

As Vice President of Arts Programming and Leadership at Alberta's largest arts and leadership school, and one of the largest in Canada where we welcome more than 3,000 artists and leaders every year to our campus for education, to create new works, and to perform. Here at Banff Centre, we are proudly located on the side of sleeping Buffalo Mountain home to Treaty Seven Territory of the Blackfoot, Stoney Nakoda, and Tsuut'ina nations in beautiful Banff National Park - Canada's first national park and a UNESCO site world heritage site, and we thank them for allowing us to be on their territory.

I'd like to welcome you to the Arts, Culture and Digital Transformation summit. This international summit will help attendees and speakers to navigate and grow in the new realities in the digital realm.

Banff Centre has a long history in the digital realm with the Banff New Media Institute pioneering the way for the new digital frontier for artists and researchers. The summit is both an important Alberta event and national event aiming to build literacy in the digital realm and Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity is proud to be leading this conversation in Alberta. Artists, cultural producers and leaders need to be articulate in regards to digital issues. They need to be at the forefront in shaping the questions, as opposed to being in reactive positions. Practically, artists and cultural leaders require support in navigating challenges of cost, availability, training, and knowledge gaps when it comes to experimenting with digital tools and building literacy. As technologies and their literacies rapidly grow more sophisticated, many artists and organizations are left increasingly behind and our digital summit will help to bring the needed knowledge to artists and organizations.

Over the next three days, my hope is the summit will inspire new digital creation, new relationships and that new collaborations will emerge .and also to provide the foundational knowledge to navigate and grow in the digital realm.

We also thank our partner Canada Council for the Arts, Gros Morn Summer Music Program, Mass Culture and all out partners who have supported summit programming.

Howard Jang

Vice President of Arts & Leadership