A MESSAGE FROM KATHLEEN SHARPE,
CHAIR, TORONTO ARTS FOUNDATION BOARD

In 2018, Toronto Arts Foundation programs focused on increasing arts access and celebrating the artists, advocates, and communities which bring this creative city to life. We are indeed fortunate to live in a place that embraces the community-building power of the arts. While everyone recognizes that the arts bolster the local economy, what is less known is how effective the arts are in strengthening the social fabric of our neighbourhoods.

The Foundation provides unique programs which leverage the power of artists, volunteers, and community members in every corner of the city, activating public spaces and engaging residents in parks and community centres. Toronto’s connection to local arts and artists is strong – and continues to grow.

Contributions from our donors and sponsors play a vital role in the continued growth of arts access in Toronto. Support from our partners creates the opportunity for the Foundation to develop new ways of highlighting local talent, engaging youth in artistic practice, and crafting responsive programming to fit the needs of communities outside the downtown core.

The success of Toronto Arts Foundation programming is due, in no small part, to the ongoing commitment of our Board of Directors. This dedicated group of arts advocates, along with Foundation staff, works year-round to support programming and resources that Torontonians can be proud of.

It is my pleasure to work alongside these devoted individuals, and to lend my support to the inspiring mission of increasing arts access in Toronto, Block by Block.

Kathleen Sharpe
Chair, Toronto Arts Foundation

A MESSAGE FROM CLAIRE HOPKINSON,
DIRECTOR & CEO

The arts have a unique ability to make us see the world through fresh eyes. The arts strengthen communities by focusing on shared experiences and creating bridges between cultures. They create a sense of home and belonging. The powers of creative expression are gifts that artists and arts organizations give to our community.

Toronto Arts Foundation offers you, our donors, the opportunity to celebrate these artists and their impact on communities. Your support amplifies the reach of artistic programming. By increasing access to the arts, together we create a healthier, happier and more unified city. This means investing not just in public programming, but also into engagement and research to ensure that the right programs are available to each community.

As you read through our 2018 annual report, I invite you to reflect on the ways in which art has shaped various parts of your life – your culture, your traditions, your community or even your daily routine. Art is everywhere in this vibrant city and with it comes numerous ways to get involved and support local artists. Whether your interest lies in volunteering, donating or audience participation, I hope that this report inspires you to reach further to strengthen this incredible, creative city.

Your support and generosity play a vital role in building communities, inspiring young minds and celebrating exceptional talent across the city. Thank you for your commitment toward creating a thriving Toronto, together.

Claire Hopkinson, M.S.M
Director & CEO, Toronto Arts Foundation

Claire Hopkinson is also the Director and CEO of Toronto Arts Council, which in 2018 contributed $18.4 million in grants to arts and culture in Toronto.
Toronto’s city-wide charity for the Arts.

Strengthening Toronto through responsive, strategic and innovative investments in the arts.

**OUR VISION**

**Creative City: Block by Block**

We believe that the arts help cities thrive, and envision a vibrant and creative city where every neighbourhood is enriched by the transformative benefits of the arts.

We work collaboratively to develop and implement initiatives that strengthen Toronto’s artists and arts organizations and bring the arts to communities throughout the city.

We do this, not only because every Torontonian deserves to enjoy the benefits of the arts, but because engaged and inclusive communities build strong cities.

We share this vision with our affiliate Toronto Arts Council.

**OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- We cultivate creativity and value excellence.
- We embrace cultural diversity and reflect it in our programs.
- We work from a highly informed and non-partisan position allowing us to communicate, advocate and convene on behalf of the arts sector.
- We depend on and maintain the trust of the arts community and our donors.
- We measure outcomes and reinvest our learning into our community.
- We use partnerships and collaborative models to increase our effectiveness and flexibility.
A CITY-WIDE CHARITY FOR THE ARTS

EVENTS
- Arts In The Parks
- Neighbourhood Arts Network
- Creative Champions Network
- East End Arts
The majority of Torontonians see the arts as a way to build a strong sense of community. That’s why our initiatives work to make the arts more accessible.
Building strong communities through our programs and initiatives.

NEIGHBOURHOOD ARTS NETWORK:
A network of artists spanning the entire city

Neighbourhood Arts Network (NAN), created by Toronto Arts Foundation in 2010, enriches Toronto by fostering excellence in community-engaged art making. This city-wide network of over 1900 members encourages the exchange of ideas, resources and expertise between artists who work in, with and for Toronto’s diverse communities. Free membership for artists and arts organizations includes access to awards, mentorship opportunities, community events and workshops that focus on building healthy communities through the arts.

