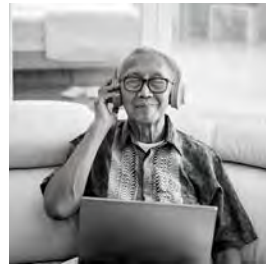




# ANNUAL REPORT

2022  
-  
2023





## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS +STAFF**

### **EXECUTIVE**

Daniel Parr - President  
Alejandro Romero - Vice  
President  
Jaime Boldt - Past  
President  
Tara Janzen - Treasurer

### **MEMBERS AT LARGE**

Jennifer Dawn Bishop  
Krystal Glowatski  
Josh Haugerud  
Jeff Morton

### **STAFF**

Em Ironstar - Executive Director  
Jessica Riess - Communications and Outreach Lead  
Ariana Malthaner - Research Lead  
Tia Furstenberg - Digital Communications Collaborator

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is perhaps fitting that the Saskatchewan Arts Alliance annual general meeting takes place in the Autumn, since it allows us to appreciate how many of the seeds we have planted during the course of the year have borne fruit.

For instance, in the past year we have had the opportunity to see just what the SAA can do with a full staffing contingent. Executive Director Em Ironstar has put together a great team, with Jessica Riess as the Communications and Outreach Lead, Ariana Malthaner as the Research Lead, and Tia Furstenberg as the Digital Media Collaborator. I would like to express my appreciation to the SAA staff for their hard work and commitment over the last year.

The “fruit” of one of the projects you might have heard about is the SAA Podcast, Arts Everywhere. Ten episodes featuring interviews with community members on a diverse array of topics were produced in the first season, and this successful program looks to return in the coming year. Other exciting projects begun or continued in the past year include the Axis of Access program, the ongoing Studio Without Walls initiative, an update to the Artists Surveys, and advocacy efforts around the expansion of PST to tickets to cultural activities and audience revitalization, among many others.

For the board, our biggest undertaking over the past year was a deep dive into the bylaws of the Saskatchewan Arts Alliance. With the assistance of Roberta Cross of Grow Solutions, the board and Em attended a very productive retreat at the Remai Art Gallery in Saskatoon to revisit the language of the bylaws, which were last revised over 20 years ago. Over the course of the retreat, and through a few successive board meetings for refinement, I like to think that we have produced something that threads the needle of honouring the original



intentions of the bylaws while updating the language and presenting some new ideas. Thank you to Roberta for assisting us with this challenging, but exciting, process.

For their work and dedication, I would like to thank board members Jennifer Dawn Bishop, Krystal Glowatski, Josh Haugerud, Jeff Morton and Alejandro Romero, all of whom will be serving the second year of their two-year terms in the coming year. Tara Janzen had to step down from the board slightly early, as she left to pursue an incredible opportunity with the Royal Ontario Museum, and we wish her all the best! Jaime Boldt has chosen not to let her name stand for another two-year term, so I would like to take the opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to her for everything that she has done for the Saskatchewan Arts Alliance and the community - I have personally benefited a great deal from her leadership and mentorship.

Finally, thank you to all of those who put their names forward for consideration for the board as part of the nominations process. We are going to continue with the momentum we have developed, and I am glad you are going to be part of the work we will be doing in the coming year - planting the seeds that we will harvest this time next year, and for many years to come.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully submitted by

Daniel Parr  
Saskatchewan Arts Alliance President





## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### *Greetings,*

I came across something recently that really resonated with me. When I saw that a friend of mine changed their Facebook cover photo to an image that says, “We will find a way or make one,” I knew I wanted to incorporate it in my annual report message this year.

Apparently, this quote, or a similar version, is attributed to Hannibal and is nothing new but when I read it, I felt a resonance that this phrase captures this past year at the SAA quite accurately.

I recognize that it is not easy for many people in the arts right now. I’m having conversations with artists, arts admins, contractor workers and leaders as much as I can to try and understand the full picture of the arts in our province, and I can tell you that while there is an immense amount of important, joyful, meaningful art and art work happening in our province, it is not happening without enormous challenge.

An ongoing funding crisis, COVID recovery, skyrocketing inflation and audience development are among a few of the many issues facing the arts in our province. The SAA is

working hard to prioritize all the important tasks we have to work towards to advocate for a better future for the arts in Saskatchewan. I am excited to say I think we are well on our way to continuing this crucial work. We’ve been able to build some solid foundations and relationships over the course of the past year that I believe will ultimately lead to positive outcomes for the arts in the long term. In the short term, we are exploring how to create positive change in our everyday work.

I have also learned over the last year that advocacy is slow work that requires timing and patience. I will remind myself of this lesson over and over in this role.

There are a few important things from the past year I’d like to touch on in this report that highlight the work we are doing, starting with the bylaw amendment passed at last year’s AGM.

Driven by consultations which explored how to increase diversity and representation on the SAA board, the SAA proposed a bylaw change at the September 2022 AGM to implement the payment of honorariums to board members.



SAA Executive Director Em Ironstar. Photo Credit: Ironstar, 2023.

The SAA also implemented a new online Board Member Intake Form, which included a confidential, voluntary, diversity self-declaration form. Because the SAA can now accurately track this metric, we can confirm the SAA had a board last year where 62.5% of the members identified as one or more of the following equity-seeking groups:

- An Indigenous person
- A Person with a Disability
- An LGBTQIA2s+ person
- A member of a Racialized group.

