited return to “normal” operations with indoor gatherings and programs, live entertainment, festivals and a renewed (if tentative) sense of optimism in place by mid-year.

Art and artists maintained their vital and sustaining presence in the community, continuing to offer meaning to, and a reflection of, Richmond’s diverse population in cultural venues, schools, libraries, community centres, festivals and in the public realm.

Themes of identity, participation, local ecology and wellness remained on the forefront in 2022: the majority of activities, programs and exhibitions continued to showcase, support and/or actively involve members of diverse, equity-seeking communities; hands-on public activities working with natural materials marked both National Indigenous People’s Day and Pride Week; both the Branscombe House Artist Residency and Writer-in-Residence programs intentionally explored themes of personal development, human connection, healing and mindfulness; and the Richmond Art Gallery opened the year with a far-reaching and multi-faceted public program about “nourishment.”

Meanwhile, not one but two new city parks opened to the public boasting an undulating and eye-catching piece of public art-as-shelter, Imperial Landing became the new temporary home for The Blue Cabin Floating Artist Residency, and festivals made a big comeback with the Richmond Maritime Festival, Culture Days and the 75th Anniversary Steveston Salmon Festival.

The City also invested in artists and cultural organizations with direct funding, in-kind production support, mentorship, exhibition opportunities and more.

The 2022 Arts Services Year in Review recounts the myriad ways Richmond continues to foster unique and lively arts and cultural opportunities for community engagement and connection. As such, the arts are essential to achieving the Council Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Goal: One Community Together.

For more about the arts in Richmond, visit [HowArtWorks.ca](https://www.howartworks.ca)



Richmond Potters' Club demo at Culture Days

ArtWorks: Richmond Arts Strategy 2019 – 2024

Major Strategic Directions



1. Ensure affordable and accessible arts for all



2. Promote inclusivity and diversity in the arts



3. Invest in the arts



4. Increase awareness and participation in the arts



5. Activate public spaces through (and for) the arts

The Arts Services Year in Review summarizes progress made towards achieving the goals of *ArtWorks: Richmond Arts Strategy 2019–2024*. Throughout the document, you will see coloured icons that show how the year's activities help to advance the Strategy's five strategic directions.



Community Cultural Development

Community Cultural Development refers to a wide range of programs, activities and events that bring opportunities to engage with the arts in everyday life. This includes support for local artists and cultural organizations through direct investment, public profile or recognition, professional development and other creative opportunities for collaboration and mentorship.



Art at Work Program

Presented in collaboration with the Richmond Art Gallery Association and Richmond Public Art, Art at Work provides professional development opportunities for local artists and others working in the cultural sector. The goals of the program are to:

- support the growth and development of the arts and cultural sector;
- provide artists and cultural workers with practical, inspiring and career-enhancing programming; and
- encourage networking and sharing within the arts and culture community.

In 2022, Art at Work presented the following free workshops:

- **Tax Basics for Artists** An introduction to tax management for self-employed creative professionals by Mariana Scott. Attendance: 40 in-person, 90 on-demand via YouTube.
- **Public Art at Work** An intensive three-workshop series on developing public art concept proposals presented in-person through Richmond Public Art. Cohort: 10.

2022 RICHMOND ARTS AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Arts Education: Harry Yu

Artistic Innovation: Thomas Cannell

Business and the Arts: Phoenix Art Workshop, Mark Glavina*

Volunteerism: Keiko Go

Youth Arts: Megan Yung

Cultural Leadership: Mary Wilson, Richmond Black History Month

*second-time recipient

Richmond Arts Awards

Created in partnership with the Richmond Arts Coalition, the annual Richmond Arts Awards recognizes artistic achievements and contributions to the cultural community by residents, artists, educators, organizations and business leaders. The purpose is to:

- honour major contributions by individuals, organizations and businesses to the arts;
- cultivate greater visibility and understanding of the value of the arts;
- encourage excellence and build new leadership within arts community; and
- develop patrons for the arts.

This year, **62 nominations** were reviewed by a selection panel comprised of community members and six recipients were selected.

The ceremony for the 14th annual Richmond Arts Awards, hosted by Mayor Malcolm Brodie, was held on May 4 at the Gateway Theatre. The ceremony included the award recipients of the 2020 and 2021 awards to join the 2022 recipients so that they could be recognized on stage after a two-year hiatus. All were profiled in an online campaign highlighting their work and contributions to the Richmond arts community via the @HowArtWorks Instagram account.

In addition to honouring award recipients, the event included uplifting messages from Elder Mary Point and performances by Branscombe House Artist-in-Residence, Krystal Kiran; Richmond Writer-In-Residence, Lindi Nolte; local pianist, Aaron Pang; and keynote speaker, James Long. Richmond Music School students provided musical ambiance prior to the start of the show.

As part of the City's commitment to providing meaningful opportunities for youth, a member of the Richmond Youth Media Lab program was invited to join the selection panel. This member added excellent insight and context to the Youth Arts and all other categories.

This Awards continue to be a partnership with the Richmond Arts Coalition and media partner, *Richmond News*.



Richmond Arts & Culture eBlasts and How Art Works Instagram

As part of the Richmond Arts Strategy, Arts Services continues to engage with the Richmond arts community through the Arts & Culture eBlast. In 2022, 14 eBlasts were sent to **more than 500 subscribers** including individual artists and organizations who received helpful news of Artist Calls, funding opportunities, professional development workshops and more.

In addition to the e-Blast, the @HowArtWorks Instagram account, established in 2015, has amassed **980 followers**, and provided another outlet to reach members of the Richmond arts community and the general public.



Brown Road Artist Studios

In 2018, through the development and rezoning process, the City secured the provision of two affordable work-only artist studios as part of the Polygon Fiorella development at 3551 Sexsmith Road.

These new street level units, completed in 2022, will be rented to professional artists that meet income and career eligibility criteria.

These tenants will join a “village” of artists in the Capstan area, as part of the realization of the Arts District envisioned in the Official Community Plan for City Centre.

Arts and Culture Grant Program

The City's Arts and Culture Grant Program was established in 2011 to strengthen the infrastructure of arts and culture organizations, increase investment in arts opportunities, show support for the careers of local artists and support a wide range of artistic and cultural activity. The program offers two types of grants: Project Assistance and Operating Assistance to registered non-profit arts and culture organizations.

In 2022, Council approved the distribution of **\$119,502. A total of \$88,370 in Operating Assistance was distributed to twelve recipients and \$31,132 in Project Assistance went to seven programs and projects.**

Throughout summer and fall, grant recipients met individually with City staff to discuss the progress of their programs and share feedback about the grant application process.

Organizational Support

Arts Services staff, throughout the year, provide facilitation and consultation to local arts groups to assist them with organizational capacity.

NON-PROFIT LIFECYCLES

The Non-profit Lifecycles system is a respected diagnostic tool to guide non-profit groups in strengthening organizational capacity and setting achievable goals that help maintain their vibrancy and resiliency. In May and June, members of board and staff from the Community Arts Council of Richmond and Richmond Orchestra and Chorus Association, respectively, participated in an “Introduction to Lifecycles” workshop presented by the City. In July, CACR further engaged with the process through a City staff-led diagnostic self-assessment that resulted in a 10-point action plan for their upcoming season.

NON-PROFIT “WELLNESS CHECK”

On October 1, seven organizations receiving Arts and Culture grant funding joined other Richmond non-profits at a full-day

professional development and networking event that featured a presentation by Vantage Point: “BC’s Non-Profit Sector: Post-pandemic Challenges and Opportunities” followed by a Non-profit Lifecycle 101 workshop.

ARTS BC CONFERENCE

From October 13 to 15, Arts BC made Richmond the location for their annual conference attracting hundreds of delegates from across the province. Arts Services partnered on the presentation of some conference elements and covered the fees for representatives of 10 local organizations to participate in workshops and lectures at the conference. The conference was capped off with an Arts Market for local artists to sell their wares on the Richmond Cultural Centre plaza, organized in partnership with the Richmond Arts Coalition and the Community Arts Council of Richmond.



Richmond Potters' Club Sale



Richmond Cultural Centre

The Richmond Cultural Centre (RCC) and Plaza regularly provides affordable venue rentals to local arts and cultural organizations and plays host to arts events and activities from pottery sales to musical performances in the Performance Hall.

Arts Services provided in-kind venue support to two in-person events in the Performance Hall this year:

- Richmond's Direct Theatre Collective hosted a screening of their 2022 documentary, *Where Women Gather*, for 12 audience members on June 16. The documentary chronicles the making of *Hysteria*, the collective's award-winning theatrical play. Directed by Eva Tavares, the film features artists Jill Raymond, Isa Sanchez, Jenna Grubaugh, Lauren Martin, Nita Bowerman, Eleanor Felton, Florence Reiher and Kapila Rego.
- Celebrating South Asian arts and culture, the Monsoon Festival's Sunday Funday workshop series was held in the Performance Hall over three weekends in August. The event featured Bollywood, Bhangra, and Bharatanatyam-style dance and attracted 50 participants. Monsoon Festival of Performing Arts, presented annually since 2016, is a multidisciplinary arts festival presented by South Asian Arts Society.

Over the spring, two key locations within the RCC — Richmond Art Gallery and Richmond Museum — participated in the Vancouver Attractions Group Tourism Challenge. This was the RCC's third year participating in this program that attracts thousands of tourism sector workers from across the region to visit and discover what is offered here over a period of six weeks.

And on December 22, Bayit, Chabad of Richmond, Ebco Group of Companies, Lightspeed and Richmond Public Library/Cultural Centre celebrated the annual Menorah Lighting. The evening featured Chanukah family activities indoors followed by the lighting of the 25 ft Menorah on the Cultural Centre Plaza.



"Branscombe House was a special place to be in 2022. We found a way to connect and grow after a very difficult few years. This group, ranging in age from mid 20s to 88, was led by Krystal to dance, meditate, create and grow. As a legacy, Krystal taught us a new way to heal through dance. I personally continue to use this practice and am writing a children's book about dealing with your emotions inspired by her classes."

– Program participant

Branscombe House Artist Residency



The seventh annual Branscombe House Artist Residency was assumed by Krystal Kiran, a Punjabi-Canadian performing artist and educator whose practice explores "third culture" identity and the arts as healing practices.

Krystal has performed on Broadway and toured internationally as a featured vocalist with Grammy- and Oscar-winning composer A.R. Rahman. As an actor, dancer and choreographer, she has performed on a variety of stages including the Shaw Festival and Arts Club.

The residency was kicked off with a virtual launch event, including an introduction from Mayor Malcolm Brodie, artist talk and Q&A session. Free community arts programs, activities and workshops occurred at Branscombe House and across Richmond throughout the year. They included dance, movement and meditation sessions, open studio jam sessions, inspiring book club nights, development seminars and more. In-person and virtual programming options were offered April through December on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis.

Krystal participated in the Children's Arts Festival, Doors Open, Richmond Arts Awards, Steveston Salmon Festival, Culture Days and appeared in a promotional video for Richmond's Neighbourhood Rain Murals Program. In addition, she facilitated public workshops for the Richmond Art Gallery and Minoru Centre for Active Living, and presented artist talks to the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee and Community Services Division staff.

Highlights can be found at KrystalKiran.com/Branscombe and Instagram.com/BranscombeHouse



Krystal Kiran (bottom left) with artists and community members at the Branscombe Social, Canada Day, July 1



Writer-in-Residence finale event
with Lindi Nolte (right)

Writer-in-Residence

In Fall 2022, Richmond hosted its eleventh annual Writer-in-Residence program both online and in-person. Award winning poet, Lindi Nolte, offered a series of writing workshops connecting writers to nature, composing autobiographies, and performing spoken word.

Lindi Nolte is a South African-Canadian spoken word poet, TEDx speaker, and educator. She has been involved in the poetry slam scene in Vancouver since 2014, and in 2018, was crowned Vancouver's Grand Slam Champion. With a BA in English from the University of Pretoria in South Africa, and BA in Education from UBC, Lindi facilitates spoken word poetry workshops and teaches high school English in Vancouver. Her debut collection of poetry, *Barefoot & Awestruck*, was released in 2017 with Naledi Publishing House.

The Writer-in-Residence program kicked off with an in-person Meet & Greet as part of Culture Days on Saturday, September 24. This event featured spoken word performance, and readings from her debut collection to promote her workshops catered to teens, seniors and writers of all ages.

The 2022 Writer-in-Residence program offered 10 free workshops, and events over two months. This residency culminated in the publication of a chapbook featuring excerpts contributed by workshop participants. Richmond's Writer-in-Residence program is presented by Arts Services, Richmond Public Library and the Minoru Seniors Society.