2018 highlights:
▶ 191 new members
▶ 1,900+ total membership
▶ 23 events
▶ 650 attendees/participants

INCUBATING ARTS HUBS:
Filling the gaps in local arts programs and services

Toronto Arts Foundation has successfully incubated two local arts hubs that are helping to transform their communities. In 2016, North York Arts transitioned to an independent non-profit corporation, and at the end of 2018 we celebrated the evolution of East End Arts into a vibrant and essential organization after five years under the Foundation’s umbrella. In support of the creation of these two vital, independent community organizations, Toronto Arts Foundation provided essential resources including strategic planning, financial management, human resources, mentorship and accountability.

2018 East End Arts:
▶ 25 events/programs
▶ 17,500 attendees
▶ 100 artists served

2018 North York Arts:
▶ 37 events/programs
▶ 31,314 attendees
▶ 179 artists served

ARTS IN THE PARKS:
Bringing the arts to Toronto neighbourhoods

Arts in the Parks brings free arts events to parks across Toronto in the summer. An initiative of Toronto Arts Foundation in partnership with Toronto Arts Council, the City of Toronto and Park People, Arts in the Parks encourages community-building and enjoyment of local parks, giving residents and tourists of all ages the opportunity to experience dance, music, theatre, film, workshops and more.

2018 highlights:
▶ 36 Parks
▶ 282 arts events
▶ 336 volunteers
▶ 158,450 people attended
▶ 28 wards throughout the city

CREATIVE CHAMPIONS NETWORK:
Fostering excellence in board governance

Led by Toronto Arts Foundation’s Creative Trust Research Fellow Jini Stolk, our Network offers learning opportunities for arts board volunteers. Through workshops and seminars, we’re empowering arts board volunteers with the knowledge and tools needed to support their organizations to their fullest capacity. Networking opportunities encourage collaboration and knowledge sharing, which in turn make Toronto’s arts organizations healthier and stronger.

2018 highlights:
▶ 600+ members
▶ 60+ speakers to date
▶ 8 sections in our online resources for members
▶ 7 workshops and speakers events
SPOTLIGHTING ARTISTS

Toronto’s artists are essential to making Toronto a liveable city. The innovation, experimentation, passion and energy that their work gives to the city is something that benefits every Torontonian. To celebrate their success, the Toronto Arts Foundation Awards recognize the contributions of artists and arts supporters, across disciplines, to creative city-building in Toronto.

OUR RESEARCH TELLS US:

69% of Torontonians appreciate the contribution that Toronto artists make to the city, and 74% agree that professional artists add value to society. (Toronto Arts Foundation Arts Stats 2016)
RISE EDUTAINMENT
Arts for Youth Award Recipient
This youth-led grassroots performance arts and storytelling movement was recognized for its role in creating a healthy and inspiring space for youth, and for challenging systemic barriers through innovative partnerships.

(Finalists: The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, UForChange)

RUTH HOWARD
Celebration of Cultural Life Award Recipient
Howard, the founding Artistic Director of Jumblies Theatre, which engages in collaborations between professional artists and diverse communities, was celebrated for the impact, sustainability, and legacy of her community-engaged arts practice.

(Finalists: Ritesh Das – musician, composer, and founder of Toronto Tabla Ensemble; Dan Yashinsky – storyteller, author, and community animator)

JIVESH PARASRAM
Emerging Artist Award Recipient
The jury praised Parasram, a multidisciplinary artist, researcher and facilitator, and the Artistic Director of performing arts collective Pandemic Theatre, for his ability to create excellent work that is honest, diverse, and collaborative.

(Finalists: Britta Johnson – composer, lyricist and writer; David Norsworthy – choreographer, performer and teacher)

THE WHOLE NOTE
The Roy Thomson Hall Award of Recognition Recipient
Publishing for over 20 years, independent monthly print and online magazine The WholeNote, a free guide to the musical landscape of Southern Ontario, was recognized for its role in promoting current music, emerging artists, and being an essential resource for the local music community.

(Finalists: Mitchell Marcus – founding Artistic & Managing Director of The Musical Stage Company; Musicworks – magazine of Canadian contemporary work in music and sound arts)

REBECCA HENNESSY
Emerging Jazz Artist Award Recipient
Hennessy, a trumpeter, composer and bandleader, was selected by a peer jury, who commended her for her creative, authentic and quirky compositions, noting: “She has a confidence and comfort level that not a lot of other emerging jazz artists have.”