Thanks to the increased and ongoing support of SaskCulture and SaskLotteries, in October 2022, the SAA hired a full-time, permanent Research Lead, Ariana Malthaner. Ariana completed her undergraduate degree in Celtic Studies at the University of Toronto before moving abroad to Ireland, where she completed her master's and Ph.D. in Early Irish philology. She started on October 17, 2022, and has been a welcomed and fantastic addition to the SAA team.

Tia Furstenberg was hired as the Digital Media Collaborator for the SAA. Tia graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, SK, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Honours degree in 2020. She is also currently the Media Coordinator at the Mann Art Gallery and owns her



own small business Lemon Yellow Art Studio. Tia started with the SAA on October 12, 2022, and has significantly increased SAA's online reach and presence on social media!

Several other important and exciting initiatives happened last year at the SAA that are discussed in more detail in the following program and services report, the launch of the Arts Everywhere podcast, the 2023 Spring Gathering and the Axis of Access - our ongoing partnership with Listen to Dis'. I encourage you to continue reading to learn more about what we've been up to.

The work of the SAA happens together with a great team, and many thank yous are in order. Thank you to the 2022-23 board of directors, especially our President, Daniel Parr, who has continued to be an excellent support to both myself and the rest of the board. Many thanks and appreciation also to our outgoing board members Jaime Boldt and Tara Janzen. It was my honour to work alongside you. I learned so much from both of you that I will take forward in my future work.

Thank you to the SAA staff, Ariana Malthaner (Research Lead), Jessica Riess (Outreach, Communications Lead) and Tia Furstenberg (Digital Communications Collaborator). This year has been incredibly busy, and I appreciate your hard work and dedication immensely. You are all essential parts of this great and growing team. Thank you. I can't imagine doing this work without you.

We are incredibly grateful for the ongoing support of SK Arts, SaskCulture and Sask Lotteries, who support us as we work to strengthen our sector.

Perhaps most importantly, thank you to the people and organizations that support us in our work. To our members, thank you for adding your voice to ours. As we move forward in our work at the SAA, with your support and engagement, we will find a way, or we will make one together.

Respectfully submitted,

Em Ironstar



# PROGRAMS AND SERVICES REPORT

## *The Arts Live Here*

The Saskatchewan Arts Alliance (SAA) is a non-partisan, member-driven coalition of arts organizations that provides a collective voice of the arts community to the public, government, and arts and culture agencies. The SAA works to strengthen, support and advance the arts ecosystem through proactive leadership, advocacy, public education, research, and public policy development. SAA envisions a province where its arts and artists are supported and valued as essential to a complete and healthy society.

### ***The SAA affirms our values:***

- Collective Voice: a collective voice enables artists to create positive change and generate public awareness of the importance of the arts.
- Towards Truth and Reconciliation: a commitment to the values, principles and Calls to Action of the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- Intersectional Diversity: the diverse voices and perspectives in the arts ecosystem are respected, welcomed and supported.
- Integrity: artists and arts organizations are free to pursue their artistic vision at arm's length and empowered by artists' rights to a living wage.
- Access: citizens have unfettered, informed access to and participation in their culture.
- Creative Expression: the artist's creativity and uniqueness and the diversity of the arts are essential to our social fabric.
- An Informed Public: research creates a critical foundation for good policy, and research findings contribute to a broader understanding of our arts ecosystem.
- Collaboration and Cooperation: leadership in facilitating the sharing of resources and coordinating efforts is important to the arts community.



## *A Collective Voice*

### **Education + Engagement**

SAA worked to raise the visibility and value of the arts in the province through promotional materials. Up-to-date and relevant information concerning the arts sector was widely distributed to the SAA membership, elected officials, the greater arts community and the general public. To ensure information reached a wide and diverse audience, various distribution methods were used, including e-newsletters and various social media channels.

SAA created and disseminated materials to raise awareness about the important role of the arts in our province.

The highly successful series [Covid Visions](#) came to a close. Written by Steven Ross Smith, poet and arts writer, Covid Visions highlighted Saskatchewan artists or arts organizations facing the strange reality of COVID-19.

The SAA also published an article titled "[Creating, Connecting: Studio Without Walls Program](#)" by Steven Ross Smith that showcased the expanded Studio Without Walls program, funded by the Government of Saskatchewan, coordinated and run by the Saskatchewan Seniors Association.



## Living the Arts: SAA's Op-ED

Community members were provided with a forum to reflect on issues related to the arts and of personal interest through SAA's electronic magazine and Op-Ed "Living the Arts." With SAA board member Daniel Parr as Editor, the following op-ed pieces were published and promoted:

- [On Boredom; Reflections on Isolation and Creativity](#) - by Edith Skeard
- [The Future of Saskatchewan's Arts Ecosystem: Rebuilding a Community](#) - by Jeremy Morgan
- [We started with an acknowledgement of wind](#) - by Ariana Malthaner
- [Making Art in the Middle of Nowhere](#) – Challenges of being a Rural Artist - by Marsha Schuld2022

## AGM & Community Forum

On September 14, 2022, the SAA board of directors consulted with the arts community at the Community Forum held in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting. Executive Director, Em Ironstar, presented a special resolution to amend SAA bylaws, [which can be found here](#). Those in attendance voted in favour of these changes and shared their thoughts and ideas moving forward. The Community Forum and AGM was once again an online event that proved successful.



SAA Board of Directors, from left: Krystal Glowatski, Jeff Morton, Em Ironstar, Alejandro Romero, Daniel Parr, Jaime Boldt, Tara Janzen, Josh Haugerud.