Printmaking for Pride with Edward Fu-Chen

Pride Week

On July 22, the Richmond Arts Centre presented its annual Pride Stairs activity, a free, drop-in event where the Richmond Cultural Centre's entrance stairs are transformed with rainbow colours. More than **30 participants** including youth, families, seniors, staff and summer students, participated in the sunny afternoon activity, with musical accompaniment by Richmond Youth Media Program (RYMP). This annual tradition complements the nearby Pride crosswalk that connects the Cultural Centre to City Hall and city centre.

On July 23, artists Edward Fu-Chen Juan and Jade Balogh-Callow presented *Printmaking for Pride*, a free drop-in workshop at the Cultural Centre outdoor plaza. More than **150 participants** created unique monotype prints using a printing press, acetate plates and artisan plant dyes. Participants' colourful prints became a "Wall of Pride" installation to celebrate and symbolize LGBTQ2S+ communities. The workshop was co-presented by Richmond Public Art, Richmond Art Gallery and Richmond Arts Centre with support from Community Cultural Development.



Pride Stairs activity



Performance Mdundo WA East Africa at Culture Days opening weekend celebration. Photo: Grant McMillan



Chinese Artists Association of Richmond calligraphy demonstration

Culture Days

The 14th annual Culture Days (September 23 to October 16, 2022) offered a variety of indoor, outdoor and online activities providing free, hands-on and behind-the-scenes access to arts and culture in Richmond.

The Richmond Cultural Centre hosted a kick-off weekend on September 24 and 25 that welcomed an estimated **2,000 attendees** over two days. An opening ceremony included remarks by Mayor Malcolm Brodie and an Indigenous welcome by Musqueam Elder Mary Point, with Councillors and community leaders in attendance.

Many of the Richmond Arts Centre's resident art groups hosted displays, demonstrations and interactive opportunities in studios, the Performance Hall, rotunda and outdoor plaza.

Weekend highlights included the launch of Richmond's Writer-in-Residence program, *The Arts Live Here* exhibition opening at Richmond Museum, Richmond Art Gallery's *That Other Hunger* exhibition, portrait sittings with the Richmond Photo Club, theatre games with Gateway Theatre, as well as performances, demos and workshops with Dance Theatre Uganda, Richmond Improv Theatre Society, Richmond Artists Guild, Richmond Orchestra and Chorus Association, Chinese Artists Association of Richmond, Richmond Potters' Club, Vancouver Cantonese Opera, Vancouver Opera, and more.

Free public activities continued for 17 days across Richmond, featuring an arts market, choir rehearsals, film screenings, dance and movement sessions, open studios, plein air painting, online activities and self-guided walking tours.

Culture Days set September 30 aside to create space exclusively for events organized to commemorate the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Featured activities shared First Nations, Métis, and Inuit experiences and perspectives from across the country, and honoured the creative and cultural expressions of Indigenous peoples and communities.

Culture Days' national office named Richmond as the **No. 1 top participating community in BC, placing second nationally among Mid-Size Cities**.

CULTURE DAYS BY THE NUMBERS:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 2,000 | attendees at kick-off weekend |
| 28 | volunteers |
| 40 | participating artists and cultural organizations |
| 55 | free, public activities |



National Indigenous People's Day



On Saturday, June 25, Musqueam Nation artist Rita Kompst facilitated a cedar weaving workshop where she shared traditional techniques of Coast Salish weaving and ancestral knowledge with 15 participants. The artist prepared locally harvested red cedar for the activity, and displayed examples of her red and yellow cedar baskets, hats and other weavings.

This program was co-presented by Community Cultural Development and Richmond Arts Centre.

"Something to see or do around every corner, festival atmosphere."

– Audience survey response

75th Anniversary Steveston Salmon Festival



The 75th Anniversary Steveston Salmon Festival was a much-welcomed family-friendly opportunity for tens of thousands of residents and volunteers to re-connect with each other in person for the first time in three years. Many visitors appreciated the expanded footprint and entertainment that was spread out across Steveston village.

Lead-up activities included a pop-up video booth and Steveston Salmon Festival Float at the Kite Festival at Garry Point Park on June 25 and 26, and a Drive-thru Salmon Sale on June 30.

On Canada Day, July 1, the Steveston Salmon Festival Parade was re-imagined as a walk, roll or bike-through event featuring local entertainment in nine performance areas that stretched across four zones: Garry Point, Steveston Village, Community Centre and Britannia Shipyards. The event featured:

- welcome ceremony including local, federal and provincial government and First Nations representatives;
- traditional Steveston Salmon Festival programming including the Japanese Cultural Show, Horticulture Show and Art Show;
- programming to celebrate the 75th anniversary including a pop-up video booth capturing festival and community reflections and the #MySammySelfie contest; and
- complementary online and city-wide Canada Day engagement opportunities such as livestreaming of the welcome ceremony on July 1.



Steveston Salmon Festival



The Seabillies, Richmond Maritime Festival

Vancouver Okinawa Taiko,
Richmond Cherry Blossom Festival

RMF BY THE NUMBERS:

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 40,000 | est. visitors over two days |
| 16,800 | website visits |
| 50+ | artists, performers and storytellers |
| 87 | volunteers |
| 660 | volunteer hours served |

Richmond Maritime Festival

The 19th annual Richmond Maritime Festival returned to its fully in-person format at the Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site after two years of virtual and hybrid programming. The event program, organized in collaboration with the Richmond Arts Coalition and Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site Society, included maritime-themed décor and installations throughout the site, roving performances, “pop-up” style heritage storytellers, food and beverage vendors and a display of wooden and working boats along the dock that included several locally significant, restored heritage boats.

Richmond Cherry Blossom Festival

The 2022 online Richmond Cherry Blossom Festival launched on Sunday, April 10 at richmondcherryblossomfest.ca and on signage installed in Garry Point Park with QR codes directing visitors to the online program. Celebrating the arrival of spring and the blooming of 255 Akebono Cherry trees, the program was developed in collaboration with festival directors from the Wakayama Kenjin Kai, and featured 11 participatory “how to” videos along with recorded musical performances and Japanese cultural demonstrations. The theme of the 2022 festival was the Japanese word 絆 (*kizuna*), or “the bonds or connections between people”.

Social media content reached more than 66,000 individuals and the **videos were viewed more than 7,200 times**. The **website saw close to 7,400 new users** throughout the cherry blossom season, resulting in more than 16,000 page views.



Mary Point at Culture Days opening weekend

Jane Wong and Mizzonk, *NOURISH*

2022 EXHIBITION ATTENDANCE

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 2,661 | NOURISH |
| 8,477 | A Minaret for the General's Wife |
| 3,483 | That Other Hunger |
| 2,089 | The trees weep, the mountain still, the bodies rust |

Richmond Art Gallery

Richmond Art Gallery (RAG) is a nationally recognized municipal gallery featuring Canadian and international artists. It is known for a diverse array of exhibitions, educational programs and events that address issues and ideas of importance to our community and contribute to the growth of a vibrant cultural scene in Richmond. Through 2022, RAG hosted visitors in the gallery and across digital platforms including live-streamed talks and on-demand video content found on the gallery's website and YouTube.

In 2022, following a 22-year tenure, RAG staff and board bid a fond farewell to curator, Nan Capogna. In May, Zoë Chan, most recently assistant curator at Vancouver Art Gallery, was appointed to the role following a national search.

Exhibitions

RAG presented four exhibitions in the Gallery, four at City Hall Galleria and two off-site installations in 2022, representing emerging to senior artists from the Lower Mainland and beyond. Each exhibition highlights a range of contemporary artistic mediums.

GALLERY

NOURISH

Jane Wong and Mizzonk
January 22–April 3, 2022

Nourishment — its scope and significance — was at the heart of this exhibition of works by Jane Wong and artist duo, Mizzonk (Wan-Yi Lin and Roger Chen). Wong's installation drew upon her experience of growing up in a Chinese American restaurant in New Jersey, and her family's history of hunger and poverty in China. Meanwhile, Lin and Chen's video projections

foregrounded the values of intuition and the natural world on mental health. Particularly within the context of a global pandemic, these works were reminders of our capacity to nourish ourselves and others. The exhibition was supplemented by an expansive series of digital and in-person public programs highlighting Richmond's diverse and dynamic food culture and histories. (See page 21 for details). **Curated by Nan Capogna.**

A MINARET FOR THE GENERAL'S WIFE

Erdem Taşdelen

April 22 – July 31, 2022

The starting point for Erdem Taşdelen's exhibition was a little-known architectural oddity located in the Lithuanian city of Kėdainiai, approximately 120 km from the capital Vilnius. Built in 1880 and restored in 2007, this structure is a freestanding Ottoman-style minaret that peculiarly has no mosque below or attached to it. In reference to his search to uncover the origins of the structure, Taşdelen's presented an array of disparate and tangentially related materials in a web of relational and spatial collage including archival photos, documents, replicas of artifacts, audiovisual material, a curious selection of objects and a book of vignettes from undisclosed origins. **Co-curated by Julia Paoli, Director & Curator, Mercer Union; and Toleen Touq, Artistic Director, South Asian Visual Arts Centre.**

"Beautiful, dream-like images which my four year-old grandson and I thoroughly appreciated. (I'm 80 years old)"

— gallery visitor,
That Other Hunger

THAT OTHER HUNGER

Vanessa Brown

September 9 – November 6, 2022

The idea of the "hole" was Vanessa Brown's starting point for her evocative solo exhibition *That Other Hunger*, which featured a series of video works, textiles, sculptures and sound. Brown mined the depths of this surprisingly rich subject matter in her eclectic research with representations that ranged from the Pantheon's oculus and geographical craters and caves to celestial black holes and the body's orifices. Vanessa Brown grew up in Richmond before attending Emily Carr University and cultivating an artistic career with exhibitions across Canada and internationally. **Curated by Shaun Dacey.**



Erdem Taşdelen, *A Minaret for the General's Wife*



Vanessa Brown, *That Other Hunger*



Accessibility



Diversity



Investment



Awareness/Participation



Public Spaces



Derek Liddington, *the trees weep, the mountain still, the bodies rust*



Chad Wong, *Empty Spaces that Fill My Heart*

“Wonderful body of work. Seeing the landscape with such stature was adorable.”

— gallery visitor, *the trees weep, the mountain still, the bodies rust*

THE TREES WEEP, THE MOUNTAIN STILL, THE BODIES RUST

Derek Liddington

November 19 – January 15, 2023

Featuring a new body of work by Toronto-based artist Derek Liddington, this exhibition took the genre of landscape painting as its central focus. Through the medium of painting, the artist examined how one physically experiences the landscape rather than how one objectively sees it. His layered canvases translated the feeling of being immersed within a forest so dense that our sense of orientation is hindered. **Curated by Anne-Marie St-Jean Aubre.** Produced and circulated by the Musée d'art de Joliette.



Toni Onley, *Drifting Icebergs in Baffin Bay*, Richmond Art Gallery Permanent Collection

Permanent Collection

Containing nearly 400 works of art in a variety of media collected from 1982 to 2020, the Richmond Art Gallery Permanent Collection is a City-owned art collection maintained by the RAG. It is representative of the history of its exhibitions and a broader history of artistic production in British Columbia and beyond. The collection includes works by established BC artists such as Anna Wong, Wayne Ngan, Susan Point, Greg Girard and Gu Xiong among numerous others.

Through 2022, the Gallery re-initiated an ongoing program of installing collection works within City of Richmond buildings. The gallery also began work on condition reporting all works in the collection and assessing the current state of the collection and its storage for future conservation and preservation work.

Launched in late 2021, RAG launched a new digital portal to the collection providing images and details on collection works. The public can browse the collection online at: richmondartgallery.org/ragcollection

OFF-SITE

CAPTURE FESTIVAL ON THE CANADA LINE

Chad Wong, *Empty Spaces that Fill My Heart* (Aberdeen Station)

Kyla Bourgh, *Objects given to my mom because she is Asian* (Lansdowne Station)

April 6, 2022 – February 28, 2023

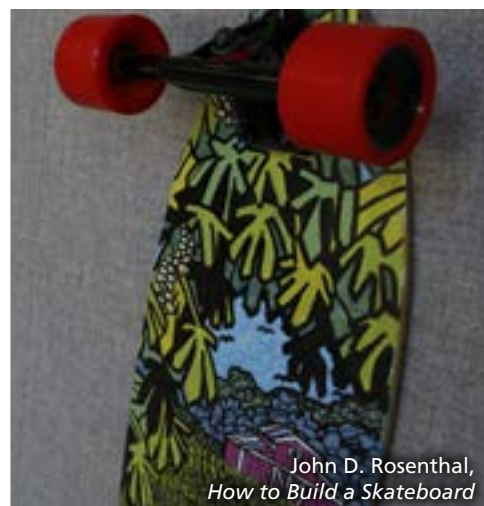
Presented in partnership with the Capture Festival, City of Richmond Public Art and the Canada Line Public Art Program.