(Finalists: Ethan Ardelli, Juno award-winning drummer and composer; Matt Woroshyl, saxophonist, composer, and bandleader)

ACTIVE GREEN + ROSS AND RBC
Toronto Arts and Business Award Recipient
Active Green + Ross was recognized for its first-time contribution to the arts through its sponsorship of the HopeWorks Connection, covering transportation costs for performers and offering discounted and VIP services.

The jury noted RBC’s sustained contributions to the arts through its Emerging Artist Program, making the company a vital contributor to the local arts ecosystem.

URBANARTS
TD Community Arts Award Recipient
The jury commended UrbanArts, a Local Arts Service Organization headquartered in the York South-Weston neighbourhood, for creating locally relevant, free, accessible and culturally conscious multi-disciplinary arts programming for youth.

(Finalists: ArtsStarts; Jumblies Theatre)

Thank you to our partners, donors and sponsors for making these awards possible!

$114,000
The total amount distributed in awards in 2018 to those that are strengthening Toronto through the arts

7
The number of awards (ranging from $10,000 to $20,000) presented to Toronto artists, cultural workers or arts organizations to celebrate exceptional achievement

24
The number of awards (of up to $1500) presented to newcomer artists to support the creation of new work or professional development
SUPPORTING NEWCOMER ARTISTS

Newcomer artists bring a wealth of artistic knowledge and ingenuity to Toronto. However, newcomer artists may face barriers such as finding work and making connections, which prevent them from pursuing their artistic career in their new city. To encourage and support the work of newcomer artists, Toronto Arts Foundation has developed a series of partnerships and programs through our Neighbourhood Arts Network initiative.

OUR RESEARCH TELLS US:

73% of Torontonians agree that the arts are a benefit to the city because they highlight the city’s cultural diversity. (Toronto Arts Foundation Arts Stats 2016)
2015

With financial support from RBC Foundation, we created the RBC Newcomer Spotlight program, which aims to support newcomer artists through financial support and professional development opportunities. The program is helping newcomer artists navigate the Canadian art system, and giving them leverage to pursue their artistry through micro-awards of up to $1,500. This program, with the ongoing commitment of RBC, in-depth evaluation and expansion of our outreach, continues to evolve to best serve the community.

2016

Since 2016, we’ve partnered with the City of Toronto to program entertainment for Toronto Newcomer Day held at Nathan Phillips Square and City Hall. Attended by hundreds of people including city representatives, this event gives incredible exposure and opens new professional opportunities for the newcomer artists that we commission to perform on the outdoor stage.

2017

We partnered with Toronto Arts Council (TAC) to match newcomer artists with mentors for TAC’s Newcomer and Refugee Artist Mentorship program. These mentorships are helping newcomer artists expand their craft, make new connections and uncover new professional opportunities.

2018

Twenty-four newcomer artists received awards through the RBC Newcomer Artist Spotlight program. In May, we programmed the mainstage performances at Toronto Newcomer Day, featuring musicians and dancers who are past award recipients and NAN members. Throughout the year, we supported recipients of the 2017 Newcomer and Refugee Mentorship grant by holding various meetups for mentors and mentees to get to know each other, as well as successfully paired 11 mentor-mentees who went on to receive the 2018 grant.

“Moving from one country to another and adjusting to new culture and community is challenging. When an artist cannot bring all the instruments and materials that they used to play or work with from home can damage their career. Receiving this award helped with buying new instruments, which led to securing more gigs and being present in this art scene.”

Nour Kaadan, 2018 RBC Arts Access Award Recipient
ENCOURAGING VOLUNTEERISM IN THE ARTS

Volunteers are some of Toronto’s most engaged residents. Those who volunteer their time demonstrate a passion for the work of others and a willingness to get involved. Volunteers contribute to a cohesive and cooperative city, strengthened by the power of individuals working together. We are harnessing the benefits of volunteering through two key programs, Arts in the Parks and Creative Champions Network.

“As a new woman in the city, Arts in the Parks helped me make new friends, took me to new places and parks and also introduced me to a wide variety of arts groups and organizations present in the city. I also enjoyed the fact that many people are recognizing the efforts to bond and share the happiness and hope that this would have a long-lasting positive impact on their minds.”

2018 Arts in the Parks Volunteer

Our Creative Champions Network, made up of over 600 board volunteers, is a forum to meet colleagues and learn new skills at workshops and events. By harnessing the potential of arts board members who will transfer their knowledge to the organizations they serve, we’re strengthening the sector as a whole.

Last year, 336 volunteers supported Arts in the Parks by promoting the initiative and providing on-site support during events. Our Arts in the Parks volunteer program encourages people of all ages, including youth, to get involved in community events, meet new people and discover the many benefits of the arts.