SAA was in attendance at the 2023 signing of the Lotteries Agreement



## Arts Everywhere: The SAA Podcast!

### *Conversations on the Arts with the People doing the work*

In December 2022, the SAA launched the Arts Everywhere Podcast. Arts Everywhere celebrates the importance of the arts in Saskatchewan and serves to unite us and the work we do. Ten episodes of the Arts Everywhere podcast were released in season one, with over 600 downloads in the first nine months. Guests in the first season of the podcast included: [Jessica Riess](#), [Carla Harris](#), [Krystal Glowatski](#), [Mark Turner](#), [Josh Haugerud](#), [A roundtable discussion](#) with Taiwo Afolabi, Ariana Malthaner, Mark Claxton, and Lenore Maier, [John Loepky](#), [Edie Skeard](#), [Cynthia Dyck & Jim Arthur](#) and [Jennifer Dawn Bishop](#).

***Remember to [subscribe wherever you get your podcasts](#) so you don't miss an episode!***

## Spring Gathering 2023

On May 18, 2023, the SAA hosted an [online Spring Arts Gathering](#) with two fantastic panel discussions on Reimagining Governance and Decolonization. [You can read more about all the panelists online.](#)

We had over 60 people join us for the day. The SAA offered a limited number of honorariums of \$300 to provide to independent artists, arts administrators and historically underrepresented folks. Watch the recordings of the sessions on our YouTube Channel:

- [What Are We Doing? Radical Thinking about Non-Profit Governance](#): What exactly are we doing with our arts organizations, and how do our governance models serve or stymie the work? Led by Yvette Nolan with Jordan Baylon, Tarin Dehod, and Erin Kang.
- [Sâkitawâhk - Where the Rivers Meet](#): Collaborations, Individuals, and Decolonizing the Arts: Artists from the 2023 Storytellers annual festival, Sâkitawâhk where the rivers meet, in conversation about alternative methodologies, ways to show care for your collaborators and take action toward decolonizing the arts. Led by Sâkêwêwak's Artistic Director, Holly Aubichon, with Dayna Danger and Adrienne Huard.



In-person event at Regina's Artesian: Pajama Party Politics: called Gathering to Gab. Photo Credit: Carla Harris, 2023.

### ***Pajama Party Politics - Axis of Access***

The SAA and Listen to Dis' continued our work to create a living document on accessibility that supports a broader understanding of intimate access from a disability cultural perspective, tentatively dubbed the "Axis of Access."

On December 8, 2022, we hosted an online cultural conversation with Max Ferguson and Traci Foster on accessibility and accommodation in an online event called "[Pajama Party Politics: Access through Solidarity.](#)"

Gathering to Gab Events, where we collected input and feedback from the community, were held in person in Regina (March 20) and on Zoom (March 23). Another Gathering to Gab session was held on June 20 in Saskatoon at PAVED Arts, with excellent attendance and discussion. An initial draft of the access document is complete and is in review and development.



## The Art of Managing Your Career

On March 27, 2023, the SAA attended a Cultural Human Resources Council (CHRC) "The Art of Managing Your Career" workshop. The workshop was hosted in partnership with the University of Saskatchewan and the SAA. Developed by artists and cultural workers, "The Art of Managing Your Career" provides emerging self-employed artists and cultural workers with pertinent and practical information to better manage their careers. The workshop was well attended by University students and faculty.

## Social Media Reach

SAA regularly posted news updates, announcements and other arts-related information on its social media channels. Between June 1, 2022 and May 31, 2023, our Facebook content reached 22,879 users and gained 142 new followers, making our total 1,685 followers. During

the same timeline, our Instagram content reached 13,611 users and gained 202 new followers, making our total 1,815 followers. Twitter had a total of 1,783 followers.

Social Media Insights	
(06/01/2022 – 05/31/2023)	
Facebook	Instagram
<b>22,879</b>	<b>13,611</b>
Facebook users reached (24.3% increase)*	Instagram users reached (81% increase)*
<b>+142</b>	<b>+202</b>

\*compared with the previous year's same date range.  
New Facebook followers (8.7% increase)\* New Instagram followers (12.5% increase)\*





## Top Performing Facebook Post

<b>3,164</b> Facebook users reached	<b>106</b> Reactions or Likes	<b>22</b> Shares
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## Top Performing Instagram Post

<b>2,587</b> Instagram users reached	<b>121</b> Likes	<b>5</b> Shares
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## Status of the Artist Timeline

SAA regularly added new entries to its Status of the Artist Developmental Timeline (8), which has a wealth of information on national and international social, regulatory and legislative activity concerning artist equity. The timeline is especially useful for those searching for a wide scope of information on equity-related initiatives from various jurisdictions. Also, new references and resources were added to the “Resources for Artists + Engagers” page on SAA’s parallel website, [www.saskap.ca](http://www.saskap.ca). The page provides information to promote compliance with the Saskatchewan Arts Professions Act.

