

VANCOUVER
INTERNATIONAL

CHILDRENS

FESTIVAL

**Ignite your
Child's playful joy!**



2022 Impact Report

45th Annual Vancouver International Children's Festival

May 31 – June 12, 2022

Mission

The Vancouver International Children's Festival inspires and motivates young minds with professional artistic experiences that transform a child's understanding of the world around them and what is creatively possible.

By delivering new and diverse world-class live performances, we open a world of creative possibilities. A world in which future generations build on the passion for art and performance we share with them today.

What Guides Us

- **SIMPLE:** We make it easy for a family or class to spend a day being creatively playful at our family festival.
- **FUN TOGETHER:** We make activities fun and creatively adventurous for kids and adults to enjoy together
- **QUALITY:** We surprise you every year with the extraordinary quality of our programming and our performers.
- **CREATIVITY:** Imagination and artistic ingenuity governs our decision-making. We are comfortable taking creative risks.
- **LOCAL:** We look for ways to incorporate and celebrate BC artists.
- **GLOBAL:** We demand diversity in emotional experience: in people, language, ideas, attitudes and culture.
- **ARTISTIC RISK:** Our mission is to always look for new and different work that pushes the boundaries for young audiences 6 months - 13 years of age.

Report from Katharine Carol, Artistic & Executive Director



The Vancouver International Children's Festival Society (VICFS) returned with an in-person festival in 2022. It was wonderful to present artists live on stage again! What a thrill to witness the joy on the faces of the children and the adults who come with them as they engaged with the artists in person. We also presented some artists virtually to ensure we reached children outside Metro

Vancouver who could not attend the Festival on Granville Island. Thank you for coming back and helping us bring the 2022 Festival to life.

What makes the Festival successful year after year are the people who continue to build and move the VICFS forward. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the Board of Directors, staff, production & technical crew, performers, and volunteers who commit their time and energy to the production and presentation of work for young audiences.

As an arts charity we depend upon the generous funding from many people and organizations. My heartfelt thanks go out to all our donors, sponsors and government funders who keep the Festival relevant and recognize its importance within the Vancouver arts scene. Without your assistance, we would not be able to produce this exciting arts festival for children – thank you for all you do to support the VICFS!

I look forward to seeing you all again in-person in 2023!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katharine Carol".

Katharine Carol, Artistic & Executive Director



Our Commitment to Reconciliation

The Vancouver International Children's Festival Society acknowledges that we create and work on the ancestral, traditional, stolen and unceded territories of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ speaking xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) and sə́lilwətaʔt̓ (Tsleil-Watuth) people and the speaking Skwxwú7mesh Sníchim speaking Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) people. We acknowledge the on-going genocides of Indigenous peoples by Canada, particularly the atrocities committed against children. We commit to work with the Indigenous Peoples of this land to raise the voices of Indigenous children through creativity and play.





THE FESTIVAL WAS HONOURED TO HAVE TSATSU STALQAYU (COASTAL WOLFPACK) OPEN THE 2022 FESTIVAL WITH THEIR BEAUTIFUL SONGS AND DANCES.



INDIGENOUS ARTS WITH CHRISTINE MACKENZIE, KWAKIUTL FIRST NATION ARTIST

Celebrating Diversity

You helped us bring new and diverse stories to 13,327 children, teachers and families!

You committed to creating a Festival with unique shows and perspectives that brought us closer together.



*BHANGRA DANCE
WORKSHOP GURP SIAN (BC)*

"I love how this festival supports new faces and art, and makes space for them on the festival stages, to share their traditions, cultural practices and creative expression."