OUR RESEARCH TELLS US:

Approximately 50% of Torontonians when asked to imagine volunteering for the arts said they would do so because it would be an opportunity to meet new people and support things they believe in. (Toronto Arts Foundation Arts Stats 2017)
PROMOTING EQUITY IN THE ARTS

Art has the potential to be a reflection of a community’s voice and needs. Toronto’s artists create spaces that satisfy the need for individual and collective self-expression, as well as community capacity-building. We are committed to fostering equitable practices in art-making and art presentation to ensure that all cultures and people of all abilities can participate.

In 2018, our Neighbourhood Arts Network hosted Emergence Week, which brought together change-makers to discuss and explore arts and equity. Emergence Week consisted of four days of community arts activations located throughout the city, co-hosted by 8 partner organizations, and one full-day symposium which convened over 150 community-engaged arts practitioners, policy makers and community leaders to exchange knowledge, develop leadership skills, collaborate and more. Themes explored included self-care, Afro and Indigenous futurisms, disability arts and youth engagement.

“Our research tells us:

71% of Torontonians believe the arts engage people with new ideas and 49% say the arts help raise awareness of social issues. (Toronto Arts Foundation Arts Stats 2018)

“Supporting the Emergence Symposium is about supporting a growth mindset for communities and artists. We gather and hold space for one another to learn and grow; so that we may return to our communities and continue to gather and hold space for others to learn and grow with us. There are few comparable conferences, if any, in Toronto that bring together so many community-engaged, equity-engaged artists to share and exchange.”

Helen Yung, 2018 Emergence keynote panelist and workshop facilitator
MAKING ARTS MORE ACCESSIBLE

Every Torontonian deserves access to the arts and its many benefits. Toronto Arts Foundation supports arts programming that is free and open to the public. Through our programs and initiatives like Arts in the Parks, Neighbourhood Arts Network and East End Arts, we're providing high-quality arts events and professional development opportunities for Torontonians in all corners of the city.

OUR RESEARCH TELLS US:

81% of Torontonians say it's important for children and youth to participate in the arts and 76% say free arts in public outdoor spaces improves arts accessibility. (Toronto Arts Foundation Arts Stats 2016)
YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Toronto Arts Foundation is working to strengthen Toronto through the arts. Our work would not be possible without the commitment of our donors and sponsors.

“RBC believes that the arts encourages a culture of creativity and innovation, and helps foster diversity and inclusion in our communities. We are so proud to have been able to partner with Toronto Arts Foundation and provide newcomers with the funding to pursue their artistic endeavours while building their lives in Canada.”
Rebecca Louzado, Director, Community and Cultural Marketing, RBC

“One of the elements of a world-class city and the desirability to live there is its richness in culture, art and architectural landscape. Focused on the intersection of great design and art to enrich the human experience, Great Gulf and First Gulf share this passion with Toronto Arts Foundation through our commitment to create the best dynamic and iconic award-winning buildings.”
Jerry Patava (Great Gulf) and David Gerofsky (First Gulf)

“Toronto Arts Foundation is uniquely placed to create programs and opportunities that benefit artists and the communities in which they live, work and engage. From celebrating and investing in an emerging or accomplished artist to animating a park or in a fact an entire area of Toronto for the social health the community, the Foundation continues to innovate with impact!”
Susan Crocker, Past Board Chair and Emerging Artist Award sponsor
CONDUCTING VITAL RESEARCH

Our research helps us better understand how Torontonians think about the arts and its impact on the quality of life in our city. With the generous help of polling research and strategic marketing firm Leger, Toronto Arts Foundation has been creating public opinion polls about the arts since 2014.

In 2018, we released Arts Stats: Why the Arts Matter. The results revealed that most Torontonians are optimistic about their city and they value living in a city that supports the arts.

- **89%** of Torontonians believe that the arts make Toronto a better place to live.
- **85%** of Torontonians think our city has a great arts scene, with 65% specifying it’s because the arts reflect the diversity of the city’s residents.
- **83%** of Torontonians agree that the arts make the city a more inclusive place.
- **71%** of respondents said it is important to them that mayoral candidates support the arts, and 65% say it is important that city council candidates in their ward do the same.
Evening for the Arts:
Bringing together city leaders in support of the arts

The Evening for the Arts is a major fundraising event in support of our Arts in the Parks initiative. In 2018, we raised over $600,000.

The event was attended by over 600 arts supporters and city-builders, including Mayor John Tory, City Councillors and federal MPs and was hosted by renowned actors Hélène Joy and Eric Peterson. Guests enjoyed memorable performances from Tony-nominated musical theatre artist Louise Pitre, Afro-Caribbean dance organization Roots and Branches and jazz group The Heavyweights Brass Band.