## Advocacy

# Powered by the Arts

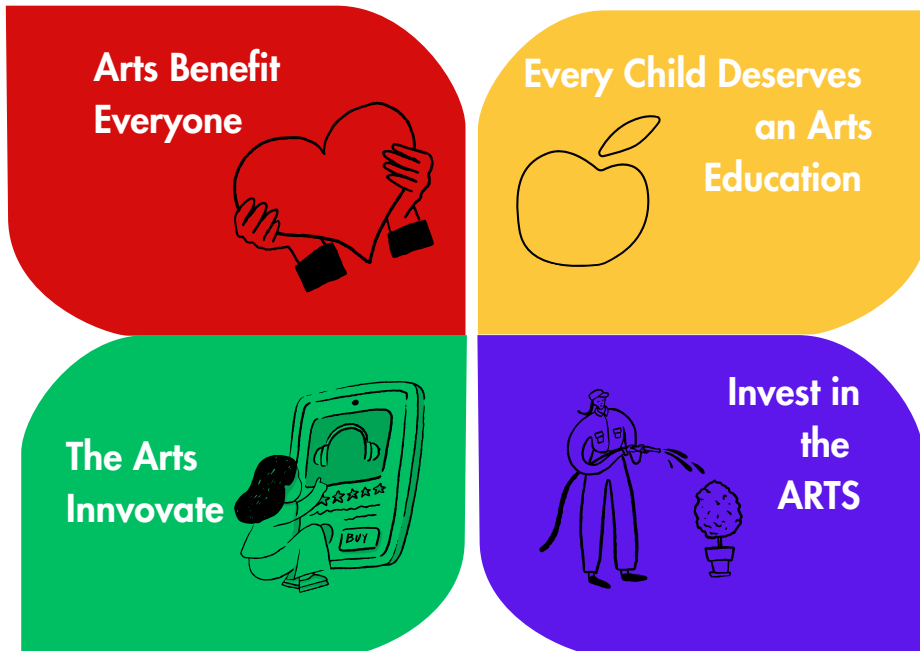
Over the last 37 years, the SAA has worked to strengthen, support and advance the arts through advocacy, policy development and proactive leadership. SAA takes seriously its responsibility to provide accurate information about the arts sector to elected government

and arts agency officials. Accurate representation of arts community interests is a priority of ours and is gained through consultations, surveys and face-to-face meetings with the greater arts community, individuals, and partner organizations. We also participated in national planning activities and provided factual information on relevant topics to serve the development of the sector.

Since its establishment in 1986, SAA has been a prominent advocate on issues affecting artists and the arts, including public funding of the arts, provincial and federal arts policies, freedom of expression and artists' working conditions.

### ***SAA's objectives and actions continue to focus on what we know:***

- Arts Benefit Everyone
- Every Child Deserves an Arts Education
- The Arts Innovate
- Invest in the Arts







**On behalf of our members and the provincial arts community, SAA advocated throughout the 2022-23 year:**

- Ongoing PST Expansion Advocacy - The SAA received many questions from our members regarding the PST expansion that came into effect on October 1, 2022. We went straight to the source and arranged a free PST Expansion Webinar with a tax educator from the Ministry of Finance. recent PST expansion. This webinar was held on Wednesday, November 16, 2022.
- Rural Artists Working Group (RAWG) - The Saskatchewan Arts Alliance, along with rural artists, worked on the creation of a RAWG. This group will continue to tackle issues around isolation, professional development, and connecting provincial artists and arts communities of all disciplines. If you are interested in participating, please contact [info@saskartsalliance.ca](mailto:info@saskartsalliance.ca).
- SAA staff attended a talk by Senator Patricia Bovey about Bill S-208, An Act respecting the Declaration on the Essential Role of Artists and Creative Expression in Canada. This event was held by the Canadian Club of Regina on March 2, 2023.



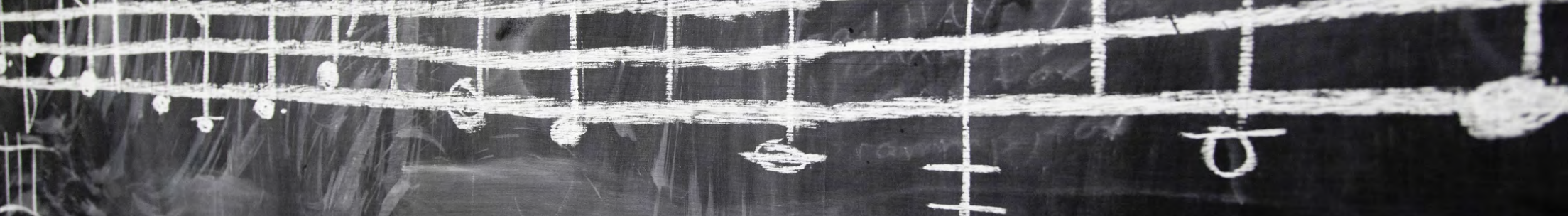
- SAA attended the reading of the 2023-24 provincial budget announcement. The budget again brought mixed news – near status quo funding to the majority of the arts sector and a two-million-dollar increase for Creative Saskatchewan. [Read SAA's complete response here.](#)
- SAA Responded to the Dropping of Bill S-208. On April 24, the order for a second reading of Bill S-208, a Declaration on the Essential Role of Artists and Creative Expression in Canada Act, was discharged, and the item was dropped from the Order Paper. We encouraged the members of our community to write to their MPs and the Minister of Canadian Heritage to express their disappointment and concern.
- Collective Music Education Advocacy Initiative - A partnership to advocate collectively for music education began when an SAA member, the Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, approached the SAA about music education advocacy. SAA invited the Saskatchewan Drama Association, Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Choral Federation, and the Saskatchewan Orchestral Association to meet to discuss how we could all work together to advocate for music education in Saskatchewan. This work is ongoing and will continue to develop and evolve and will include the development of a music education toolkit.



SAA President Daniel Parr and Executive Em Ironstar attend the March 2023 Budget.



Meeting between Saskatchewan Drama Association, Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Choral Federation, and the Saskatchewan Orchestral Association.



## *Arts Everywhere*

### **Interagency Arts Planning + Development**

SAA continued to support provincial arts organizations' advocacy and also worked with a group of arts organizations from across Canada. The SAA met regularly throughout the year with SK Arts, SaskCulture, Creative Saskatchewan and the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport.

