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Annual Report

The Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts



CREATE

CONNECT

CHANGE LIVES

the
nina
Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts

Annual Report

THE NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE FOR THE ARTS
APRIL 2020 - MARCH 2021



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Montana Philip and Carl Philip in the new fabric studio (cover)
Jamie Laventure in the print studio (top)
Tapestries by Linda Vincent (bottom)

Our Vision

All people have the right to achieve their highest potential, which includes the right to creative expression. Creativity lies within everyone and can be powerfully expressed through the arts.

The Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts (the Nina) believes in the importance of creation and exhibition of art by those who face barriers to artistic expression.

Message from The Nina

RONA FRASER, CEO

MADISON DEWAR, STUDIO MANAGER

Throughout this unprecedented and trying year, our team has done an incredible job adapting and our organization is better for it.

We reopened our studios last summer with modified hours. Artists and staff adjusted to new protocols and thankfully there was no transmission within our space. Splitting our day into two sessions allowed as many artists as possible to safely participate, and created capacity for more one-on-one mentorship and larger-scale projects. During this time, one artist wrote a first draft of a novel, several artists used our gallery space to learn new techniques for the ATB Health and Wellness exhibition, and many explored textiles for the first time in the relocated studio. We also added a digital media studio, and thanks to a federal grant were able to renovate our washrooms to make them more accessible.

As Covid cases rose later in the year, we made the difficult decision to close our studios once again and switch to virtual programming. Artistic staff worked incredibly hard to provide four or more virtual art sessions a day in dance, textiles, painting, clay, and more. Lead Artist Brenda has been delivering custom supply kits to every corner of the city multiple times per week to ensure that all artists can continue making art from home.

With some creativity from our Director of Development, Laurie, we held a successful drive-in style event for our Here's Nina awards, launched a "Create Box" fundraiser with EPCOR, and held a virtual 18th birthday party for the centre.

Our holiday show and sale was another big success thanks to our Director of Marketing and Artistic Outreach, Janice, organizing virtual sales parties, shopping appointments and the amazing new merchandise which is incredibly popular.

While difficult and painful, Covid also allowed us to connect with artists and organizations that we may not have otherwise. Virtual field trips and special guests helped to keep programming fresh and engaging. Many artists have taken what they've learned and folded it into their own practices.

We struggle to write anything that can encompass the tragedy that Covid has brought with it. We have lost three artists this year, cherished members of our community whose talents and personalities are greatly missed.

We look forward to welcoming artists back in person soon but will continue offering virtual programming until all artists feel comfortable returning. This year demonstrated the care and resilience of our artists and staff, as well as their commitment to our studios and their practices. We look forward to another year of opportunity, growth, and great art.



Rona Fraser, CEO



Madison Dewar, Studio Manager



Friendship Doll by Amaryn Pirani

Message from Our Board

JODI EYOLFSON, BOARD CHAIR

Last year I started my message with “What a year it has been!”, and I think the same statement applies this year. At the Nina we consider ourselves pretty creative, and boy did we have to tap into that creativity to change the way we operate during the pandemic. As a board we are so proud of the way the Nina team met every curveball thrown at them.

We adapted our safety protocols and extended our hours to accommodate social distancing while our studios were open. We also added virtual programming in dance, textiles, painting, and sculpture, virtual field trips, guest artist workshops, and more. When our studios closed we delivered art supplies twice weekly to artists. The deliveries allowed us to check in on artists (from a distance) and ensure they still felt connected to the centre. Virtual exhibitions were also introduced, allowing the public to safely view artwork at home.

We took advantage of our closure to do some facility renovations. Thanks to funding from the Federal Government, we improved the accessibility of our washrooms with automatic doors, tilted mirrors, touchless plumbing, and more.

In the fall, we held a wonderful drive-in version of Here’s Nina, our annual fundraiser and awards show. Guests safely watched the show from their cars while enjoying locally made treats, honking and flashing their headlights to cheer on the award winners and performers.