We’re deeply grateful to all of those who attended who are helping us build a creative city.

“The arts are a unifier – they can bring people together across the city ... I think this is the best city and the best country in the world, and the arts are a big part of that.”

Mayor John Tory
Toronto Arts Foundation thanks all those who contributed to the Evening for the Arts, which directly supports our Arts in the Parks initiative. Your generosity makes it possible for us to make the arts accessible across the city. Our sincerest thanks to our fundraising committee members who generously gave their time.

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Toronto Arts Foundation
Annual Report 2018
FRIENDS OF THE ARTS 2018

Toronto Arts Foundation is very grateful for the generosity and support of its donors. Your belief in our initiatives helps us to connect more communities through the power of the arts.


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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT ON SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To the Directors of Toronto Arts Foundation

The summarized financial statements, which comprise the summarized statement of financial position as at December 31, 2018, and the summarized statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of Toronto Arts Foundation (the “Foundation”) for the year ended December 31, 2018.

In our opinion, the accompanying summarized financial statements are a fair summary of the financial statements, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Summarized Financial Statements

The summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summarized financial statements and the auditor’s report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Foundation’s audited financial statements and the auditor’s report thereon.

The summarized financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial statements.

The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

In our report dated June 12, 2019, we expressed an unqualified audit opinion on the audited financial statements.

Management’s Responsibility for the Summarized Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summarized financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Auditor’s Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summarized financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

The complete 2018 audited financial statements are available on request.

Hogg, Shain & Scheck P.C.
Toronto, Ontario
June 12, 2019
ARTS ADVISORY PANEL
Margaret Atwood, C.C.
Norman Jewison, C.C.
Aton Egyan, O.C.
Molly Johnson, O.C.
David Mirvish, C.M.
Joyce Zemans, C.M.

EMERGING LEADERS
Emerging Leaders engage young professionals in the arts by hosting curated events that take the group inside Toronto’s dynamic arts intuitions of all sizes and disciplines. If you are interested in joining please contact Jaclyn Rodrigues, Community Engagement Manager, at jaclyn@torontoarts.org.

Committee Members:
Leen Al Zaibak, Chair
Blair Frankcy
Martha Haldensly
Samar Hejazi
Adam Kuhn
Michael Vickers
Clara Weng

2018 AWARD JURY MEMBERS
Thank you to
Leen Al Zaibak
Colleen Allen
Nichole Anderson
Bergeron
Maxine Bailey
Maddie Bautista
Denise Bolduc
Hilario Duran
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Genevieve Wallen

Interested in becoming a donor or sponsor? Would you like to learn more about the Mayor’s Evening for the Arts? We would love to talk to you about how you can contribute to the arts in Toronto.

Please contact Leslie Francombe, Philanthropy and Sponsorship Manager leslie@torontoarts.org | t 416 392 6802 x214
You are welcome to make a donation online by visiting our website.

For information on the following programs, please contact:

Creative Champions Network & Arts in the Parks
Jaclyn Rodrigues, Community Engagement Manager
jaclyn@torontoarts.org | t 416 392 6802 x212

Neighbourhood Arts Network & RBC Newcomer Spotlight Program
Inés Aguileta, Acting Manager
ines@torontoarts.org | t 416 392 6802 x221

Awards & General Information
Michelle Parson
michelle@torontoarts.org | t 416 392 6802 x200

Phone: 416.392.6800
Fax: 416.392.6920
Email: donate@torontoarts.org
Website: torontoartsfoundation.org

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
We’d like to thank our volunteers and board members for their expertise and many hours of service.

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With thanks to Natalie Kaiser, Seemi Qaiser and Tanya Oleksuk for their contributions to Toronto Arts Foundation in 2018.

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Margo Charlton
Research and Impact Manager

* Also serve on the Board of Toronto Arts Council

Thank you to Margaret Atwood, Andree Sylvestre, Elizabeth Wriston, the late Margo Bindurkh, and thanks the staff of Toronto Arts Foundation for their contributions.

Phone: 416.392.6800
Fax: 416.392.6920
Email: donate@torontoarts.org
Website: torontoartsfoundation.org


Toronto Arts Foundation acknowledges the contributions of Jonathan J. Calla, Tanya Oleksuk and the late Margo Bindurkh for their contributions to the Toronto Arts Foundation in 2018.


Our Board of Directors acknowledges and thanks the staff of Toronto Arts Council for their contributions.

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