Chad Wong's *Empty Spaces that Fill My Heart* is a photographic diptych connecting Richmond and Vancouver's Chinatown. In this work, the artist presents abstracted fragments of awnings and hallways of the Hong Kong-style cafes and Chinese-Canadian malls he grew up visiting. The images contemplate how various modes of representation in architecture and shared cultural spaces shape the narrative and identity of a community.

Kyla Bourgh's installation at Lansdowne Station presents objects that have been given to the artist's mother over the past 50 years. Each object is associated with an "Asian style" and was gifted to her because of her physical and cultural identity. The artist's work highlights that, while the gifts were given to her mother in kindness, they unwittingly reminded her that she is, and always will be, perceived as a visible minority in her rural BC community.



Kyla Bourgh, *Objects given to my mom because she is Asian*



John D. Rosenthal,
How to Build a Skateboard

CITY HALL GALLERIA 2022

The Richmond Art Gallery organizes exhibitions by local artists for display in Richmond City Hall. In the spring of 2022, the Gallery returned to regular exhibitions in this location and presented the following over the year:

- Dona Nabata: *Outside of History*, April 19–June 14
- John D. Rosenthal: *How to Build a Skateboard*, June 14–August 15
- The Outsider Festival (Sandra Yuen and Jacqueline Primeau), August 16–September 26
- Aspire Richmond, September 27–November 1



Accessibility



Diversity



Investment



Awareness/Participation



Public Spaces



Artist Salon with Lyse Lemieux

Exhibition Tour, *NOURISH*

"I'm such a slowpoke, but have just discovered the RAG's Salon videos. What a great resource! I get tired of listening to news while I work -unrelentingly awful- so this is grand."

— Artist Salon participant

"Thank you as well for including me in your series—it is very impressive how you have put this together for our communities—Richmond is very lucky to have you."

— Artist, Lyse Lemieux

2022 ARTIST SALON BY THE NUMBERS

| | |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 9 | Sessions |
| 9 | Artists & Curators |
| 286 | Livestream & In-person attendees |
| 461 | Video views |

Community Outreach and Programs



Through 2022, RAG stayed connected with Richmond's artists and art lovers through a combination of unique digital and in-person programming.

ARTIST SALON SERIES

Artist Salon is an ongoing program for visual artists supported through the Arts and Culture Project Assistance grant program. The series connects local emerging and established artists, particularly those who live or work in Richmond, with professional artists and arts workers to provide information, feedback and discussion on career development opportunities.

The program continued to offer hybrid sessions throughout the year, delivered as monthly live-streams or in-person artist or curator talks that included Q&A with participants. All online sessions were recorded and provide a video library of resources for artists, available via the RAG website and YouTube Channel, and are viewed by participants from all over the world. The in-person sessions provided a more intimate setting where participants could connect directly with presenters for personalized discussions as well as a networking opportunity, and were also recorded for on-demand viewing.

EXHIBITION TOURS

The gallery resumed in-person gallery tours in the summer of 2022, and started to offer online tours to groups within the Lower Mainland. In-person tours were led by gallery staff or exhibiting artists to provide a deeper understanding of the exhibitions and to offer visitors the opportunity to ask questions directly to the artist or curator.

Online tours were also available for groups no longer able to visit in-person, particularly those in seniors homes, post-secondary institutions and language schools. As well, for each exhibit, a tour in Mandarin was scheduled both online and in-person, providing some Richmond residents the opportunity to learn about the local art scene in their first language.



Jane Wong at Richmond Public Library



Bookbinding workshop

"The programs allowed me to contemplate my own food/family ties and memories. I loved it."

— Richmond participant

2022 NOURISH PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

| | |
|-----|--|
| 19 | Events |
| 26 | Guest artists, speakers & facilitators |
| 262 | Livestream & In-person attendees |
| 622 | Video views |
| 70 | Recipes submitted by community members |

NOURISH PROGRAMS

The *NOURISH* exhibition offered a large number of online and in-person activities due, in part, to funding through the *RichmondHasHeart* program. Throughout the exhibition, there were tours, panel discussions, workshops, and an interactive community gallery activity on the topic of nourishment.

Weekly online panel discussions included:

- *Hot Pot Talks* with Love Intersections and Jane Wong
- *Restaurant Babies* with Tom Hsu, Eddie Kim and Jane Wong
- *From Kitchens to Cities: Stories of Richmond & Vancouver Chinatown Food Culture* with food writer and critic Alexandra Gill, chef and restaurant owner Bo Li, and Associate Professor of History Henry Yu
- *Nourish Through Nature* with artists Wan-Yi Lin and Roger Chen, and Professors Heesoon Bai and Denise Findlay
- *Richmond Stories: Building Community* with Food with Denise Fong and Christy Fong, Sarah Drewery (Executive Director of Sharing Farm), Ian Lai (Executive Director of Urban Bounty), and Jamie MacFarlane (Manager of Storeys Cafe)
- *Artist's Talk* with Wan-Yi Lin and Roger Chen of Mizzonk (in English and Mandarin)
- *A Nourishing Reading and Talk* with Jane Wong in partnership with Richmond Public Library

In-person events included:

- Sensory Walk through Minoru Park with Walk Richmond
- Mindful Movement Workshop with Krystal Kiran
- Bookbinding Workshop with Marlene Yuen
- Storytelling Workshop with Jane Wong

The exhibition concluded with a compilation of 70 recipes collected from community members that remains available to access at richmondartgallery.org/nourishvcc. Recordings of the online talks also remain, forming an extensive library of video resources highlighting Richmond food culture.





Amy-Claire Huestis, *Mothlike/Silvery-Blue*
procession

CULTURE DAYS PERFORMANCE: MOTHLIKE/SILVERY-BLUE

On September 24, as part of Culture Days, RAG hosted a free public performance by artist Amy-Claire Huestis. The project, *Mothlike/Silvery-Blue* celebrates kinship with birds, the interconnectedness of all things, and the importance of an ecological area under threat due to human development.

Huestis and a group of community collaborators led a site-specific procession/performance at Brunswick Point in Ladner, an integral ecosystem for migratory birds and a site of cultural significance for the Hwlitsum First Nation. The public was invited to participate by following the procession and durational score along the dyke trail as the sun slowly set.

The communal performance stems from the artist's ongoing research in the Key Biodiversity Area of Hwuli'tth'um (Brunswick Point), an area of critical ecological importance within the Fraser River Estuary, in the ancestral and present-day lands of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the Hul'qumi'num Mustimuhw (Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group of Seven Coast Salish Nations), Tsawwassen and Musqueam. An exhibition of Huestis' work will be presented at the RAG in June 2023.

Youth Programming

ECUAD YOUTH ART + CULTURE LAB

Continuing the partnership started in 2018 with Emily Carr University of Art + Design (ECUAD), RAG co-hosted an art course for youth aged 12 to 15 years. Due to popular demand, the 2022–23 session expanded to two cohorts of students, with both classes at capacity. Sessions were held on Saturdays and Sundays bi-weekly over 7 months with alternating visits at the RAG and at ECUAD.

Students worked with an ECUAD instructor and teaching assistant, as well as visiting artists throughout the course, to develop projects that responded to the RAG exhibitions and explore the artistic practices of contemporary artists. The culmination of the program will be a student showcase at Emily Carr University in April 2023.



Artist Interviews on Video

For each exhibition, RAG produces video interviews of the artists or curators talking about their work. In 2022, there were five exhibition videos produced: Mizzonk and Jane Wong for *NOURISH*, Vanessa Brown for *That Other Hunger*, Derek Liddington for *The Trees Weep*, *The Mountain Still*, *The Bodies Rust*, and John D. Rosenthal for *How to Build a Skateboard* on display at the City Hall Galleria.



ECUAD Youth Art + Culture Lab



School Art Program: Class Tour

"A most welcoming, knowledgeable staff that help radiate curiosity, imagination, and risk taking in art with school children."

— teacher, Lord Kitchener Elementary

2022 SCHOOL PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 44 | School art workshops |
| 1,019 | Students |
| 52 | School visits |
| 12 | Indigenous Art Classroom Art Kit rentals |

SCHOOL ART PROGRAM

The Richmond Art Gallery Association's School Art Program introduces students from Preschool to Grade 12 to the world of contemporary art through interactive gallery tours and exhibition-based, hands-on art activities. The program also provides professional development opportunities for teachers with workshops and resources online to help teachers incorporate contemporary art practices and content about local, regional and national Canadian art and artists into their lessons.

2022 saw the return of in-gallery school programming, with the utilization of Gallery 3 as a temporary classroom space where students could spread out and explore programs safely. Fall saw the soft launch of regular schools programming and a volunteer program; two new educators joined the team along with new community volunteers. In 2022, the gallery offered 7 high school tours for 207 students, 44 school art workshops for 1,019 students, and 12 Indigenous Art Classroom Art Kit rentals reaching 545 students.

This programming builds upon the ongoing success of the Indigenous Art Classroom Art Kits launched in 2021. In 2022, these kits were made available for three-week rentals (instead of purchased) to make the program more environmentally sustainable, and to allow multiple classes to use the kits, making them also more cost-effective for schools.

The Richmond Art Gallery also participated as a host site for the annual BC Art Teachers' Association conference offering an online tour of the Vanessa Brown exhibition as well as an in-person tour and workshop for registered conference participants.



Accessibility



Diversity



Investment



Awareness/Participation



Public Spaces



RAGA board, staff and volunteers

RAGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022

Jas Lally, President

Kristal Hamakawa, Vice President/
Treasurer

Allison Liu, Secretary

Lei Tian, Director

Russna Kaur, Director

Daria Sheina, Director

Kurt Aydin, Director

Council Liaison: Carol Day

Richmond Art Gallery Association

The Gallery benefits from financial and in-kind support of many organizations via Richmond Art Gallery Association (RAGA). In 2022, RAGA received cash and in-kind assistance from three levels of government, businesses, private foundations and individuals.

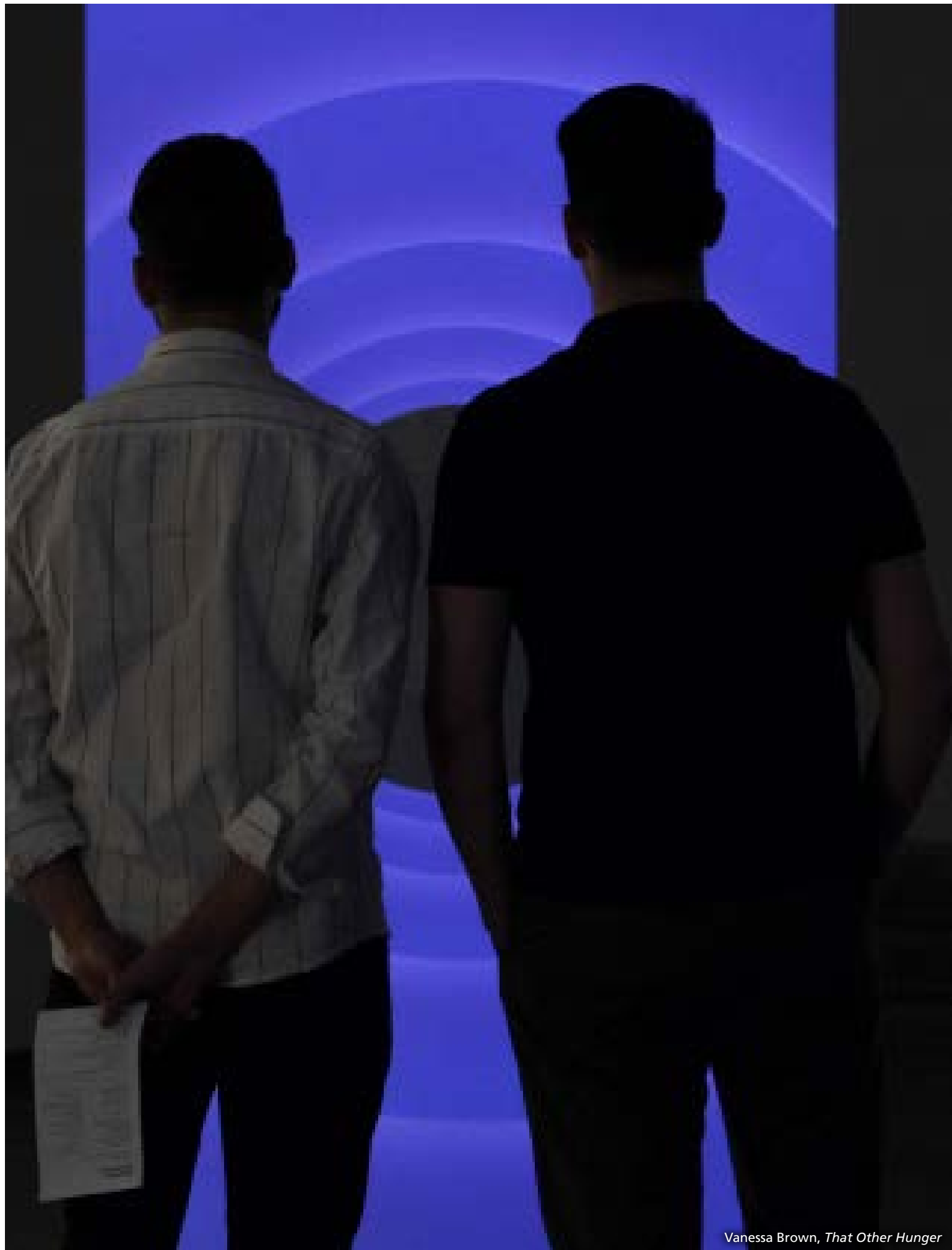
RAGA is an independent, non-profit society and registered charity formed to support the Richmond Art Gallery through fundraising, membership and advocacy.