Nina artists had more opportunities for exposure this year, displaying art in venues throughout the city including the Edmonton Convention Centre and Kingsway Mall.

As a board we are always aware of the responsibility to watch the bottom line to ensure the Nina stays financially strong, even throughout the pandemic. We are grateful to our patrons, donors, sponsors, and all those who take the time to share our story, follow us on social media, and participate in events throughout the year. Today we will thank you from a distance, but we hope to see you in person very soon!



Jodi Eyolfson, Board Chair



Coral Reef (Detail) by Kelsey Hawkins

Board Slate & Staff

BOARD SLATE

The Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts is pleased to present the following Slate of Officers for ratification by members:

Jodi Eyolfson, Chair

Sara Hart, Vice Chair

David MacGillivray, Treasurer

Adam Skoreyko, Secretary

Directors returning to the board:

Bruce Kirkland

Samantha Williams-Chapelsky

Arlindo Gomes

Directors to be ratified to a first or second term:

Edwin Shale

Adam Skoreyko

Leaving the board:

Shelagh Kubish

STAFF

Rona Fraser, CEO

Madison Dewar, Studio Manager

David Janzen, Exhibition Coordinator

Cynthia Sentara, Office Manager

Janice Easton, Director of Communications & Artistic Outreach

Laurie Matheson, Director of Development

Mitch Chalifoux, Lead Artist

Brenda Christiansen, Lead Artist

Diana Cline, Lead Artist

Holly de Moissac, Lead Artist

Haylee Fortin, Lead Artist

Amanda Howell, Lead Artist

Hilary Mussell, Project Coordinator & Lead Artist

Tatyana Semenova, Lead Artist

Susan Seright, Lead Artist

Dennis Yowney, Lead Artist

Lorraine Shulba, Community & Family Art Nights Instructor (Contract)

Amber Borotsik, Dance Facilitator (Contract)



Anteater by Boyd Dymchuk



LEAVING THE BOARD

Shelagh Kubish

Good friends never say goodbye. They simply say see you soon. After 12 years of service, passion and dedication, past director and board chair, Shelagh Kubish is retiring from the Nina board. We are so grateful for her leadership, support and enthusiasm for the mission of the centre. Although we will dearly miss seeing Shelagh at meetings we know she is a lifelong friend of the Nina's and for that we are so appreciative. We wish you all the very best Shelagh.



NEW TO THE BOARD

Arlindo Gomes

A year ago, the Nina was very fortunate to add Arlindo Gomes to the board of directors. Arlindo is VP, Venue Management Group for Explore Edmonton. His extensive knowledge in facility management has been a very valuable asset and we are thrilled to add him to our team.