SAA provided advice and information on sector priorities to elected officials, government departments and arts agencies to support the development of sound policy and priorities.

### **National Liason**

The SAA worked with Orchestras Canada/Orchestres Canada, Book and Periodical Council, WorkInCulture, Canadian Dance Assembly, Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts – TAPA, Association of Opera in Canada, Regroupement Québécois de la Danse, Mass Culture, CAPACOA in a virtual National Arts Service Organization network that meets via Zoom bi-weekly and communicates between meetings via a Slack team.

### **Memberships**

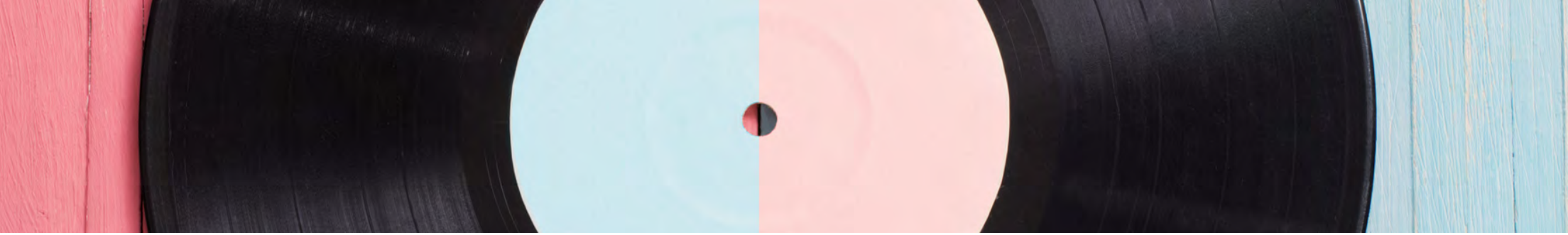
SAA held memberships in the Canadian Network for Arts and Learning, Coalition of Diversity of Cultural Expressions, Creative City Network, Cultural Human Resources Council, and SaskCulture. SAA also held a reciprocal membership with Heritage Saskatchewan, the heritage community of interest organization for SaskCulture.

### **Reference + Research**

The SAA continues to collect and maintain a library of research studies and statistics that is available as a reference service to members. The SAA responded to public and media requests for information the Saskatchewan arts sector, and our ongoing research initiatives.

Crucially, the SAA has maintained our online registry of artists for research purposes. **The Artist Registry** collates data from self-selecting artists located in the province.





This registry is an integral resource for our research purposes. The SAA promotes this registry through our meetings, social media and members' communications.

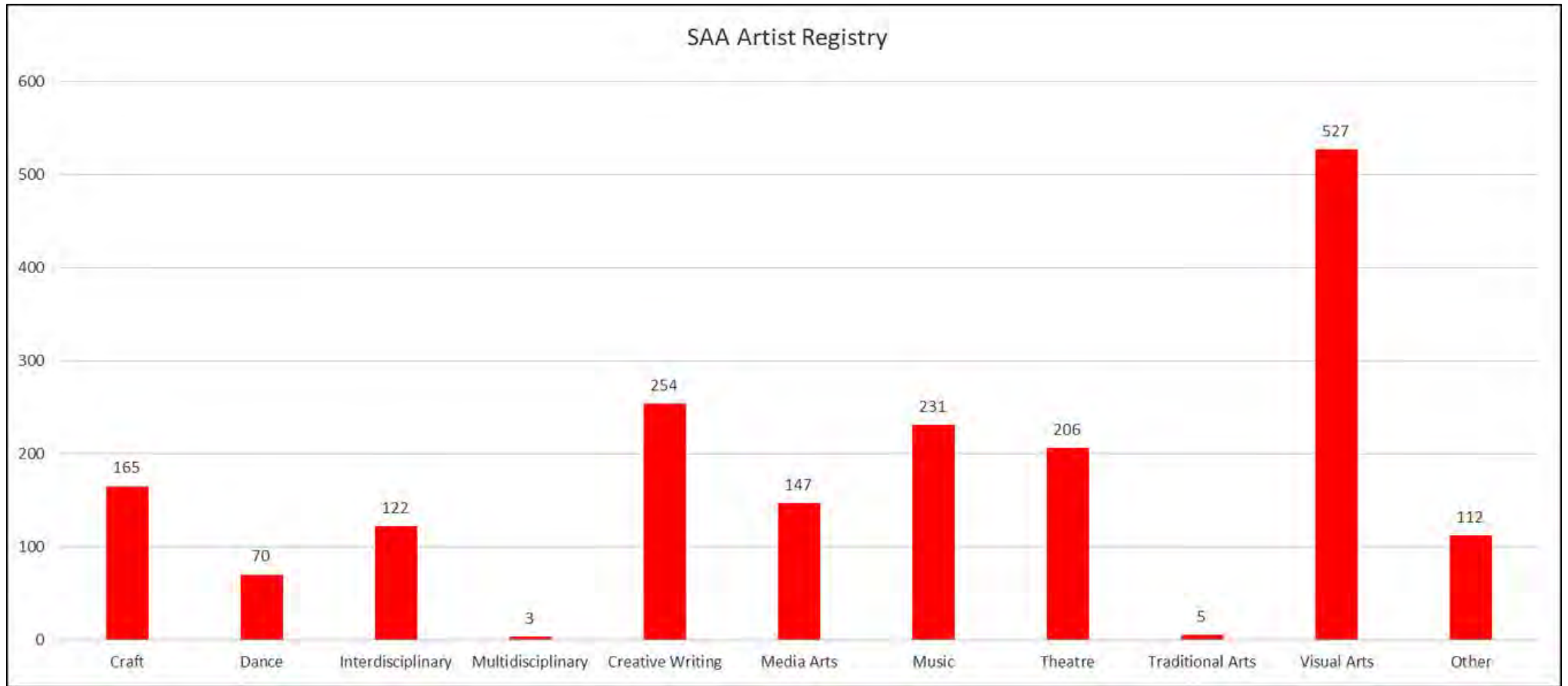
As of May 31st 2023, the registry contains 989 artists across 114 communities in Saskatchewan. This is a decrease of 1.49%. However, the SAA has been making efforts to update the registry by removing former registrants who have moved out province, those who are now deceased, those whose contact details are no longer viable, and those who no longer wish to be a part of the registry. Approximately 100 registrants have been removed from the registry in 2022-2023 fiscal year, which will help to maintain accurate records going forward.