By developing educational and public programming, RAGA provides the community with opportunities to learn about contemporary art and participate in art-making activities. Proceeds from RAGA's fundraising efforts contribute to the Gallery's active program of artist and curator talks, panel discussions, tours, workshops and video interviews as well as brochures and catalogues that serve as interpretive texts accompanying exhibitions.

Partnerships

The Richmond Art Gallery has developed and continues to consolidate relationships with numerous partners such as the Aspire Richmond, Capture Photography Festival, Centre A, Emily Carr University, Mercer Union, Musée d'art de Joliette, Nanaimo Art Gallery, Quilchena Elementary School, Richmond Arts Centre, Richmond Media Lab, Richmond Museum Society, Richmond Public Art Program, Richmond Public Library, Richmond School District, Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel, Simon Fraser University, SUCCESS, Tourism Richmond, UBC Faculty of Education, Vancouver Asian Heritage Month Society and Walk Richmond.

These partnerships allow the Gallery to create mutually beneficial opportunities for audience crossover, resource sharing and cooperative programming and help to extend the understanding of art's significance in everyday life.



Vanessa Brown, *That Other Hunger*



Polymétis, Pergola Garden

RICHMOND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM TO-DATE:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 367 | Total number of artworks to date |
| 196 | Permanent artwork installations |
| 166 | Temporary installations (76 no longer on display) |
| 23 | New works of art installed in 2022 (including 19 temporary and 4 permanent artworks) |
| 277 | Total number of permanent and temporary artworks currently on display |
| 18,800+ | hours of community participating in the Engaging Artists in Community Program to-date |

Richmond Public Art Program

The Richmond Public Art Program provides a means for including art in the creation of a vibrant, healthy and sustainable city. In addition to permanent and temporary artworks, the Public Art Program offers a stimulating program of educational and community engagement activities to increase public awareness of the arts and encourage public dialogue about art and issues of interest and concern to Richmond residents.

Civic Public Art Program

In 2022, public art commissioned by the City through this program was installed on two civic properties:

PERGOLA GARDEN

Polymétis (Nicholas Croft and Michaela MacLeod)
Alexandra Park

Inspired by its landscape setting, *Pergola Garden* provides shelter for park visitors enjoying picnics, taking part in exercise, or watching a performance. The artwork will offer respite, connection to the local ecology and sense of belonging to the community. The sculpture has three "legs" that touch the ground and three oculi that open toward the sky. Its edges have a trim milled from Alaskan Yellow Cedar wood, and Akebia white chocolate vines have been planted at the base of each "leg" to climb over a network of cables and cover the sculpture. Over time, with this greenery in place, an ecosystem of insects, butterflies and birds will develop.

Aaron and Christian Huizenga, *Wake*

WAKE

Aaron and Christian Huizenga
Tait Waterfront Park

Wake is designed to attract park visitors for a wide range of uses, providing a community space that offers not only shelter, but a playful dynamism at Tait Waterfront Park and the surrounding neighbourhood. The shelter will also be an opportunity for nearby Cambie Community Centre to program daytime activities and more. *Wake* takes inspiration from both Pacific Northwest vernacular architecture and the movement of the park's bordering Fraser River. Intersecting waves break up the traditional profile of a gable roof to create apertures that illuminate the space below. With unobstructed sight lines and a lifted, buoyant roof structure, the *Wake* pavilion is designed as an inspiring and inclusive public space.

Private Development Public Art Program



Through the development applications process, private developers continued to provide high quality public art to enrich the public realm. In 2022, the following projects were completed:

CASCADE

Marie Khouri
6699 River Road

Inspired by the topography formed by layers of sediment and the movement of the nearby Fraser River, artist Marie Khouri shaped *Cascade* to mirror the structural rhythmic flow of elements using brushed stainless steel steps. Featuring two embracing sculptures, the artwork conveys our connection to the natural world and a message of movement, social connectivity and community.

Marie Kouri, *Cascade*

SEA TO SKY

Thomas Cannell
6340 No. 3 Road

This monumental integrated glass artwork is located at the corner of No. 3 and Cook Road as part of the Paramount development by Keltic Canada, Inc. At five-storeys high, the work powerfully acknowledges and celebrates Musqueam culture in the heart of City Centre.

Thomas Cannell, *Sea to Sky*

SEA TO SKY: MAKING OF A PUBLIC ARTWORK, PART I AND II

This two-part video shares the story of *Sea to Sky*'s creation and includes an interview with Musqueam artist Thomas Cannell and Michael Mayer of Franz Mayer of Munich discussing the conceptualization and fabrication of this monumental work. The videos are available to view online via [YouTube](#). Videographer: Brian Lye.

Civic Public art projects commissioned in 2022 for installation in 2023-24 are listed in Appendix 2 (page 58).



Accessibility



Diversity



Investment



Awareness/Participation



Public Spaces

Phil Phil Studio, *Facets of Byng*

Community Mural Program

The City of Richmond's Mural Program provides opportunities to add vibrancy to highly visible public spaces, foster community dialogue and cross-cultural exchange, and engage diverse and multi-generational communities. The program is funded through the voluntary contributions of private developers to the City's Public Art Program Reserve fund.

FACETS OF BYNG

Phil Phil Studio (Erica Phillips and Maddy Phillips)

Lord Byng Elementary School, 3711 Georgia Street

This mural is a collaboration between the students at Lord Byng Elementary School, Kelvin Higo, representing the Steveston Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, and Phil Phil Studio. It celebrates the rich history and diversity of the Lord Byng Elementary School community.

OUR TREES THE FRIENDS

Jean Bradbury

Maple Lane Elementary School, 7671 Alouette Drive

On the two exterior walls of the gymnasium wing of Maple Lane Elementary School, this mural depicts cedar, fir, alder and maple trees as well as other native plants and animals using a rainbow of primary and secondary colours in soft gradients.

Jean Bradbury, *Our Trees The Friends*

GARDEN CITY SCHOOL MURAL

Atheana Picha

Garden City Elementary School, 8311 Garden City Road

The artist worked with the students from Garden City Elementary School to inform the design of this mural exploring the theme of the local natural environment, plants and Indigenous stories. The artwork represents animals including those she remembers seeing while growing up in the area.

Atheana Picha, *Garden City School Mural*

CAUSE & EFFECT

Dolores Altin and Elvira Monteforte

Hayer Demolition, 12011 Mitchell Road

Reading from right to left, the mural describes Mitchell Island's geological origins: underwater mineral deposited over time as the Fraser River meanders through the delta. Hayer Demolition's business is to deconstruct materials and recycle building materials to become resources once again. Hypothetically, these building materials are returned to the earth and nature is regenerated through this process. Thus the artwork in place demonstrates a cycle of resource, extraction, construction, demolition and re-generation.

Dolores Altin and Elvira Monteforte, *Cause & Effect*

Carolyn Wong, *A Fisherman's Dream*Sebnam Ospeta, *Walk Listen Record*Sebnam Ospeta, *Walk Listen Record*

"This mural never fails to draw the attention and admiration of anyone who passes through the walkway. We worked closely with artist Carolyn Wong, who brought our vision to life and we couldn't be more pleased with the final result."

— General Manager, Steveston Harbour Authority

A FISHERMAN'S DREAM

Carolyn Wong

Steveston Harbor Authority, 3180 Chatham Street

This representation of Steveston's vibrant fishing industry is intended to inspire a spirit of discovery and an appreciation of nature. The artwork explores key species of today's local fisheries while paying homage to the glory days of fishing represented by the silhouetted Gulf of Georgia cannery on the horizon. The fisher at sea is contemplating the future of the fishing industry as he gazes into the classic West Coast golden hour sunset, which remains a timeless spectacle for all to admire.

Engaging Artists in Community Public Art Program



The following programs were funded through the voluntary contributions of private developers to the City's Public Art Program Reserve fund.

WALK LISTEN RECORD

Sebnem Ozpeta

Community-engaged Artist Project, Walk Richmond

A digital storytelling project by filmmaker Sebnem Ozpeta, this artwork was presented in partnership with Walk Richmond, a program of the Richmond Fitness and Wellness Association. The artist led a series of free, sound-recording workshops in Richmond parks and trails from May through July. Participants were invited to walk, listen and record sound around them and then share their experiences, stories and memories. For more information, visit publicartproject.wixsite.com/walk-listen-record



Edward Fu-Chen Juan,
Art Cultivation from Nature



Mickey L.D. Morgan,
Wayfinding Art Studio



Creative Cafe Collective,
Whimsical Garden

"Working with Edward opened up a whole new world of possibilities. I have a greater appreciation for the natural world around me and I can see colours in everything now."

– Executive Director,
Urban Bounty

ART CULTIVATION FROM NATURE

Edward Fu-Chen Juan

Community-Engaged Artist Project, Urban Bounty

This artist residency at Paulik Neighbourhood Park explored ink extraction and paper-making using native plants, plant fibres and food scraps contributed by participants. A series of free, outdoor printmaking workshops ran from April through October, and included the creation of a legacy art project. The project aimed to build community and raise awareness of sustainable urban food systems. For more information, visit edjuan.com/richmondarts

WAYFINDING ART STUDIO

Mickey L.D. Morgan

Community-engaged Artist Project, Turning Point Recovery Society

For this project, a Richmond-based artist worked with residents and clients of the Richmond Emergency Response Centre operated by Turning Point Recovery Society. Mickey L.D. Morgan engaged the residents in a variety of art workshops from May through June, including drawing, painting, craft-making and storytelling activities. The project culminated with an exhibition to raise awareness on issues surrounding homelessness. For more information, visit wayfindingartstudio.wordpress.com

RICHMOND DROP-IN CENTRE PHOTO CONTEST AND EXHIBITION

In partnership with Turning Point Recovery Society and Richmond Public Library, clients of the Brighthouse Drop-in Centre were given a disposable camera and invited to take photos in response to the prompt: *What is important in your life?* The Richmond Public Library Brighthouse Branch hosted the photography exhibition and invited visitors to vote for their favourite photographs. A celebratory gathering held on October 15 included a poetry-writing workshop led by poet Alan Hill which explored and celebrated the meaning of "home."

WHIMSICAL GARDEN

Creative Café Collective

Artist-In-Residence, William Cook Elementary School

Whimsical Garden, started in 2021, was led by community-based artist J Peachy with support by Pat Calihou, Yolanda Weeks, Melissa West Morrison

2022 PUBLIC ART BY THE NUMBERS

- 120** submissions received for 8 Public Art Calls
- 6** Richmond artists contracted for Public Art commissions
- 9** Community Groups engaged to inform and create public art projects
- 160+** volunteer hours served
- 1,700+** participants attended in-person and on-demand Public Art events and programming

and Tiffany Yang. The year-long project invited Grades 4 and 5 students to activate outdoor spaces on the school grounds through a series of virtual and outdoor in-person art activities and workshops that included Indigenous carving, puppetry and eco-arts. A legacy artwork entitled *Four Directions Canoe Garden* was completed in June 2021 on the school grounds and a final celebration with students and teachers took place on June 16, 2022 for National Indigenous Peoples Day. For more information about this project, visit cookwhimsicalgarden.ca

Community Public Art Programs

The following programs were funded through the voluntary contributions of private developers to the City's Public Art Program Reserve fund.

PUBLIC ART AND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE ARTIST ROSTER

In 2022, staff issued a call to seek Richmond-based artists, designers and other creative professionals for the 2022–2024 Public Art Urban Infrastructure Artist Roster (previously known as the Art Wrap Roster). This roster is comprised of 23 pre-qualified artists who can provide original artwork for a variety of art opportunities, including but not limited to cabinet box art wraps, temporary construction hoarding, waste management containers and other temporary urban design and infrastructure-based installations in the public realm.