- 2022 Festival Attendee



JACKY ESSOMBE AT THE AFRICAN PAVILION



ANANSI THE SPIDER RESPUN UNICORN THEATRE (UNITED KINGDOM)



PARENTS ARE STILL A DRAG ZEE ZEE THEATRE (BC)

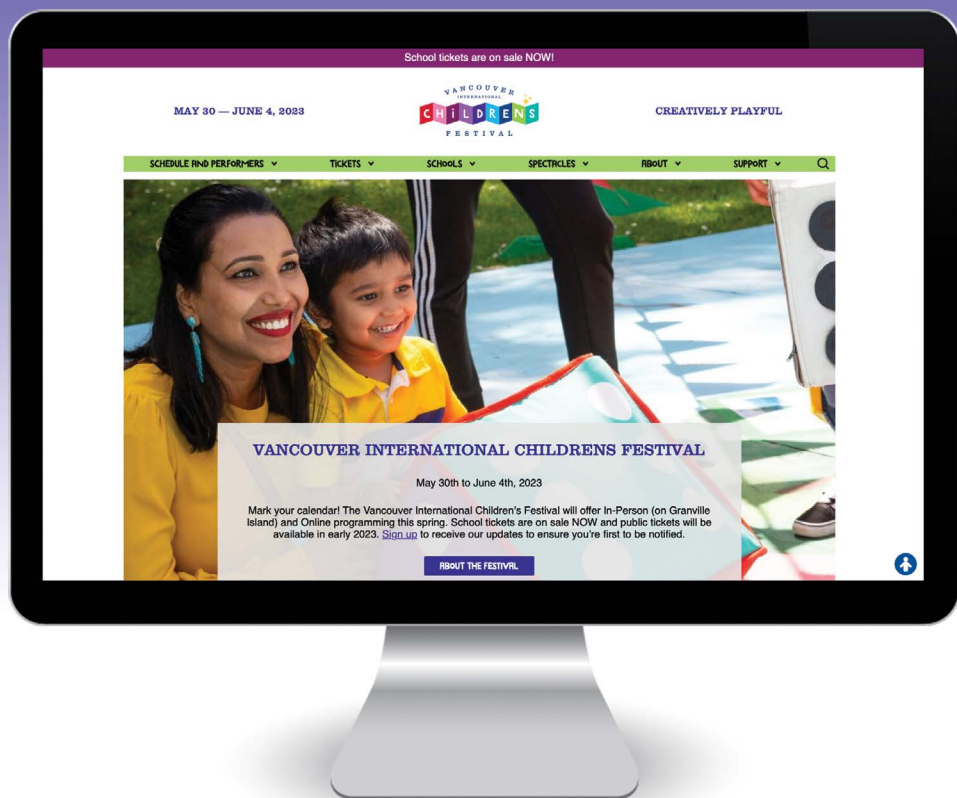
Relaxed Performance

You came together to bring a Relaxed Performance to 189 audience members who benefited from a more relaxed performance experience.



GINALINA (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

Accessibility



In 2022 the Festival worked with consultants to develop an accessible website. It was important that the VICF website reflect the Festival's inclusive values and to make it accessible to people of *all* abilities. The new ChildrensFestival.ca was built with everyone in mind regardless of their level of ability and we will continue to improve the user experience for everyone in the future.



MISSY D PERFORMING AT FUTURE MUSIC

Future Music

A showcase performance of 6 dynamic and talented QT+IBPOC artists that took part in the FM Music residency program. The Festival and Rup Sidhu are the proud creators and producers of the FM: Future Music Mentorship Program presented in partnership with ArtStarts in Schools, Apparatus and the Sarah McLachlan School of Music.

You opened the door to new exciting voices that reflect the world we live in.

This project is generously supported by Creative BC and the Province of British Columbia through the AMPLIFY BC industry Initiatives Program and the BC Arts Council.

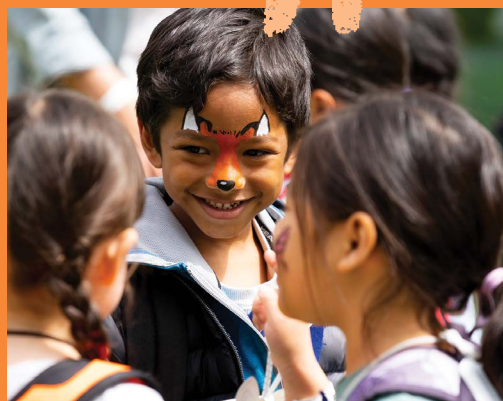


Arts Education



With arts funding in schools continuing to decline, now more than ever experiences like the Children's Festival play a pivotal role in the arts education of BC children. For most, a visit to the Festival is their first experience at a live performance.