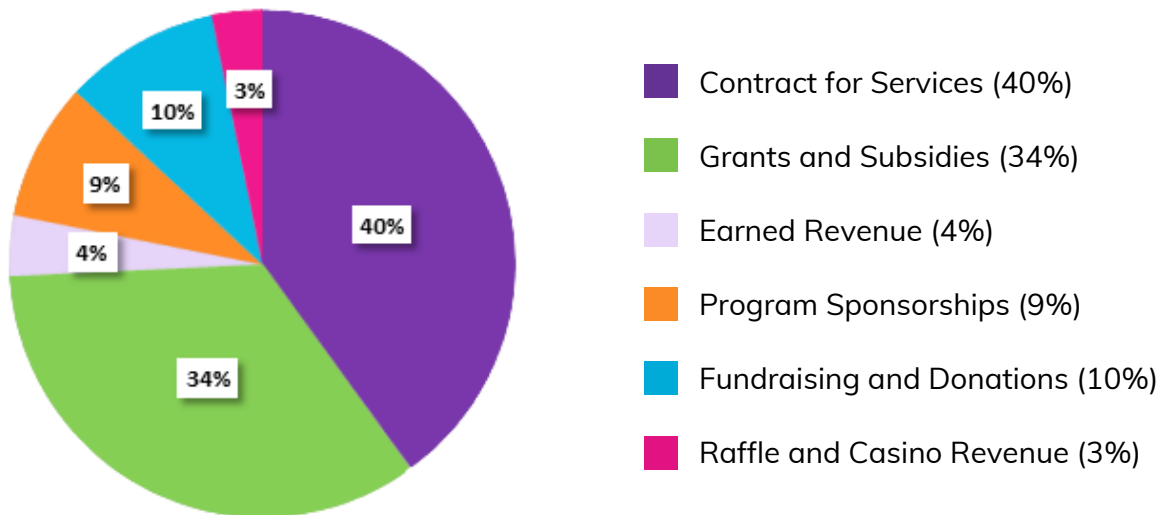


Edwin Shale

A big welcome to another new board member, Edwin Shale. Edwin is the founder of Wild Rose productions and heavily involved in the Edmonton community. Edwin's community insights and passion for advocacy makes him a valuable addition.

Financial Report

REVENUE BY SOURCE 2020/2021



The Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts (the Nina) posted a positive year end position with a welcome surplus. The surplus will enable the Nina to offer both in-person and virtual classes to artists who are unable to return to the studios. It also provides security and certainty through a year when casino funding is postponed and fundraising events are uncertain.

The board approved a small surplus budget for the upcoming year and we are cautiously optimistic that vaccinations could mean a return to normal programming and fundraising by the fall of 2021.

The Nina has confidence in the ongoing funding received through contract services from the Alberta Government (disability services), and arts operating grants from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts and the Edmonton Arts Council.

We look forward to continued sustainability and have goals to pay off our building through a capital campaign, adding another layer of stability for the future.

The board thanks David MacGillivray (treasurer), Colby Steckly (auditor), and Marilyn Sterling from Preferred Client Services (bookkeeper) for their service and dedication.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUSTAINING PARTNERS



Here's Nina

DRIVE-IN SPECTACULAR



Every year we celebrate the accomplishments of five artists from our collective with awards at *Here's Nina*, a red carpet awards show and fundraiser with over 300 guests.

With COVID-19 restricting in-person gatherings, we had to get creative with the format of this year's event. The solution? A drive-in spectacular at the River Cree Resort & Casino.



From the socially-distanced safety of their cars, guests celebrated the achievements of the award-winning artists, enjoyed live entertainment from Karimah and Barney Bentall, and raised valuable funding for the Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts.

This event would not be possible without the support of a network of generous individuals and organizations. The Nina thanks every guest, volunteer, sponsor, and supporter for making this such a special evening.

We don't know what Here's Nina will look like in 2021, but we hope to see you there!

Congratulations

2020 NINA AWARD WINNERS



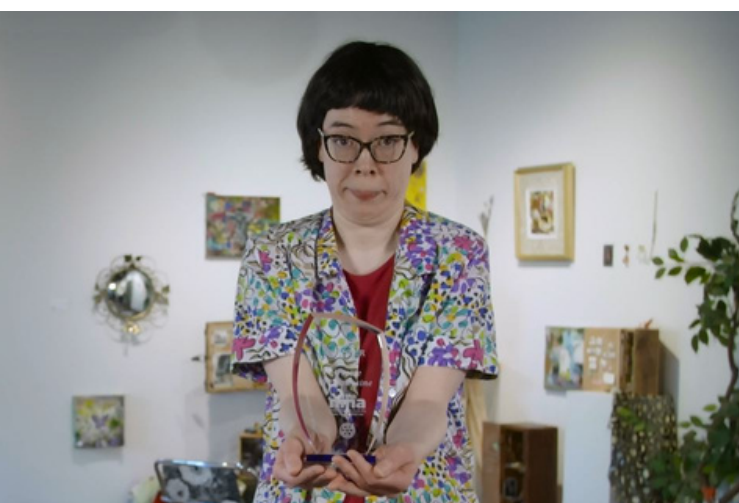
The Dentons CREATE award is given to an artist who has demonstrated their commitment to art through their enthusiastic participation at the Nina. This artist arrives eager to make things and may be making art on their own time. The artist is developing a vision for their own work, or has broken through a creative barrier and innovated their own practice.