Dawn Lo, *Community*



Tara Callaghan, *Fields of Richmond*



Ronn Martin, *Untitled*

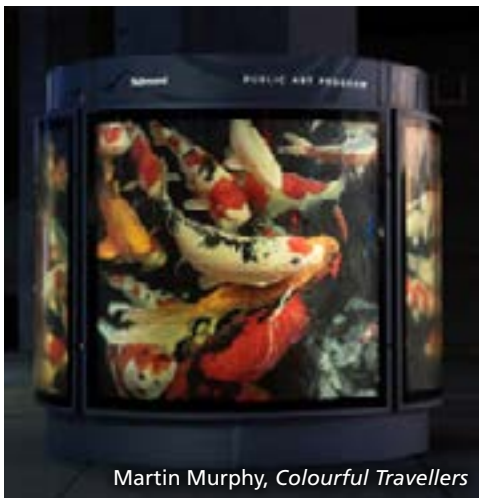
UTILITY BOX ART WRAP PROGRAM

The Utility Box Art Wrap Program partners with BC Hydro, Engineering and Public Works, Parks, Transportation, Environmental Programs and Museum and Heritage Services to beautify new and existing utility boxes throughout the city. In 2022, two traffic cabinets and two utility boxes were wrapped in partnership with Parks, Recreation and Transportation:

- ***Community*, Dawn Lo, 9180 No 1 Road** This vibrant art wrap depicts community activities around West Richmond Community Centre.
- ***Fields of Richmond*, Tara Callaghan, No.3 Road and McMyn Way** The photographs for this work were inspired by a field of flowers at the Richmond Sunflower festival.
- ***Untitled*, Ronn Martin, No.3 Road and Capstan Way** This work is inspired by landscapes, florals and dreamscapes.



Chantelle Trainor-Matties,
Understanding Our Native Wildlife



Martin Murphy, *Colourful Travellers*



Adriele Au, *Puddluv Wave 2*

NO. 3 ROAD ARTS COLUMNS EXHIBITION 16

This year-long exhibition took place at Lansdowne and Aberdeen Centre Canada Line Stations, and showcased the work of three artists — Adriele Au, Martin Murphy and Chantelle Trainor-Matties — selected via an open call to the participating artists of the fourth bi-annual ArtRich 2021 exhibition hosted by the Richmond Art Gallery and presented by the Richmond Arts Coalition. ArtRich 2021 was a juried exhibition that took place in December 2021. The exhibition showcased work by emerging and established artists from Richmond and nearby communities.

- ***Understanding Our Native Wildlife, Chantelle Trainor-Matties***
Chantelle Trainor-Matties is an Indigenous artist of Nisga'a and Métis heritage who specializes in illustration, graphic design and painting. This series of artworks depicted native animal species. A frog sticking out its tongue represents the sharing of knowledge, a raccoon teaches resourcefulness, an eagle symbolizes strength and an otter friendship. The eagle and otter also hold a salmon, a source of life.
- ***Colourful Travellers, Martin Murphy***
Martin Murphy is a Vancouver-based painter who grew up in Unionville, Ontario surrounded by art and antiques. This exhibition presented his photo-realistic style of oil painting with a depiction of koi, symbols of luck, prosperity and good fortune. In creating an aquarium-like experience, the fish swim from one panel to the next, inspiring viewers to continue their own journey with positive energy.
- ***I Am a Thousand Years Old, Double Puddluv 1, Puddluv Wave 2, Puddluv Wave 2, Adriele Au***
Adriele Au is a second-generation Canadian artist based in Burnaby. Her work is a hybrid of painting, drawing and sculpture using mixed-media and repurposed objects that address themes of home, time and nostalgia. This exhibition drew attention to objects and colours that signify celebration, with crêpe party paper streamers, a thousand burnt candles and a silver server that take on emotional significance in the creation of memories.

CAPTURE PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL ON CANADA LINE

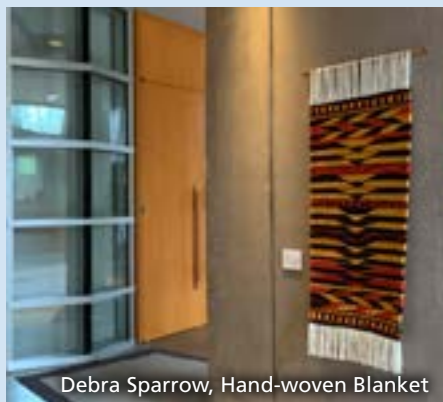
In partnership with Richmond Art Gallery, a series of photo-based installations at Aberdeen and Lansdowne Canada Line Stations were installed as part of the Capture Photography Festival: *Empty Spaces that Fill My Heart* by Chad Wong and *Objects given to my mom because she is Asian* by Kyla Bourgh. (More information about these works on page 19)

MEANDER ACTIVATION

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, *Meander* by Becki Chan and Milos Begovic returned to liven up public spaces in Minoru Park. The electric blue artist-designed modular seating units were installed at the Richmond Cultural Centre and Minoru Centre for Active Living from July to September 2022.



The Blue Cabin



Debra Sparrow, Hand-woven Blanket

Dawn Lo, *Transposing*

Public Art Partnerships

BLUE CABIN FLOATING ARTIST RESIDENCY

With the support of Public Art, Parks Services and Public Works, on January 24, the Blue Cabin Floating Artist Residency arrived in Steveston for a two-year tenure at Imperial Landing. This unique initiative operates as a partnership among three Vancouver arts organizations (C3, grunt gallery and Other Sights for Artists' Projects) and provides creative experiences for artists and visitors across multiple disciplines, generations and locations. Musqueam artist Debra Sparrow and Richmond-based artist Keely O'Brien completed residencies at the Blue Cabin this year. For more information, visit TheBlueCabin.ca

HAND-WOVEN BLANKET BY DEBRA SPARROW

Debra Sparrow's residency at the Blue Cabin took place between April 3 and May 21, when she worked on a hand-woven blanket artwork that was later commissioned by the City of Richmond. The hand-spun sheep wool blanket's design honours the artist's ancestors and the heron, the majestic bird associated with the City and its many waterways and natural landscapes. The blanket is now on display in front of Council Chambers.

CAPSTAN CANADA LINE STATION TEMPORARY ART WRAPS

TransLink, in partnership with Richmond Public Art, installed three large-scale art wraps on the hoarding surrounding the construction of the new Capstan Canada Line Station. Through connections made via the Art Wrap Program Artist Roster, three original artworks were created by Richmond-based artists Dawn Lo, Laura Kwok and Jeni Chen.

ABC: ASPIRE | BUILD | CELEBRATE AND MOSAIC FIREFLY

Public Art in partnership with Community Social Development and community partners including Richmond Multicultural Community Services, Minoru Seniors Society and City Centre Community Association received a Canadian Heritage project grant (\$92,000) to implement ABC: Aspire | Build | Celebrate, a community engaged artist project to foster awareness, learning and action on topics of anti-racism, discrimination and intersectionality.

Public Art assisted in an arms-length artist team selection process. Staff worked with community partners to select and commission a collaborative artist team from Presentation House Theatre and Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre. The selected project, *Mosaic Firefly* brings seniors and youth together through storytelling, visual arts and performance arts. Project completion is anticipated in fall 2023.

More at www.abcrichmond.wixsite.com/abcrichmond



Accessibility



Diversity



Investment



Awareness/Participation



Public Spaces

Michael Swayne, *Dog Party*

Public Art Maintenance

In 2022, Public Works staff carried out repairs and maintenance work on the three No. 3 Road Art Columns located at Lansdowne and Aberdeen Canada Line Stations. After more than a decade of use and exposure to the elements, locks on display case doors were replaced and fluorescent lamps were replaced with LEDs, extending the lifespan of these vital elements of public realm design.

In partnership with Engineering and Parks Services, Michael Swayne's *Dog Party*, located at No. 3 Road Bark Park, also received some care. Thirteen of the steel sculptures, removed since 2021 to make way for dyke infrastructure work, were cleaned and received a new protective coating of paint with assistance from the City's Public Works staff.

2022 RPAAC MEMBERS:

- Bronwyn Bailey
- Imu Chan, Vice Chair
- Ceri Chong
- Paul Dufour, Chair
- Jose Larano
- Rebecca Lin
- Allison Liu
- Jerome Teo
- Minghui Yu
- Council Liaison: Harold Steves

Education and Outreach

Richmond Public Art partnered with other City service divisions to incorporate public art-based activities and programs as part of signature events for the City.

PUBLIC ART TABLEAU STORIES

Public Art partnered with the Richmond Arts Centre and Children's Art Festival to present a self-guided outdoor art activity with free tote bag activity kits. Fifty tote bag kits were distributed through a registration process for the activity and invited groups of families and friends to create tableau scenes using photography, public art, imagination and natural surroundings of Minoru Park. A tableau is a group of objects and/or motionless figures representing a scene from a story or from history. Participants were invited to submit their photos via Instagram using #richmondhasheart. The activity offered a fun, family friendly activity that followed safe, social distancing protocols.

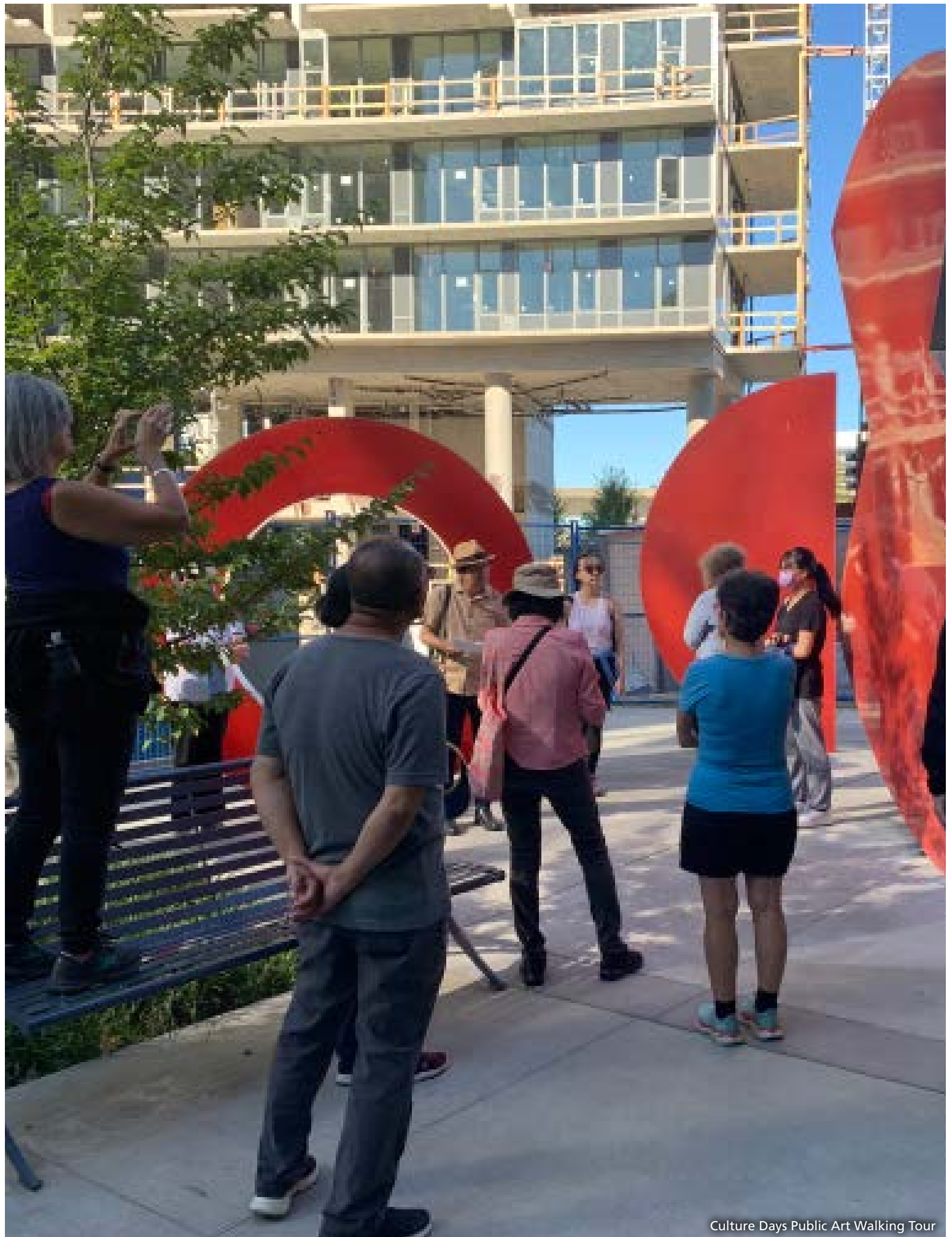
2022 RICHMOND CULTURE DAYS

Public Art with community partners, offered a variety of free, family-friendly activities and events for Culture Days:

- **Richmond Public Art Walking Tour** RPPAAC member Imu Chan hosted an accessible walking tour of public art works situated in Capstan Village. The tour covered works sited at private building developments including recent additions to the collection such as *Lily Tree* by Devon Knowles, *Bell* by Khan Lee, *2 Half Apples* by Gathie Falk as well as temporary hoarding art wraps at Capstan Station featuring artwork by Richmond artists.
- **Walk. Listen. Record: interactive sound and video art installation** Artist Sebnem Ozpeta and Walk Richmond combined forces for a celebratory finale of the Engaging Artists in the Community program featuring the artist, project participants and general public to showcase and present a series of interactive sound and video digital stories.
- **Art Cultivation from Nature with Edward Fu-Chen Juan and Urban Bounty** This celebratory event connected participants of the Engaging Arts and Community program with the larger public together to learn about the project and to unveil the legacy artwork.

Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee

The Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee (RPAAC) is a Council-appointed voluntary advisory committee that provides input on public art policy, planning, education and promotion. At monthly Committee meetings, members receive presentations on new civic, private development and community project proposals and provide feedback and recommendations.





Art Truck weaving at the Richmond Public Library, Brighthouse branch

Richmond Arts Centre

The Richmond Arts Centre provides high quality arts education opportunities in a wide variety of disciplines, including visual arts, dance and movement, music and theatre. The Centre is also home to eight local arts organizations known as the Resident Art Groups.

The Richmond Arts Centre is the hub of artistic opportunity within Richmond, activating and inspiring artists and community members to connect through the arts. The creative contributions of Richmond residents, through dance, theatre or visual arts, have a significant and positive impact on community health and celebrate the vibrancy of Richmond as a diverse and dynamic city.

The Richmond Arts Centre is also home to the annual Children's Arts Festival.

ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS:

- 600+** courses
- 8,000+** registered students
- 45+** professional instructors
- 85,000+** visits (virtual & in-person)

Arts Education Programs

The Richmond Arts Centre continues to develop and diversify its arts education offerings to meet community demand for high quality arts education. The programs ensure affordable access to a strong base of introductory and beginner programs as well as higher-level learning opportunities. In 2022, virtual, outdoor and in-person seasonal programs ran throughout the year, responding to current health protocols and conditions. By spring, eight studios reopened for in-person registered programs and community use. By fall, in-person Dance, Performing Arts and Music recitals successfully took place throughout the Cultural Centre.

During Spring Break and over the summer, the Arts Centre and Media Lab partnered to present Arts Experience Camps offering participants aged 6 to 12 the opportunity to explore different art forms over the course of a week. Often, children are drawn to an art form they may have not have previously tried and, through the confidence gained in the camp week, are encouraged to explore more deeply through a seasonal registered class. Another popular

offering in 2022 (with a 100% fill rate) was the Petit Architect day camp that introduced children to architecture through an artistic lens.

Throughout the year, pottery favourites like Clay Hand Building and Wheel Throwing continued to attract registrants while a newly developed Clay Intensive for Youth saw 78 young artists participate in week-long programs held in August. In the performing arts, this year saw the emergence of Hip Hop and Improv Theatre as popular offerings that complemented traditional favourites including Ballet and Musical Theatre.

Community Programs and Outreach

ART TRUCK PROGRAM

The Art Truck program is designed to meet three community needs: 1) provide arts experiences for community members who may not otherwise have access to them, 2) promote public awareness of art within the community, and 3) make arts education readily available to the public.

In the spring, the Art Truck resumed community outreach programming and partnered with the Richmond Museum to offer historical and cultural arts activities for more than 30 Heritage Fair participants. Musqueam artist and weaver, Rita Kompst, taught traditional cedar weaving techniques for students to create a contemporary cedar rose. With artist Keely O'Brien, students used archival photos, maps, origami paper, musical scores, natural materials and found objects to create assemblage shadow boxes.

For the months of July and August, the Art Truck program partnered with the Richmond Public Library to offer eight free Art Club workshops for children. Richmond-based artists Bea Martin, Dawn Lo, along with staff, provided arts experiences at sold-out workshops, reaching a combined 120 participants.

On August 27, the Art Truck provided a unique arts experience for families at *Songs of Summer* at Gateway Theatre. Community-engaged artist, Laara Cerman, who has a special interest in nature-based arts, led approximately 200 people in creating representations of Richmond's local flora using tissue paper.

"The art truck was a wonderful addition to Gateway's Songs of Summer outdoor event for kids and families! Kids and parents enjoyed making nature inspired crowns and learning about the local foliage. Such a treat!

— Director of Artistic Programs,
Gateway Theatre



Summer Art Experience Camp



Spring Season Dance class



Rita Kompst, Art Truck at the Richmond Heritage Fair



Accessibility



Diversity



Investment



Awareness/Participation



Public Spaces



Richmond Gem and Mineral Club



Richmond Photo Club

8 RESIDENT ART GROUPS:

- Richmond Artists Guild
- Chinese Artists Association of Richmond
- Richmond Gem and Mineral Society
- Richmond Photo Club
- Richmond Potters' Club
- Richmond Reelers Scottish Country Dancing
- Richmond Weavers and Spinners Society
- Textile Arts Guild of Richmond

RESIDENT ART GROUPS

The Richmond Arts Centre is home to some of the city's longest running community arts organizations who receive reduced rates on regular room rentals for their activities. Throughout the year, typically, these groups provide workshops, exhibitions and demonstrations for their members as well as participate in community events such as Culture Days.

In 2022, the Richmond Arts Centre saw an increase in Resident Art Group visitation as community members returned to their in-person studio activities while following COVID-19 safety protocols as required.

This year saw a reduction in the number of Resident Art Groups: for pandemic-related reasons, Cathay Photographic Society and Richmond Chinese and Calligraphy and Painting Club did not return this year. As well, as of June, the Richmond Reelers Scottish Country Dance Club dissolved as a registered society.

INTERMUNICIPAL ARTS PROGRAMMER ROUNDTABLE

Initiated by the Richmond Arts Centre, the Intermunicipal Arts Programmer Roundtable unites 20+ arts workers representing 12 municipalities. The work group convenes virtually on a quarterly basis, supporting each other on emerging issues, identifying sector trends, and discussing industry best practices and resources. The supportive group also values the roundtable as a welcoming space for skill-sharing, relationship-building and networking.

COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITIONS

With the support of Richmond Art Gallery staff, the Arts Centre organizes exhibitions by local artists for display in the Cultural Centre Upper Rotunda Gallery. In 2022, the Gallery returned to regular exhibitions in this location and presented the following over the year:

- Dominique Norville: *Density of Light*, January 2–31
- Sade Alexis and Joella Daniela: *Black Artists and Creators in our Community*, January 21–February 28
- Richmond Photo Club, February 28–March 28
- Sister Cities Project, April 1–22
- Richmond Art Gallery Youth Art and Culture Lab/ Emily Carr University of Art and Design, April 22–May 12
- Richmond High School Students, May 16–June 17
- Mr. Tony: *Cyclorama*, June 17–July 15
- Sister Cities Project, July 15–31
- Richmond High School Faculty, August 5–September 9
- Christina Lazar: *Art School, The Creative Pursuits Of*, September 9–30
- Richmond Artists Guild, September 30–January 3



Richmond Photo Club exhibition



Mr. Tony, *Cyclorama*



Sade Alexis, *Audre*

Special Events

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXHIBITION

This exhibition in the Upper Rotunda Gallery marked Richmond's seventh Black History Month celebrated by the City and its community partners. *Black Artists and Creators in our Community* (February 1–28) featured work by local artists Sade Alexis and Joella Daniela.

On February 24, Sade Alexis also presented *Exploring the Complexity of Blackness through Portraiture*, an in-person talk for more than 30 people. This marked one of the first in-person events to be held at the Cultural Centre in 2022 with all COVID-19 safety protocols in place. The annual exhibition is a partnership with Mary Wilson of Richmond Black History Month who was also a 2022 Richmond Arts Award recipient.



Cultural Centre front desk during Children's Arts Festival

"My students had fun singing, dancing and, at the same time, learned about our place, how they can notice and recognize more about where we live, and how they can be stewards of our land. Thank you for bringing the arts and so much joy to the students of Richmond!"

— teacher, Blair Elementary School

CHILDREN'S ARTS FESTIVAL

From February 14–25, the annual Children's Arts Festival (CAF) was once again re-imagined to address COVID-19 related limitations. For Family Day, February 21, there were pre-registered, in-person artist-led activities and self-guided opportunities at the Richmond Library/Cultural Centre.

Approximately 600 people attended programming at the Library, Richmond Arts Centre, Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond Museum, and around Minoru Park through a Public Art Scavenger Hunt. An interactive online performance hosted by Branscombe House artist, Krystal Kiran, rounded out the activities.

In order to provide in-person activities for children in schools, the festival departed from the pre-pandemic model of busses coming to the Richmond Library/Cultural Centre and adopted a City-wide provision of service. In collaboration with community associations, Richmond School District No. 38, Richmond Public Library and Gateway Theatre Society, artist-led CAF classes were presented in the following venues over a period of 10 days:

- Richmond Library/Cultural Centre (Library, Art Gallery, Museum, Arts Centre, Media Lab, Public Art);
- Gateway Theatre;
- West Richmond, Hamilton, Cambie, Thompson, South Arm, and Steveston Community Centres; and
- Brighouse, Hamilton and Mitchell Elementary Schools.

In all, 1,770 children from 14 local elementary schools took part in creative, educational activities led by 23 professional artist/instructors, many by simply walking to their local community centre.

For public and school events, COVID-19 safety protocols were in place including facemasks, proof of vaccination when required, and limited seating to ensure physical distancing.

The 2022 Richmond Children's Arts Festival was produced by the City of Richmond and presented by Lansdowne Centre.

2022 CHILDREN'S ARTS FESTIVAL BY THE NUMBERS

2,370 Attendees

14 Schools

23 Artists

Community Partners

In 2022, the Arts Centre partnered with the following community organizations and city departments to increase the community's access to arts opportunities: Gateway Theatre, Resident Art Groups of the Richmond Arts Centre, Vancouver Cantonese Opera Society, Monsoon Festival, Richmond Public Library, School District No. 38, Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond Museum, Richmond Black History Month, Richmond Public Art Program, Richmond Media Lab, Lansdowne Centre, Nonprofit Lifecycles Institute, West Richmond, Hamilton, Cambie, Thompson, South Arm and Steveston Community Associations.



Dance and Drumming workshop at the
Richmond Arts Centre



Video production for the 2022 Virtual U-ROC Awards Ceremony

Richmond Media Lab

Located in the Richmond Cultural Centre and operated in conjunction with the Richmond Arts Centre, the Media Lab is designed to increase technology literacy, accessibility and creativity in our community, particularly among youth. Media Lab participants are taught skills and techniques for applying media and computer technology towards artistic activities and practical marketable skills.

“RYMP, nothing compares to it! It’s really good to be here!”

– RYMP member

RICHMOND MEDIA LAB BY THE NUMBERS:

- 50** Richmond Youth Media Program (RYMP) members
- 2,218** hours RYMP members spent learning media arts skills and building community connections
- 50** Media Lab courses
- 533** registrations for Media Lab courses

Richmond Youth Media Program (RYMP)

The Richmond Youth Media Program (RYMP), a free, referral-based program for youth ages 13–24, has been running continuously for more than ten years as a signature offering of the Media Lab. RYMP members gain skills in media arts and build connections in the community, with a focus on asset development. This year saw a continuation of support from presenting sponsor, Viva Pharmaceuticals and Vancouver Coastal Health’s ongoing grant support in partnership with Richmond Addiction Services Society (RASS).

This year, RYMP returned to in-person programming complete with an outdoor summer series and three out-trips: Garry Point Park (*Walk. Listen. Record* public art project), Frederic Wood Theatre at UBC (*Parliament of the Birds*) and Genesis Theatre (Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra).

In 2022, there were 50 members, 59 guests, 21 adult mentors (including youth workers and professional media artists) and one work placement student who spent 26 hours at RYMP skill sessions and events. RYMP members also participated in a variety of community events and initiatives, including the following:

YOUTH WEEK – CAREERS IN MEDIA ARTS (CIMA)

Careers in Media Arts is an annual event that introduces youth to professionals working in different areas of media arts. On May 7, CIMA was presented in-person at the Media Lab, and featured 3D Modelling and Texture artist and



TAGOR live-streaming event



Local documentary filmmaker Ying Wang training members of the First Nations Grand Council Treaty #3 in video production

instructor, Dominic Garcia and two RYMP members, Isidora Chan and Ro Levy. In total, 14 participants enjoyed this professional development event with refreshments on the Rooftop Garden.