You helped 4,500 school children experience a live performance at the Festival.



"It is so unique in the way it is set up for kids! You get such a sense that they feel honoured and respected by such rich activities and performances that are created just for them."

- 2022 Teacher Attendee



Art Knows No Boundaries

**Your support
allowed the Festival
to provide Online
programming to
710 school children
in remote areas
from across BC.**

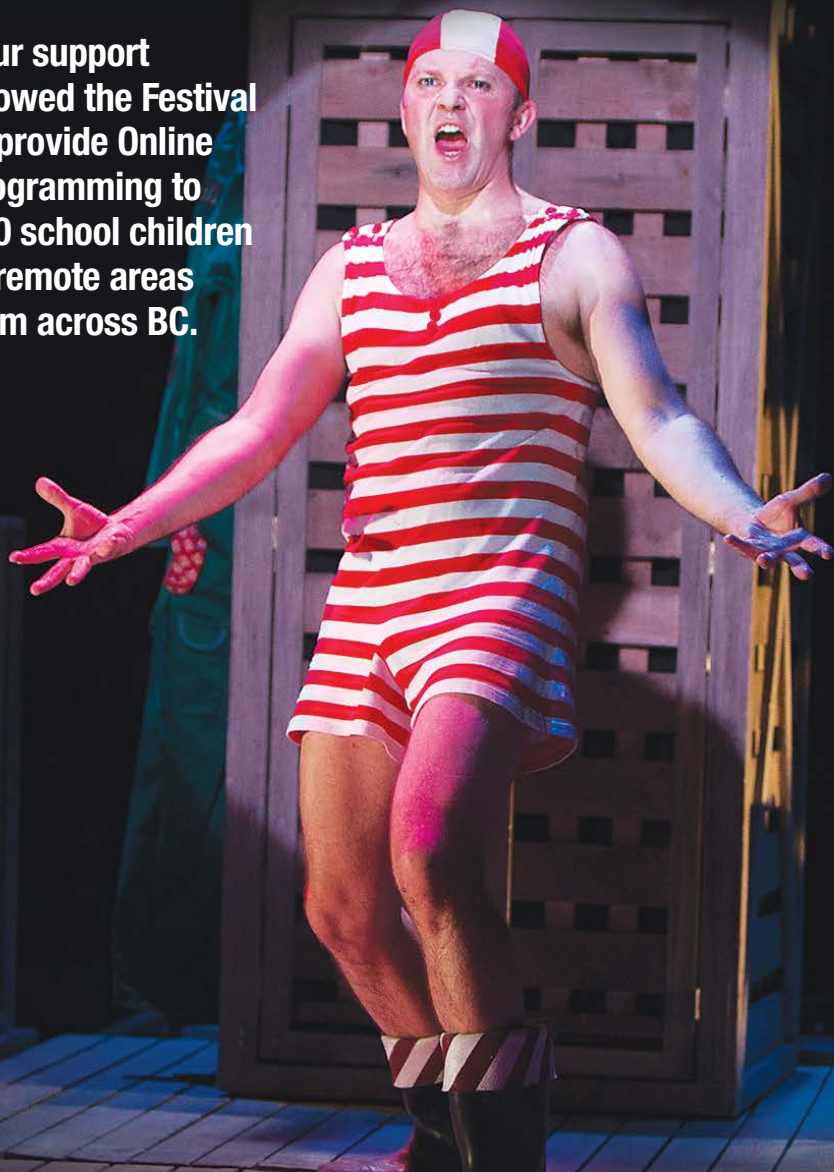


Photo by Patrick Redmond

THE GIRL WHO FORGOT TO SING BADLY THEATRE LOVETT (IRELAND)



*AFRICA OYÉ JACKY ESSOMBE AND FRIENDS
(BC WITH ROOTS IN CAMEROON, BENIN, GUINEA, SOUTH AFRICA, ZIMBABWE)*

French Programming

The Children's Festival is committed to providing French Programming to the BC French Community and the 60,000 (and growing) French immersion and Francophone students in BC.