According to custom data by Statistics Canada, there are 3,900 artists in the province of Saskatchewan,<sup>[1]</sup> which means that our artist registry represents a quarter (25%) of all the artists in the province, with 1842 disciplines identified.



[1] Hills Strategies, July 11 2023, "Artists in Saskatchewan 2021," <https://statsinsights.hillstrategies.com/p/artists-in-saskatchewan-in-2021>







## Completed/In-Progress Research Initiatives

- In close collaboration with the City of Weyburn, and research partners at the University of Regina, the impact of the new Spark Centre, devoted to sport, culture, recreation and education has been examined. A 'before survey' attempting to understand the current role of the arts and cultural spaces in the community, as well as an overview of general quality of life was conducted and report completed in 2021. A follow-up survey has subsequently been completed, and a report on the findings and the impact of the Spark Centre is currently under production.
- In Fall/Winter, building upon work completed over the course of the year, the SAA was able to complete an updated study on Fine Arts & Arts Education in Saskatchewan Universities. This study builds upon previous research studies examining graduation, staffing and funding levels for fine arts, and fine arts programming at universities in the province.

This updated study, in conjunction with the prior studies, comprise a longitudinal study on the state of funding for the fine arts in Saskatchewan, and provide a snapshot of the state of arts education at the tertiary level. This report in particular was largely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the lasting effects felt in higher education.

- In 2014, the SAA in conjunction with the University of Regina conducted a study on the Arts Ecology of Saskatchewan through dual surveys provided to both the artist community and the general public. As it is nearly the 10-year anniversary of this study, the SAA revisited the survey questions and updated them for 2023 – particularly to identify any challenges and impacts created by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In partnership with Listen to Dis', the SAA has been involved in the creation of a document, based on community

collaboration, to assist LTD in their ongoing advocacy work and that can be used as a resource for other organisations in their own advocacy.

- The SAA has begun development of a community resource with a focus on the importance of music and music education. This has involved an extensive literature review of research surrounding the importance and benefit of music, and these resources will be made available to the general public, hosted on the SAA's website.

The SAA has additionally been able to be involved in smaller, ad-hoc research tasks, such as an analysis of the changes to the Saskatchewan Non-Profit Corporation Regulations in order to ensure members were apprised of relevant changes.



## Upcoming Research Projects

- As part of our ongoing mission to advocate for increased funding to the arts, the SAA has begun working collaboratively with provincial funding agencies in order to identify the economic impact of the arts in Saskatchewan, and use this data to present to the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport to advocate for increased funding to SK Arts. This project will rely on the StatsCanada multipliers, and has a view to creating an accessible and sustainable resource to assist in arts advocacy going forward
- The SAA has developed a new research project with the underlying concept that 'Everyone is an Artist,' with the intention of exploring the ways in which art is ubiquitous in the lives of Saskatchewan residents, with a view to bringing awareness to the ways in which art influences our lives.

This project was developed in conjunction with Heritage Saskatchewan and an application to the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council was submitted.

Although this application was unsuccessful, the SAA will be meeting with Heritage Saskatchewan to discuss future steps and ways to move the project forward. This project was developed in conjunction with Heritage Saskatchewan and an application to the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council was submitted. our members, better measure our impact and inform our processes in the future.

- In conjunction with SaskCulture, the SAA is currently in the beginning stages of developing evaluation frameworks applicable to arts organisations and non-profit organisations that can help us, and our members, better measure our impact and inform our processes in the future.
- The SAA has hopes to create a further study on Arts Service Organisations to complement the recent artist & general public survey. This project is currently in the planning stages.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