RICHMOND REMEMBERS LIVE VIDEO SIMULCAST

Under the direction of filmmaker Kryshan Randel, five RYMP members took part in providing live coverage of the 2022 *Richmond Remembers* ceremony at Richmond City Hall. RYMP members set up recording equipment including microphones and cameras, and provided great shots throughout the event. The video attracted **more than 4,000 views**.

YOUTH ART MART

A youth-led initiative, this annual event has been running since 2013 (except for 2020). In 2021, staff revived the Mart and in 2022, the number of vendors doubled with the event held over two days and a wider range of artists invited to participate (ages 13-30). Many new vendors were reached via the @CityOfRichmondYouth Instagram page. In total, there were 20 vendors and 459 visitors.

"I felt really supported by the staff and felt that I could focus entirely on my table without worrying about anything else. Essentially a shop with training wheels."

– Youth Art Mart vendor

Programs & Activities

MEDIA ARTS EDUCATION COURSES

With a return to in-person classes, new instructors joined the team including filmmakers and graphic designers. Throughout 2022, students took classes on a range of topics including Digital Illustration, Animation, Stop-Motion Animation, Video Editing, Filmmaking and Graphic Design.

COMMUNITY MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE

The Media Lab has continued in its role as a community resource on technology and media, providing advice, technical support and equipment for a variety of community groups. Some highlights:

- hosting Ying Wang of Cinevolution Media Arts Society providing a series of training workshops for Indigenous documentary filmmakers
- facilitating Resident Art Group TAGOR in producing hybrid live-streaming events, and
- creation of a Portable Media Cart for live-streaming at the Cultural Centre.



Accessibility



Diversity



Investment



Awareness/Participation



Public Spaces

"RYMP helped connect me to a job where I'm able to use skills taught here, and also helped me reconnect with friends that I hadn't seen in ages, all during a difficult personal time.

RYMP has always been a safe/important place to me, and has continued to help me way into adulthood with things that I'd normally have no idea where to start with. I'm super thankful."

– RYMP member

MEDIA LAB-RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP

In partnership with the Library, the Media Lab offered a free two-week course called *Animating Memories* to empower participants to use technology for sharing photos and videos with family and friends. Participants learned about equipment available at the Media Lab and the Library's Launchpad which includes photo and slide scanners and sound recording equipment.

SPRING BREAK & SUMMER CAMPS

The Media Lab and Arts Centre joined forces to offer enriching programs across disciplines for both spring break and summer. Programmers also partnered with the Richmond Art Gallery to provide field trips.

DOORS OPEN 2022

The Media Lab opened its doors and hosted two days of Stop-Motion Animation workshops for visiting families and participants.

TECHNOLOGY & EQUIPMENT UPGRADE

This year saw a significant upgrade to the computers in the Media Lab, with most equipment replaced with a set of 10 MacBook Pro laptops to take full advantage of Adobe Creative Suite software. An inventory of Media Lab equipment was also completed in anticipation of moving to the new Richmond Cultural Centre Annex building in 2023. Aging, broken, and outdated equipment is replaced strategically throughout the year.

Media Creation Services

Staff work with partners from a range of City departments and community partners to support the production of original videos to highlight program achievements, assist with staff training, provide documentation, and/or offer technical support and advice. If Media Lab staff are unable to assist with a request, they can provide referrals to service providers in the community.

In 2022, the list of projects included: *2021 Arts Services Year in Review* video, *2021 Heritage Services Year in Review* video, U-ROC Awards video intro and livestream hosting of awards show, *My Richmond* Business Portal instructional videos, *Art At Work* presenter headshot photography, Writer-in-Residence program filming, and filming *MOTHLIKE/silvery-blue* Culture Days public performance.

Partners and Funders

The Media Lab continues to develop relationships with service agencies across the region. RYMP members have been referred to employment, volunteer and workshop opportunities as part of the program benefits. RYMP youth have found volunteer experience and paid employment with the Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond Arts Centre, Community Social Development, Minoru Seniors Society and City Centre Community Centre.

In 2022, RYMP successfully renewed its funding relationship with the Vancouver Coastal Health SMART Fund for three years of program support, and also has the ongoing support of Richmond Addictions Services Society.



Richmond Youth Media Program gathering on the Rooftop Garden



Beyond Arts Services

While much of Richmond's arts programs, exhibitions, events and experiences are offered through the Department of Arts, Culture & Heritage Services, the arts play a vital role in other areas in the Community Services Division, including Parks Programs and Community Recreation.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ARTS PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS:

- 2,844** Arts courses offered
- 13,308** Registered participants
- 10** Participating community associations/societies

Community Associations and Societies

As part of our relationship-based approach, the City of Richmond works with community associations and societies to deliver a variety of programs and services at community centres and the Seniors Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living. Program offerings and events include visual arts, dance, music and theatre opportunities which play a vital role in the continuum of arts programming in the City.

Although the delivery of arts programs at community centres continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, 2022 participation data demonstrated a steady recovery towards pre-pandemic participation. In 2022, more than 2,800 visual arts, dance and music courses were offered for 13,308 participants in both virtual and in-person formats, which represented a significant increase over 2021 participation (5,060 in 2021).

In addition to registered programs, arts activities are an important component of the child care programs offered by community centres. Throughout each year, arts programming also supports city-wide themes and special events, such as Pink Shirt Day and Pride Week.

Participating associations include City Centre Community Association, East Richmond Community Association, Hamilton Community Association, Sea Island Community Association, South Arm Community Association, Steveston Community Society, Thompson Community Association, West Richmond Community Association and Minoru Seniors Society, as well as the Richmond Nature Park Society.



Artist in the Park with
Krystal Kiran



Building Community Connections
paper mural with Laura Rivera



Faces of Richmond: portrait of
Jim Ratsoy by artist Jennifer Heine

Activities

ARTIST IN THE PARK

Branscombe House Artist-in-Residence, Krystal Kiran, performed and taught dance in Steveston Park. The program attracted park users, preschool families and daycamp children alike. Krystal's offerings cultivated cross-cultural allyship through arts and healing practices, with a particular focus on celebrating the "third culture" experience, thus bridging communities together.

BUILDING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

At South Arm Community Association's Building Community Connections event, the centre engaged local artist, Laura Rivera, to create a painted paper mural of South Arm Community Centre. At the event, participants were invited to add themselves into the mural, signifying their connection to South Arm.

DRAMA, PHOTO AND GLEE

Throughout 2022, arts groups from the Seniors Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living continued to meet. The Platinum Players Drama Group met online weekly to rehearse short skits, while the Minoru Photo Group and Glee singers attended their programs throughout the year, maintaining their vital connections to the arts and to each other.

FACES OF RICHMOND

In celebration of BC Seniors' Week 2022, from June 6 to 12, the Senior Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living partnered with the Community Arts Council of Richmond to display an exhibition featuring portraits of seniors in Richmond. Additionally, audio pieces of the seniors were recorded to accompany each portrait – stories that contain nuggets of wisdom or personal messages. Each portrait was painted by a local artist and the interpretative portrait they kindly created was gifted to their senior models.

JAZZ PIANO COMPING AND CLARINET

The Seniors Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living continued with new music programs to increase skill, build knowledge and have fun with Beginner Jazz Piano lessons. Participants learned the basics and met weekly to tune up their abilities and gain confidence in playing and performing.

"I felt so captivated by her story. I loved the sparkle in her eyes and her lovely warm smile, and I hope I was able to captivate those qualities in my art."

– Faces of Richmond artist



Accessibility



Diversity



Investment



Awareness/Participation



Public Spaces



Exhibition by Tom Taylor, South Arm Gallery

LOCAL ART EXHIBITION SPACE

South Arm, City Centre and Thompson Community Centres have wall space dedicated to exhibiting local works of art, in an effort to promote the development of visual arts of all levels and to provide local community exhibition space in Richmond. Artists from all cultural and artistic backgrounds at any stage in their career are encouraged to submit applications on an ongoing basis. New artists are selected regularly, showcasing a variety of artwork including paintings, drawings, photographs and textiles.

"Who doesn't love music? It's there for us when we are happy and when we are sad."

– Program participant, Seniors Centre

MUSIC AND DANCE SOCIALS

The Minoru Seniors Society hosted a variety of music and dance socials at the Seniors Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living, including two International Line Dancing events, a series of volunteer-hosted social events celebrating music and song, and a jam session in the Fireside Lounge.

MUSICAL INTERLUDES

The Seniors Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living continued to offer an in-person weekly music program for 55+ participants featuring sing-along-style piano and guitar performances. Music enhances mood and improves cognition, and these sessions provided a much-needed social opportunity for seniors.

OUTDOOR ART IN THE PARK

This activity, held in South Arm Community Centre's courtyard, continued to provide creative opportunities to inspire children to explore a combination of art mediums while developing new skills. In addition to the children's program, Outdoor Art in the Park was yet-again offered to youth over the summer season, where teens explored a variety of process-based art projects, enabling their creativity to flourish.



Harvest Full Moon Project



Earth Day



Pink Shirt Day

Special Events

HARVEST FULL MOON PROJECT

The Harvest Full Moon Project legacy continued at City Centre Community Centre for its seventh consecutive year. Project and artist lead, Marina Szijarto, and her team partner activated the centre to reflect the significance of the Harvest Full Moon Project where cultures from east to west come together to express gratitude and celebrate the harvest season through intercultural activities and art. Activities included a mooncake-making demonstration, box and bunny lantern making and an interactive Indigenous storytelling session.

WEST FEST

Re-introduced at West Richmond Community Centre this past August after a two-year hiatus, this event included a family painting area where preschool staff led and encouraged more than 80 participants to paint and decorate rocks to bring home for display in homes or gardens. The event also featured a large group of local youth musicians performing a wide variety of music. Many of the children (and adults) in the audience danced and sang along with the performers.

EARTH DAY

For Earth Day 2022, Thompson Community Association hosted a free outdoor celebration at Terra Nova Adventure Playground called Harnessing the Power. Community members joined local artist, Katharina Scharnweber in exploring the idea of renewable energy through the creation of personalized solar prints and miniature wind turbines.

PINK SHIRT DAY

Members of the Cambie Community Association's Youth Taking Charge group composed personally meaningful positive messages that were turned into graphic designs as well as stencils. While the designs were printed and posted around the Centre and on the @CambieYouth Instagram account, the stencils were used to spray rain-activated graffiti on the Cambie grounds. These positive messages were revealed when it rained, bringing brightness and inspiration to the dreary winter days.

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

West Richmond Community Association hosted an evening of family-friendly activities and free play last July at the playground, highlighted by a performance by Luc LeMans, a "one-man music machine" who writes, records and produces his own tracks.

City Centre Community Association kicked off its Concerts in the Park series at Garden City Park with a Pride Week showcase featuring live entertainment by Richmond-based singer and songwriter, Jason Qiu. Local talent, Shawn Bullshields, also performed during this free summer concert series.



Pride Week at Thompson

PRIDE WEEK

Thompson Community Association celebrated Pride Week with Paint Your Pride, an outdoor workshop where children painted a one-of-a-kind t-shirt with their families. This activity was directed to LGBTQ2S+ members of the community to support artistic expression and individuality. There were 20 people registered for the workshop and many requests to offer more opportunities like this in the future.

As part of South Arm Community Association's Pride Week festivities, community members were invited to enjoy light refreshments and hands-on art activities while listening to original music performed by local musician, Jessica Mai.

As well, West Richmond Community Association hosted a Cardio Salsa dance session outdoors to embrace and recognize Pride Week in July. Eighteen people registered to participate, have fun and dance through the hour-long celebration.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

West Richmond Community Association hosted "Ukeing around the Christmas Tree" featuring 40 seniors playing the ukulele and singing along to classic holiday-themed songs. Light snacks and a social preceded the event, which proved to be a terrific seasonal activity for all involved.



City crew with street banners

2022 Street Banner Contest

The 2022 street banner contest, organized and coordinated by Richmond's Parks Department, was launched on August 10, 2020 and concluded with the banner unveiling ceremony on February 22, 2021. The contest attracted more than 650 original submissions consisting of photographs, graphic art, collages and other art medium formats. A community judging panel reviewed the submissions and selected 20 designs as semi-finalists. The public was then invited to vote for their favourite designs through the City's Lets Talk Richmond website. The Top 10 designs with the most votes were chosen as the winners.

The winning artists were Alissa Ritchie, Brian Phillips, Dawn Levelton, Eva Wong, Jaida Siu, Jenyse Grimm, Megan Yung, Micah Groberman, Paul Lung, and Vergilio Gloriani.