TIM CRNKOVIC

CREATE

大成 DENTONS

Tim has been regularly attending the Nina since 2014. He works quickly and precisely, creating breathtaking prints each and every week. At the Nina, Tim creates intricately detailed, multi layered linocut prints in mind-popping colours and designs. His iconic style is well recognized and his pieces have been displayed in galleries throughout Edmonton. For his steadfast work, Tim has been awarded the Create award. Even while working from home throughout the pandemic, Tim has demonstrated his dedication to his art, creating beautiful pieces in many mediums.



The Rotary Club of Edmonton Northeast CONNECT Award is given to an artist who has helped others learn more about who they are as a person and what being part of the Nina Collective means to them. The artist is an ambassador for the centre and has helped forge connections in the community.

YVETTE PREFONTAINE

CONNECT



Yvette Prefontaine is a multidisciplinary artist who has been a key participant in many collaborative projects at the Nina since joining in 2014. She has worked with award winning singer/songwriter Raphael Freynet to write and perform original songs that explore her heritage. In 2020, one of these songs inspired choreography for the Nina Dance Collective and a solo performance by Yvette. She continues to forge community connection virtually since the Nina's studio closure, contributing the BEING Studio (Ottawa)'s national virtual conference, and providing feedback and encouragement for fellow Nina artists over Zoom.

2020 AWARD WINNERS



The Lexus of Edmonton CHANGED LIFE Award is given to an artist who demonstrates how profound becoming part of the collective at the Nina can be. The artist's experiences at the Nina have enabled them to change their view on life and add the word artist to the story they tell about themselves.

BOYD DYMCHUK

CHANGED LIFE



Prior to becoming an artist, Boyd worked as a mechanic and tradesman. Since joining the Nina Collective, he uses the same technical precision and patience to create his intricately detailed ceramic pieces. The animals resulting from his patience and steady hand are bursting with colour and personality. Like his creations, Boyd is an outgoing and friendly addition to the clay room, always ready to lend a helping hand. He was awarded the Changed Life award for his dedication to his craft. Boyd is proud of his hard work, and strives to continue learning and growing as an artist.



The ATB EMERGING ARTIST Award is given to an artist that has been a member of the Nina collective for under two years. Though they are just beginning their journey, they have demonstrated a commitment to their work and a unique artistic voice.

MARGARET B.

EMERGING ARTIST



Margaret has been working in the print studio for just under a year. In that short period of time she has developed a series of monoprints inspired by nature that showcase an attention to detail and a strong design aesthetic. Her work has been selected for group exhibitions in the Stollery Gallery and is popular in the Nina's gift shop. The dedication and intuitive skill she has demonstrated so far suggests she will have an exciting artistic career, and the Nina is honoured and excited to be a part of her journey.

2020 AWARD WINNERS



ULI ROSSIER

2021 ARTIST OF THE YEAR



Renovations by ALCAM

For nearly twenty years, Uli Rossier has been an esteemed fixture in Edmonton's visual arts community. Her intuitive, playful line paintings evoke the joy of nature and daily life and hold an iconic status in the Nina Collective and beyond.



Her work is included in the Alberta Foundation for the Arts' permanent collection and has been exhibited widely, including large-scale reproductions on billboards and at the Edmonton Convention Centre.

The Nina is honoured to be a part of her impressive artistic journey and to recognize her accomplishments with the Artist of the Year Award.