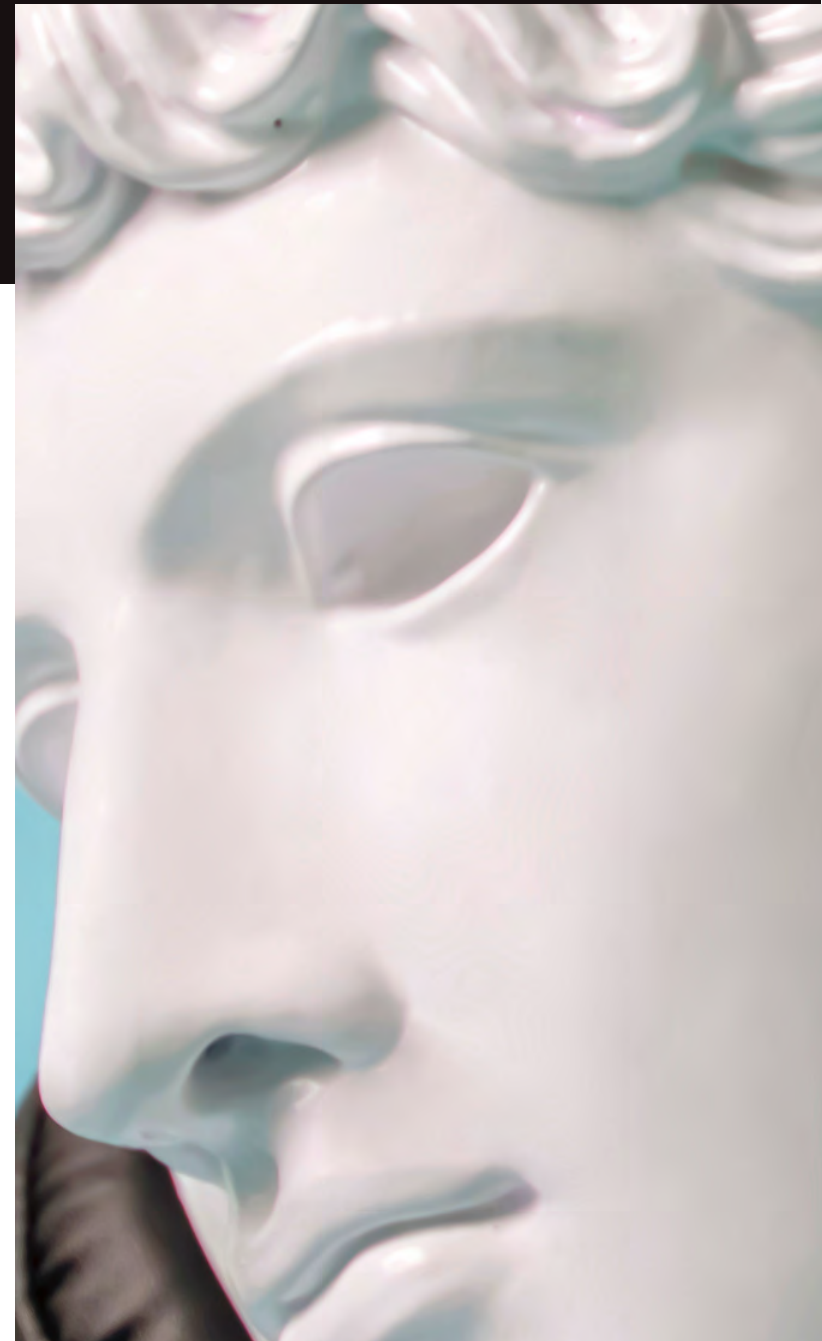
The Saskatchewan Arts Alliance ended the 2022-23 fiscal year in a strong financial position with unrestricted net assets of \$31,126. Core funding through SaskCulture (with thanks to Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation) was increased to \$260,000 (from the previous year's approximately \$160,000), while core funding through SK Arts remained steady at \$70,000.

There was a sizeable increase in the cost of Salaries and Benefits respective to the previous year, as the organisation enjoyed the benefit of a full staffing complement. Another sizeable increase in expenses was realised in the Travel & Meetings category, owing both to the implementation of board member honoraria and the return to regular travel activities, such as conferences and the annual board retreat, which had previously been on hold due to the pandemic.

The Saskatchewan Arts Alliance will continue to leverage its assets in a strategic manner, balancing sound fiscal responsibility with responsiveness, in order to best continue to serve the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Parr  
President





**SASKATCHEWAN ARTS ALLIANCE CORPORATION**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**MAY 31, 2023**



## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Members of  
Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation

### **Qualified Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at May 31, 2023 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, except for the effects, if any, of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation as at May 31, 2023 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### **Basis for Qualified Opinion**

In common with many non-profit organizations, Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation derives part of its revenue from membership fees, donations and other activities, the completeness and classification of which are not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly my verification of these transactions was limited to accounting for the amounts recorded in the records of the organization and I was not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to the revenues, statement of operations, assets and net assets.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### **Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Regina, Saskatchewan  
September 5, 2023




Marcia Herback  
CPA, CA

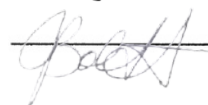
**SASKATCHEWAN ARTS ALLIANCE CORPORATION**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT MAY 31, 2023**  
**(with comparative figures for 2022)**

	2023	2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash	\$ 152,495	\$ 150,126
Investments	180,885	180,750
Accrued interest receivable	4,079	291
GST receivable	1,306	1,121
Prepaid expenses	<u>6,501</u>	<u>3,013</u>
	<u>\$ 345,266</u>	<u>\$ 335,301</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 18,200	\$ 12,439
Grant return payable (Note 5)	-	3,269
Unearned revenue (Note 6 )	<u>135,020</u>	<u>132,609</u>
	<u>153,220</u>	<u>148,317</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Internally restricted reserves	160,920	160,920
Unrestricted net assets	<u>31,126</u>	<u>26,064</u>
	<u>192,046</u>	<u>186,984</u>
	<u>\$ 345,266</u>	<u>\$ 335,301</u>

See accompanying notes

Approved on Behalf of the Board

 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

**SASKATCHEWAN ARTS ALLIANCE CORPORATION**  
**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023**  
**(with comparative figures for 2022)**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Grants (Schedule 1)	\$ 332,609	\$ 226,731
Self-help (Schedule 2)	<u>12,599</u>	<u>3,176</u>
	<u>345,208</u>	<u>229,907</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration (Schedule 3)	251,719	187,499
Travel & Meetings (Schedule 4)	15,716	683
Corporate Business (Schedule 5)	10,948	9,868
Communications (Schedule 6)	8,515	6,178
Programs & Services (Schedule 7)	<u>53,248</u>	<u>22,503</u>
	<u>340,146</u>	<u>226,731</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses</b>	5,062	3,176
<b>Unrestricted net assets, beginning of year</b>	<u>26,064</u>	<u>22,888</u>
<b>Unrestricted net assets, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 31,126</u>	<u>\$ 26,064</u>