Music and Dance in the Fireside Lounge, Seniors Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living

*In Wonderland*

MISSION

To enrich the quality of life in Richmond and surrounding communities by creating outstanding professional theatre and a dynamic hub for the performing arts.

Gateway Theatre

Gateway Theatre is managed and operated by Richmond Gateway Theatre Society, a registered charity and not-for-profit organization. Supported by the City, the theatre facility is Richmond's live performing arts hub, normally drawing audiences in excess of 35,000 to more than 150 performances.

In recent years, Gateway Theatre has collaborated with companies such as Western Canada Theatre, Pi Theatre, ITSAZOO, Ruby Slippers Theatre, Vertigo Theatre and Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre. Building on a tradition of artistic residencies in the venue, Gateway also offers a Company-in-Residence program.

Gateway's newer community-driven initiatives include participatory and immersive artistic offerings which take place off-site or make innovative uses of Gateway's premises. Recently, Gateway has partnered with other organisations, such as S.U.C.C.E.S.S, Aberdeen Centre and the Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site, in these artistic offerings.

Gateway also remains an important local rental venue, home to many recitals, events and performances produced by community and professional organisations.

Artistic Offerings



Into the Light

INTO THE LIGHT

An Immersive Lunar New Year Experience

Created by Marina Szijarto and Stephanie Wong

February 18-20, 2022

Created by Hong Kong-born, Vancouver-based multidisciplinary artist, Stephanie Wong, and award-winning Richmond-based artist, Marina Szijarto, *Into the Light* was an all ages, immersive, walk-through experience that brought a unique approach to Lunar New Year, a holiday celebrated by many in the Richmond community. Attendees were immersed within the ancient tale of sea-monster *Nian* (年), and embarked on a journey through darkness and fear, into celebration and light. This unique experience attracted more than 450 attendees.



Certified

CERTIFIED

Written and performed by JD Derbyshire, Directed by Roy Surette

March 8–19, 2022

In *Certified*, comedian and “certified insane person” JD Derbyshire turned the audience into a mental health review board in this memoir-play, breaking the stigma around mental health. It was an irreverent fun, hilarious and heart-aching journey through the mental health system in Canada. Over 11 performances, *Certified* brought in more than 300 patrons.

IN WONDERLAND

By Anna Cumber, Directed by Haysam Kadri

April 7–16, 2022

Gateway Theatre delighted audiences with the BC premiere of *In Wonderland*, presented in English with Traditional and Simplified Chinese surtitles. In this imaginative and contemporary retelling of Lewis Carroll's classic novels, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*, three actors (Sarah Roa, Natascha Girgis and Graham Percy) fantastically portrayed the story's iconic characters, transforming right before the audience's eyes. More than 1,000 patrons enjoyed *In Wonderland*.

“Certified was exactly the type of theatre we expect from a venue like the Gateway Theatre. It was intimate, engaging, surprising and dynamic theatre excellently performed.”

– audience member

SONGS OF SUMMER

August 27, 2022

Following the success of last year's *Songs of Summer*, Gateway Theatre invited visitors back to enjoy their outdoor concerts. In the afternoon, DJ Miss Sparklez and multi-talented young performer and songwriter, Rickie Wang, took the stage to perform their favourite jams that got the whole family on their feet busting out dance moves. Following the performance, families were encouraged to stay for interactive games, arts and crafts, and storytime. In the evening, Krystle Dos Santos performed an entertaining set filled with Motown tunes and classic feel-good tunes that transported everyone back to the good ol' days. These two outdoor concerts attracted more than 120 attendees.



Accessibility

 Diversity

 Investment

 Awareness/Participation

 Public Spaces



Culture Days Celebration



Anne of Green Gables: The Musical

CULTURE DAYS CELEBRATION CONCERT FEATURING STAR BAND September 24, 2022

Gateway Theatre hosted a free concert on the MainStage that brought in a sold out crowd. Star Band was invited to perform favourite pop music from past decades, as well as present-day hits in English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Japanese. Their performance brought in 400 attendees. Gateway Theatre was also part of the Culture Days opening weekend at the Richmond Cultural Centre plaza with colouring and activities for kids.

"Gateway has produced another exceptional production for all ages. The cast, the musicians and the set design was exceptional! The layout of the theatre is accessible to all and offers amenities on both levels of the theatre. As a Richmond resident, I am grateful that our city offers a rich theatrical experience. Bravo!"

– audience member

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES: THE MUSICAL

Book by Donald Harron

Music by Norman Campbell

Adapted from the novel by L. M. Montgomery

Directed by Barbara Tomasic, Music directed by Sean Bayntun

December 15–31, 2022

The musical adaption of L.M. Montgomery's timeless classic took over the MainStage during the holidays at Gateway Theatre. The classic story depicts Anne Shirley as she arrives in Avonlea, Prince Edward Island, and quickly captures the hearts of her new-found family and neighbours. With her fierce personality, remarkable imagination and eagerness to find her own place in the world, Anne brings, joy, love and laughter to the quiet town. This inspiring, humorous, and touching musical brought joy to more than 6,000 attendees.

Photo artist & designer credits:

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Graham Percy, Natascha Girgis and Sarah Roa in *In Wonderland*. Set and Costume Design by Hanne Loosen. Lighting Design by Alexandra Prichard. Photo by Ben Laird.

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Into the Light photo provided by Gateway Theatre

JD Derbyshire in *Certified*. Directed by Roy Surette. Lighting Design by Jillian White. Photo by Ben Laird.

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Culture Days Celebration photo provided by Gateway Theatre

Cast of *Anne of Green Gables: The Musical*. Set design: Jessica Oostergo.

Costume Design: Donnie Tejani. Lighting Design: Sophie Tang. Photo by Ross Denotter.



Accessibility



Diversity



Investment



Awareness/Participation



Public Spaces

Community Event Rentals

Gateway Theatre welcomed back hosting a wide variety of events for community and professional organizations throughout the year.

During the first half of the year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, events were operated at a reduced capacity and some annual community partners could not be accommodated.

By July, rental events were able to return to full capacity, providing a much-needed performance space for 12 local organizations. These events attracted more than 3,000 visitors to Gateway Theatre from every age group.

2022 rental partners:

- Canada China Commerce and Cultural Association
- Canada YC Orchestra Association
- City of Richmond – Arts Awards
- City of Richmond – Sports Awards
- Dance Co.
- Defy Gravity Dance Company
- Educational Theatre Association of Canada
- Pico Productions
- Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra
- Rotary Club of Richmond
- Vancouver Academy of Dance
- Vancouver XiMu Musical Arts Academy



Gateway Academy

Gateway Academy

Adapting with COVID-19 protocols, Gateway Academy programs expanded class sizes, offering Acting and Musical Theatre Summer Camps and Fall / Winter sessional classes. Accompanists successfully augmented musical theatre classes and, with thanks to them and the instructors, the students grew in ensemble, acting, singing and dancing skills, as well as in their confidence. Each camp culminated in a presentation and each session ended with an Open Studio, when families enthusiastically participated in the practices of the class.

In 2022, Gateway Academy delivered more than 550 hours of education to a total of 238 students. The classes were as follows:

- **Acting Classes** (January–April, September–December 2022)
Acting students not only developed skills integral to all theatrical disciplines, but also universal skills such as confidence, focus, listening and trust-building.
- **Musical Theatre** (January–April, September–December 2022)
Musical Theatre students built confidence as they explored vocal techniques, choreography and expressing lyrics musically and dramatically.
- **Acting Summer Camp** (July 2022)
Acting campers not only developed skills integral to all theatrical disciplines, but also universal skills such as confidence, focus, listening and trust-building.
- **Musical Theatre Summer Camp** (July 2022)
Musical Theatre campers built confidence as they explored vocal techniques, choreography, and expressing lyrics musically and dramatically.

Gateway Theatre also reintroduced its Secondary School Outreach Program by serving four drama classes in one session. Participating schools attended the same matinee performance of *In Wonderland*, followed by an active post-show talk-back focussed on careers in theatre with artists and Gateway staff.





“We are excited to move forward this year with COVID-19 restrictions becoming fewer. Thank you for continuing to realize what RPC means to us all in the Richmond community.”

– Richmond Potters' Club

APPENDIX 1

2022 Arts and Culture Grant Program

\$119,502 in financial support was distributed to the following 19 organizations:

OPERATING ASSISTANCE

| | |
|---|----------|
| Canadian YC Chinese Orchestra Association | \$6,587 |
| Cinevolution Media Arts Society..... | \$9,100 |
| Community Arts Council of Richmond | \$9,182 |
| Richmond Arts Coalition | \$9,100 |
| Richmond Community Band Society..... | \$2,052 |
| Richmond Community Orchestra and Chorus Association | \$7,600 |
| Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra | \$9,100 |
| Richmond Music School Society | \$10,000 |
| Richmond Potters' Club | \$7,000 |
| Richmond Singers | \$9,182 |
| Richmond Youth Choral Society | \$7,600 |
| Textile Arts Guild of Richmond | \$1,867 |

PROJECT ASSISTANCE

| | |
|--|---------|
| Arisun Yue Opera Society..... | \$3,800 |
| BC Philharmonic Society..... | \$4,550 |
| Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society..... | \$4,550 |
| Richmond Art Gallery Association | \$4,582 |
| Steveston Historical Society | \$4,550 |
| Tickle Me Pickle Theatre Sports Improv Society | \$4,550 |
| Vancouver Cantonese Opera..... | \$4,550 |



Jacqueline Metz and Nancy Chew, *Alpha*

APPENDIX 2

Richmond Public Art scheduled for completion in 2023–24

CIVIC PUBLIC ART PROJECTS:

- *Typha*, Charlotte Wall and Puya Khalili
- *Richmond Animal Shelter* public art work, Celan Bouillet

PRIVATE PUBLIC ART PROJECTS:

- *Alpha*, Jacqueline Metz and Nancy Chew
- *Fireside*, Nathan Lee

How Richmond supports and invests in arts and culture*

The City wears many hats, acting as a supporter, presenter, facilitator, communicator, investor and facility operator

Supporter



COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITIONS

20 exhibitions in **5** locations including Richmond City Hall



RICHMOND ARTS AWARDS

62 nominations
6 awards presented annually



CULTURE DAYS

55 registered activities¹ by **40** local arts groups and individuals

1: Ranked Number 1 in BC, Number 2 in Canada for medium-sized cities; in Top 10 overall



RICHMOND ARTS CENTRE

provided **8** arts groups
3,600+ hours of room rentals at a subsidy of **\$70,000**

Facility Operator



RICHMOND CULTURAL CENTRE

143 hours room rentals by cultural organizations at subsidized rates
1,062 face masks provided to maskless visitors



RICHMOND ARTS CENTRE

600+ arts courses
45+ professional instructors
8,000+ students registered



RICHMOND MEDIA LAB

50 media arts courses
50 Richmond Youth Media Lab members spent **2,218** hours at the Media Lab



RICHMOND ART GALLERY

11 exhibitions onsite, offsite and online presenting **14** artists
1,109 school program participants
60 free public programs in-person and online with **2,971** participants
10,399 YouTube video views



COMMUNITY CENTRES²

2,844 visual arts, dance & music courses
13,308 participants

2: Delivered by Community Associations Plus: Libraries, Museums and Heritage sites that partner with Arts Services

Communicator



ARTS & CULTURE E-BLASTS

14 e-newsletters
500+ subscribers

ART AT WORK PROGRAM

2 free professional development workshops for artists & organizations
140 participants

Investor



ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS PROGRAM

\$119,502 to **19** organizations



PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

367 artworks to date
23 new works in 2022
6 Richmond artists contracted for civic art commissions
9 community group partners
17,000+ hours of community participation in the Engaging Artists in the Community Program to-date

Presenter



FESTIVALS

5 major events showcasing
300+ local artists and performers
120+ performances
125,000+ in-person and online attendees



GATEWAY THEATRE³

43 performances and **19** rental events
76 professional artists
9 community performers
1,289 hours of training provided to emerging artists
11,603 audience members
550 hours of theatre education
238 students enrolled

3: Operated by Richmond Gateway Theatre Society with support of City of Richmond

Facilitator



FILM OFFICE

6 Film Studio Facilities
1,000+ Richmond business supported by the film industry
\$13 million+ spent on production-related goods and services such as costumes, catering, automobile rentals and more



ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE

2-month Writer-in-Residence
11-month Branscombe House Artist-in-Residence
3 Artists-in-Residence as part of Engaging Artists in the Community Program

* 2022 statistics represented unless otherwise noted



“The constant happiness
is curiosity.”
— Alice Munro



City of Richmond

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Cover: Thomas Cannell, *Sea to Sky*