LINDISFARNE PRODUCTIONS

SUSTAINED SUPPORT AWARD

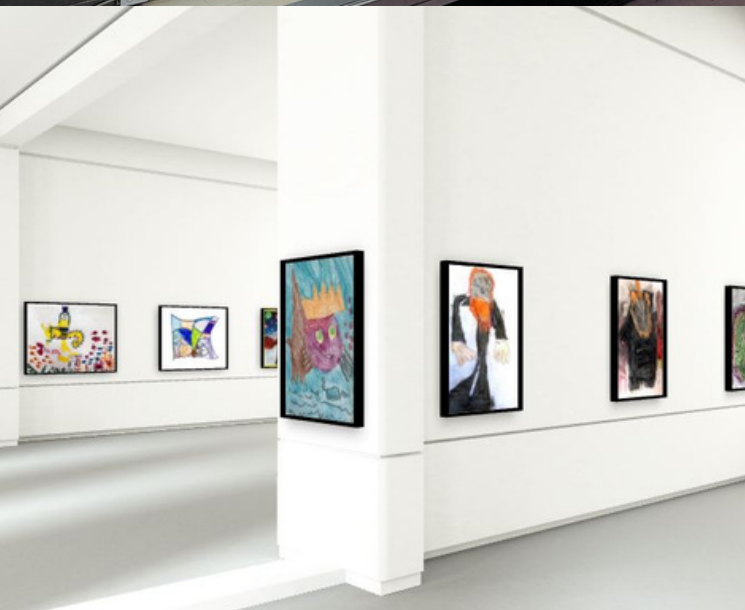


For the last five years, the brilliant folks at Lindisfarne Productions have donated their time and talent to create the Here's Nina award videos that have become such a cherished highlight of every year. They get to know each artist and beautifully capture their stories to be shared with new audiences. It is our honour to recognize all that they've done to elevate and amplify the voices of our collective with the 2020 Odvod Media Sustained Support Award!



Exhibitions

IN PERSON AND ONLINE



STOLLERY GALLERY

As We Travel Through, RBC Emerging Artists
ATB Art & Wellness, The Nina Collective
The Nina After Hours, The Nina Collective
AT LARGE, The Nina Collective

EXTERNAL

McMullen Gallery - *The Living Valley*, Amanda Schutz and The Nina Collective
Spazio Performativo - *Sea Foam*, Vanessa Ryl and Jamie Laventure
Kingsway Mall - Lora Pallister, Decinti Simpson, and Vanessa Ryl
Edmonton City Centre - RBC Emerging Artists
Edmonton Convention Centre - The Nina Collective
St. Faith's Hall - The Nina Collective
Edmonton City Centre - *Nevertheless*, The Nina Collective

VIRTUAL

Nina Art Challenge I & II - The Nina Collective and Community
Fantastic Landscapes - Centre for Autism Services Artists
CIBC Your Art | Your Business - The Nina Collective
Art in the HeART - City Centre Schools
ATB Art & Wellness - The Nina Collective

Brodi by Bonnie Blackburn (top)
Exhibition by the Nina Collective at City Centre (middle)
Virtual Exhibition by the Nina Collective (bottom)

Program Highlights



ATB ART & WELLNESS

Artists in the Nina Collective worked in-person and online with Artist Facilitator Diana Cline on a series of process-focused projects that explored mental health through creative expression. The group used the Stollery Gallery space to socially distance while working on projects that ranged from mask making to a collaborative mural. The resulting exhibition was displayed in the gallery as well as online.



CIBC YOUR ART | YOUR BUSINESS

Over the course of six months, participants discussed themes of creative entrepreneurship, design, and possibilities for generating an income through art. Through the mentorship of professional ceramicist Amanda Howell and special guest speakers, the group learned about the basics of marketing their work and the option to diversify their business through reproductions and product development. They also explored more abstract concepts of artistic motivation, subjectivity, and how to use their passion to create work that connects with an audience.