You brought French students to the Festival to experience French language and culture outside of the classroom.



*WON'MA AFRICA KALABANTÉ
PRODUCTIONS (GUINEA/QUÉBEC)*

Building a Community

The support of donors helps us enrich the lives of children and ensure the Festival remains affordable and accessible to everyone through our community programs such as:

Hospital Outreach

The Hospital Outreach Program brings the Festival experience to children receiving treatment and hospice care at child-centre healthcare facilities. Children unable to leave their facilities can experience the Festival and benefit from the healing power of music and laughter.



*FRED PENNER AT
CANUCK PLACE*

You brought a smile to the faces of 33 sick children and their families.

"I can't tell you how appreciative we are to have you folks bring these shows to the children and families of Canuck Place. To spend the afternoon together, creating memories and taking in these special moments - especially after two years of limited in-person events - was so precious - probably even more so for our families whose time together may be limited."

- L. Fielding, Canuck Place Therapist

Good Neighbours

The Good Neighbours Program provides a day of learning, laughter and inspiration for children and their families who would otherwise be unable to attend the Festival.

You gave a day of fun to 64 low-income families.

“The kids had so much fun at the Festival. It was a great experience for them to see the live performances, especially since there have been so few opportunities over the past few years. They were singing and clapping along and dancing in their seats.”





Adopt a Class

This program provides a day filled with laughter, awe and learning for elementary school children attending enhance support schools across Metro Vancouver.

With your help 1,011 disadvantaged school children experienced an arts performance this year.

"This was the first time some of our students had ever attended a live theatre performance and what a blessing for it to have been one that focuses on Indigenous knowledge, sustainability and the interconnectedness of all things. This was a treasured moment for our students and a beautiful opportunity to connect them to the arts of Vancouver."

- 2022 Adopt a Class Recipient

Emerging Artists

For over 10 years, the Festival's Youth for Youth program has been providing outstanding mentorship to emerging artists and young people ages 15-24. The program develops the artistic skills of young artists and gives them the opportunity to showcase their work at the Festival.

**Your support allowed
6 emerging artists to
shine and grow.**

"One of a kind was such a rewarding and magical experience. I learned so much about writing and unearthing truths from our past, and I loved the process of creating from paper to stage. Working with a group to create a whole play from scratch was a huge learning experience. This whole opportunity enhanced my curiosity as a theatre artist and makes me excited for my future in the arts."

*Filip Fufezan, Performer/Writer,
One of a Kind 2022*



ONE OF A KIND 2022 CAST



Volunteers

The Festival relies on a large team of volunteers. Thank you for donating your time, energy and enthusiasm to help us deliver a successful event!

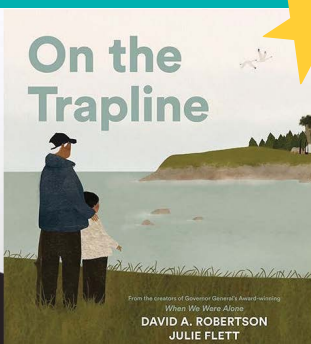
398 volunteers dedicated over 5,664 hours to make the Festival come to life.

"I had an absolute blast every day I volunteered at the Festival. It was wonderful to see how much the kids were enjoying themselves, even when the rain flooded the Activity Village! Working with so many people really made me appreciative of all our differences that make us unique."



Special Events

The Festival is involved with many special events throughout the year. It's an opportunity to provide the Festival's intelligent, thoughtful and quality programming all year long.



