

Thank you for helping Banff Centre in its journey through COVID-19. We are pleased to provide this impact report on the outcomes of your support.



Dear Banff Centre Supporter,

As the change of seasons unfolds with spectacular colours across Banff Centre's campus on Treaty 7 territory, we are reflecting on the past year as we continue to move forward through the collective challenges presented by the health pandemic. COVID-19 has proven to be an evolving and changing circumstance — **your commitment to supporting Banff Centre's work has been critical through this time.**

We are sharing this update with you, our community of supporters, to thank you for your generous and unwavering support. Your gift enabled many positive outcomes this year and positioned Banff Centre to rebuild and re-open. Most importantly, your support meant that COVID couldn't stop creativity for the hundreds of artists and leaders who took part in our programs — online — this past year.

We are so grateful to you for your continued belief in the power of Banff Centre's programming — and of the creative potential of the artists and leaders supported by our work.

Your support this year has been essential as Banff Centre meets the changed and changing needs of creatives, artists, and leaders — today and into the future — across Canada and around the world.

From all of us at Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, thank you.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janice".

Janice Price

**President and CEO
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity**

While there have been significant challenges in the last year, there have also been many highlights.

Here are just a few outcomes enabled by support from our donor community:

Continued support for artists and leaders through training programs* - online.

36 online programs in Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Performing Arts, Indigenous Arts, and Indigenous Leadership

2,151 applications for these programs

657 participants

520 scholarships for artists and leaders

*From September 1, 2020 to September 1, 2021

Our reduced staff team worked to maintain critical operations, restart, and rebuild.

Continued connections with audiences near and far

86,500+

views from around the world for the virtual Banff Centre International String Quartet Festival (September 2-5, 2021)

27,000+

attendees from around the world for the virtual Banff Centre Mountain Film and Book Festival (October 31 - November 8, 2020)

255,000+

attendees for the Banff Centre Mountain Film and Book Festival virtual World Tour (from September 2020 to September 2021)

2,000

views for the National Indigenous Peoples' Day virtual celebration (June 21, 2021)

7,400+

views for summer virtual events - including in opera, music, Indigenous speakers, gallery tours, and more

Bourgeau Mountain. Photo by Nahanni McKay

Your gift supported Banff Centre's journey through COVID-19

We extend our most sincere gratitude to you, our supporters, for being together with us as we charted a course forward. Some major milestones include:

- The launch of online arts and leadership training programs in [Fall 2020](#) – and programs in [Winter, Spring and Summer 2021](#) that built on their success.
- [In-Situ Leighton Residencies](#) that supported the creation of artistic work across disciplines in Winter 2021.
- The release of Banff Centre's new strategic plan – [Creative Pathways](#).
- Beginning to welcome artists, leaders, audiences, and guests back to the campus in Summer 2021 with the re-opening of the [Walter Phillips Gallery](#), the [Maclab Bistro](#), [Sally Borden Fitness & Recreation](#), and for tours of the new [Jenny Belzberg Theatre](#).
- Bringing world-class events to the comfort of our audiences' homes with an incredible line-up of virtual events, including the [Banff Centre Mountain Film and Book Festival](#), [National Indigenous Peoples' Day](#), the [Banff Centre International String Quartet Festival](#), [Decolonizing the Narrative Conversation Series](#), film screenings, concerts, talks, gallery tours, and more!

Providing artists the freedom to explore, create, collaborate, and inspire continues to be at the heart of our mission.

Thank you for your commitment to supporting our work, and for your steadfast belief in supporting artists and leaders to realize their human potential at Banff Centre.

Depending on the preference you indicated, your support this year helped fund scholarships, faculty, and other Arts and Indigenous Leadership direct programming costs, or supported Banff Centre critical operations through the COVID-19 pandemic – including the business continuity team involved in maintaining current operations and developing/implementing program and business recovery plans, as well as protecting Banff Centre assets and ensuring campus security.

In post-program evaluations received to date for Arts and Indigenous Leadership online programs: **98%** responded they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the online program experience; **86%** rated the relevance of their online program as "very good" or "excellent".

Artists and leaders in Canada and worldwide stayed very interested in our online offerings over the last year. In 2020-21, the average ratio of applications to places in programs was 4:1– **exceeding Banff Centre's long-standing target** of 3:1.

From artists to donors – thank you!



“It is no understatement to say my attendance in this program is a ray of light in a dismal year, where many of my dear colleagues in the arts are forced to consider difficult career choices, and in some cases reconsider their careers in the arts entirely. As the clouds begin to part on what has truly been a turbulent year for all of us, knowing that I have been granted an opportunity to begin to rebuild, refine, and reinvent myself in my continuing capacity as an opera singer is certainly a welcome relief. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for this opportunity.”

*Evan Korbut
Anishinaabe, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
Slaight Family Foundation Scholarship Recipient
Opera in the 21st Century, 2020-21*

We are re-opening the campus gradually with an exciting line-up of on-campus and online programs and events this Fall.

Through Fall 2021, Banff Centre will be bringing artists back to its campus on Sacred Buffalo Guardian Mountain in Treaty 7 territory, with a commitment to keeping participants, faculty, guests, and staff safe. [From September through December, Banff Centre will have more than 20 programs and events on campus and more than 15 program and events online.](#)

The first week of September saw a 10-piece orchestra, comprised of several Banff Centre alumni, safely gather in Rolston Recital Hall to record performances for the Banff Centre International String Quartet Festival.



As the fourth wave of the pandemic hits Alberta and the province re-enters a State of Public Health Emergency, Banff Centre is constantly monitoring, reviewing, and

evaluating our operating procedures in relation to updated policies, standards, and measures. We will continue to adjust and adapt our practices as needed and required.

Through the generosity of our donor community, financial aid to cover 100% of online program fees was available for Arts and Indigenous Leadership programs offered this past year.

“It is vitally important for writers to come together in workshop settings like the one offered by the Banff Literary Arts Program. Our pursuit is a solitary one, and particularly in the current climate, it is easy to become discouraged, distracted, or feel invalidated as an artist. Joining in the Winter Writers Session not only gave me an opportunity to hone my craft, but also re-connected me to my purpose ... Donations like yours ... make art and learning more possible. Thank you for making this workshop a reality for me. It is an experience I will carry forward with me, and one that has made a profound impact on my trajectory.”

*Emily Johnson
Alathea and Herbert Manley Endowment
Award Recipient
Toronto, ON
Winter Writers Session Online, 2021*



On behalf of all of us at Banff Centre – and the artists and leaders who had outstanding experiences in our online programs this year – thank you.

Support Banff Centre

We acknowledge, with deep respect and gratitude, our home on the side of Sacred Buffalo Guardian Mountain, in the beautiful and special territory of Treaty 7. We recognize the past, present, and future generations of Stoney Nakoda, Blackfoot, Tsuut'ina Nations, and Metis from Region 3, who help us steward this land, as well as honour and celebrate this place.

Charitable Registration Numbers: (Canada) 11921 4955 RR0001 ~ (US) 98-0078729 | Board of Governors of The Banff Centre (Banff Centre) is planning to raise an estimated amount of \$10.53 million this year on fund-raising campaigns. It will cost our organization an estimated \$1.39 million to raise this. The money raised will be going to provide non-parchment programs in arts and creativity, leadership development, mountain culture, and the environment, as well as related capital

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IMAGE CREDITS
Banff Centre Campus by Rita Taylor.
Rehearsals for the BISQCFest livestream Festival chamber orchestra concert
by Jim Olver.
Artist photos courtesy of artists.

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