Marlin Klatt working on the Art & Wellness Mural (top)
Valeria Fonseca, guest speaker for Your Art | Your Business
photographed by Madine Creative Group (bottom)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



**RBC
Emerging Artists
Project**

RBC EMERGING ARTISTS PROJECT

Participants in our sixth annual RBC Emerging Artists project worked with Nina artists to create art in response to the pandemic, shared #NinaArtChallenge videos, and researched supportive studios. Thank you to the 2020 apprentices:

Breanna Barrington	Ashley Harrington
Edith Chu	Keita Kankam
Mika Haykowsky	Zana Wensel

GUEST SPEAKERS & VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for keeping our virtual programming interesting with workshops:

Andrew Benson	Macha Abdallah
Clint's Reptile Room	National Gallery of Canada
Courtney Loberg	Samantha Williams-
Dianne Quinney	Chapelsky
Edmonton Valley Zoo	Regan Schneider
Hilary Mussell	Royal Tyrrell Museum
Joan Greer	Valeria Fonseca
	Vern Thiessen



Nina Collective artists viewing RBC Emerging Artist Breanna Barrington's installation (top)
Nina Collective artists making ceramic tiles on Zoom (bottom)

Patron Program

2021 PATRONS

Bonnie Abel
Ghalib Ahmed
Pam & Josh Baergen
Doris Bonora
Trudy Callaghan
Alison Davies
Brian Dickenson
Craig Dixon
Jean & Don Easton
Nancy & Nicole Easton
Jodi Eyolfson
Iannick Fallu
Dina Floreancig
Rona Fraser
Brett Fraser
Arlene Giguere
Jackie Rae Greening
Dao Haddad
Richelle Hanna

Sara Hart
Michael Hesketh
Ailien Holdis
Wendy Hollo
Ellen Hughes
Ethan Jackson
Susan Jamieson
Kelly Kimo
Bruce Kirkland
Christine Makowichuk
Stephen Mandel
Lynn Mandel
Morgan Marley
Matt Miller
Colette Miller
Salvatore Miniaci
Sheena Moodie
Michelle Perret
Mary Persson
Fred Pheasey

Cherillyn Porter
Rose & Maurice Prefontaine
Oliver Rossier
Dominic Schamuhn
Shelley & Guy Scott
Adam Skoreyko
Tammy Sluzar
Heather Smith
Kierstin Smyth
Clinton Sopchyshyn
Geneva Sopchyshyn
Cody Spencer
Barbara Steckly
Marilyn Sterling
Shelley Tobo Gaudreau
Adrienne Vanderheyden
Vicky Varga
Derek Wicks
Yoko Wong



THANK YOU.

We know this has been a difficult year for many, and we feel extremely lucky to have so many new and returning patrons. The Patron Program helps us keep our membership fee low or waive it for artists who find it a barrier to participation.

Gift Shop Items



CREATE BOX

Thanks to support from the EPCOR Heart and Soul Fund, we launched a new product that spreads creativity and awareness for the Nina while raising valuable funding for our collective.

The first box of the series introduces the basics of watercolour with all the necessary supplies and video instructions from our Studio Manager Madison Dewar and Nina Collective artist Jared Quinney.



AUSTRALIAN GETAWAY RAFFLE

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets for our Australian Getaway Raffle! Despite travel restrictions and a year of uncertainty, the raffle sold out and raised valuable funding for our collective. Congratulations to the winner!



MERCHANDISE

This year we expanded our range of merchandise to include made in Canada facemasks, pillows, enamel pins, and more. These new products are a great way to share artwork from the Nina Collective beyond the gallery walls and have been popular in our online store and in the Royal Bison Spring Sale.

Pictured is Shannon Dosser with a mask and pillow featuring her art.



Top row (left to right):

1. John Polianec in the clay studio with a sculpture of his cat.
2. Leo Wong participating in a Zoom art session at home.
3. Aba Garbrah receiving art supplies at home

Middle row:

4. Amanda Bauer holding a sculpture of her dog, Piper.
5. Vanessa Ryl and Jamie Laventure's work up at Mile Zero Dance.
6. Jenny Lee with a doll she made at home on Zoom

Bottom row:

7. Kim Casarin painting in the studio
8. Cody Johnson with a linocut print he made of a red shoe
9. Artist of the Year Uli Rossier with her partner and her artwork in Edmonton Conference Centre.