ON THE TRAPLINE: DAVID A. ROBERTSON
Presented with Vancouver Writers Fest - October 19, 2021



**VANCOUVER
CHRISTMAS TREE
LIGHTING**
NOVEMBER 26, 2021



**BURT THE BEETLE DOESN'T
BITE WITH ASHLEY SPIRES**
Presented with Vancouver Writers Fest - October 20, 2021

Numerically Speaking



80

SHOWS AND EVENTS

9

VENUES

8

INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS

7

NATIONAL ARTISTS

83

LOCAL ARTISTS

15

ART INSTALLATIONS /
ACTIVITIES

13

DAYS

12

YEAR-ROUND
STAFF MEMBERS

81

CONTRACT
STAFF MEMBERS

53

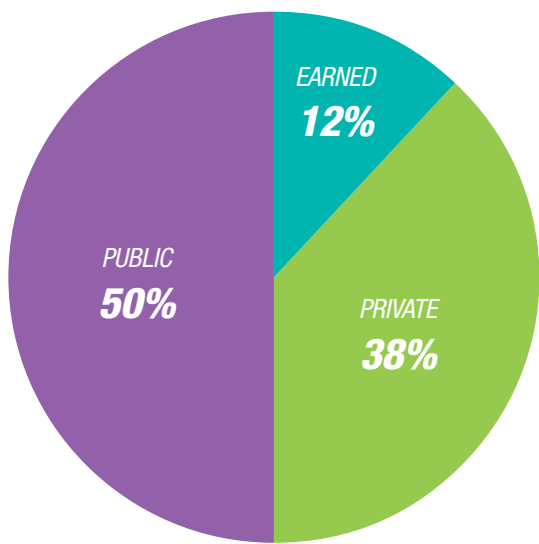
SOCIETY MEMBERS

13

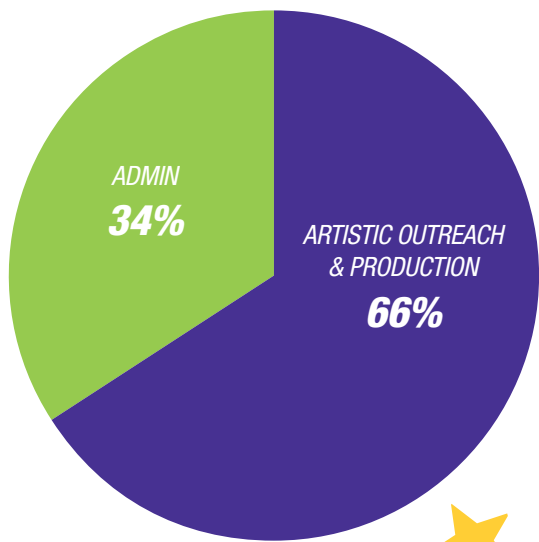
BOARD MEMBERS

2022 Financials

Revenue



Expenses



Thank you to our donors and supporters

You did this for us! All the financial support the VICF receives allows us to create this rich annual arts experience for our young audience and the adults who come with them. We could not do it without you. Thank you so much!

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• Rose Smith • Ruhamah Buchanan • Saleema Dhalla • Samad Raza • Sara Getz in HONOUR of Katharine Carol's Birthday!!! • Sarah Froot • Shana Alexander in Honour of Baby Riley! • Sheri Briggs • Shota Inoda • Smitha Vidyasagar • Solmaz Morteza • Stefania Gomez • Steven Hobkirk • Susan Peerless • Vancouver Plumbing Doctor Ltd • Vivian Tong • Westside Montessori Academy • Zhengming Song

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Staff Credits

Artistic & Executive Director	Katharine Carol
Development Manager	Marika Kovalcikov
Communications & Marketing Manager	Joanne Da Silva
Operations Manager	Leanne Zacharias
Audience Services Manager	Kelly Creelman
Volunteer Coordinator	Carmen Mills
Production Manager	David Kerr (DK)
Technical Director	Jeremy Baxter
School & Information Administrator	Pavanjot Daley
Bookkeeper	Ewa Borkowska

A huge shout out to our fantastic crew!

Many thanks to our awesome interns and volunteers!



Thank you to our sponsors

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GOVERNMENT FUNDERS

Funded by the Government of Canada
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We acknowledge the support of the
Canada Council for the Arts.
Nous remercions le Conseil des arts
du Canada de son soutien.



Supported by the Province of British Columbia



To learn more about the impact you or your organization can make,
contact **Marika Kovalcikova**, Development Manager
development@childrensfestival.ca | 604-708-5655

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