See accompanying notes

**SASKATCHEWAN ARTS ALLIANCE CORPORATION**  
**STATEMENT OF RESERVES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023**  
**(with comparative figures for 2022)**

	<b>2023</b>							
	<b>Operating Reserve</b>	<b>Capital Maintenance Reserve</b>	<b>Representation Reserve</b>	<b>Facility Reserve</b>	<b>Projects in Progress Reserve</b>	<b>Arts Congress Reserve</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>								
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 68,713	\$ 2,373	\$ 1,800	\$ 24,000	\$ 61,034	\$ 3,000	\$ 160,920	\$ 160,920
Transfer from net assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to net assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 68,713</u>	<u>\$ 2,373</u>	<u>\$ 1,800</u>	<u>\$ 24,000</u>	<u>\$ 61,034</u>	<u>\$ 3,000</u>	<u>\$ 160,920</u>	<u>\$ 160,920</u>

See accompanying notes

**SASKATCHEWAN ARTS ALLIANCE CORPORATION**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023**  
**(with comparative figures for 2022)**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 5,062	\$ 3,176
Net change in non-cash operating working capital balances		
Investments	(135)	(30,750)
Accrued interest receivable	(3,788)	422
GST receivable	(185)	(68)
Prepaid expenses	(3,488)	(3,013)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	5,761	(24,262)
Grant returns payable	(3,269)	3,269
Unearned revenue	<u>2,411</u>	<u>129,276</u>
Cash provided by operating activities	<u>2,369</u>	<u>78,050</u>
<b>Increase in cash</b>	<b>2,369</b>	<b>78,050</b>
<b>Cash position, beginning of year</b>	<u>150,126</u>	<u>72,076</u>
<b>Cash position, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 152,495</u>	<u>\$ 150,126</u>

See accompanying notes



**SASKATCHEWAN ARTS ALLIANCE CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**MAY 31, 2023**

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**1. Status and nature of activities**

The Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation acts to ensure the existence and continued growth of the arts and cultural industries in Saskatchewan. The Organization is incorporated under the Non-Profit Corporations Act of Saskatchewan as of March 21, 1986.

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

Revenue

Grants are recorded as revenue in the fiscal period for which the monies were approved by the funding association. Grants received in advance of the period for which they are to be used are recorded as deferred grant revenue. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Membership revenue is recognized in the year it relates to. Membership fees received in advance of the membership year to which they relate are recorded as deferred membership fees.

Interest income is recognized when it is earned. All other revenue is recorded in the fiscal period in which it is received.

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are charged against revenues in the year of purchase.

### Financial instruments

The Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. It subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets subsequently measured at amortized cost include cash, investments and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities subsequently measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

### Management estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions which affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. These estimates are reviewed periodically, and, as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known.

### **3. Reserves**

During the 2006 year, the SAA Board of Directors established an operating reserve and moved that \$18,000 be transferred into the reserve. In 2012, the SAA Board of Directors established that the operating reserve be maintained at one third of its operating budget. Additional amounts are added to the operating reserve as required. Similarly, during 2008, a capital maintenance reserve, representation reserve, facility reserve and projects in progress reserve were opened by the SAA Board of Directors. During the 2013 fiscal year, the Board of Directors opened an Art Congress Reserve to spread the costs of the Biennial Event over a two year period.

#### **4. Financial instruments**

The Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the Organization's exposure and concentrations at May 31, 2023:

##### Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a party may default on their financial obligations, or if there is a concentration of financial obligations which have similar economic characteristics that could be similarly affected by changes in economic conditions, such that the Organization could incur a financial loss. Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation is exposed to credit risk with respect to its cash, investments and accounts receivable. The organization manages its credit risk by placing cash and investments with major financial institutions. Credit risk for accounts receivable is managed by the credit quality and diverse debtor base and creating an allowance for bad debts where applicable.

##### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Organization may not be able to meet a demand for cash or fund its obligations as they come due or not being able to liquidate assets in a timely manner at a reasonable price. Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation is exposed to liquidity risk with respect to its investments and accounts payable and accrued liabilities but manages its liquidity risk by holding assets that can be readily converted into cash.

### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is a type of market risk that refers to the risk that the fair value of financial instruments or future cash flows associated with the instruments will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Organization is exposed to interest rate risk with respect to its cash and investments and its effect on interest income. Fluctuations in interest rates do not have a significant effect on cash and investments due to the fact that interest income is not a major percentage of total revenue.

### **5. Grant returns payable**

Saskatchewan Arts Alliance Corporation receives annual funding from Sask Culture with the understanding that the funds are to be used for eligible purposes adhering to the policies and guidelines. In the event funds are not used in accordance with the policies and guidelines, they must be returned to Sask Culture. At May 31, 2022 the Organization had \$nil in grant returns to Sask Culture (2022 - \$3,269).

### **6. Unearned revenue**

Deferred revenue consists of externally restricted funds received from Sask Culture funds for 2022\23 in the amount of \$135,000 (2022 - \$130,000), membership fees for \$20, and the University of Regina CERC Grant for \$nil (2022 \$2,609).

### **7. Comparative figures**

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation.

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**SASKATCHEWAN ARTS ALLIANCE CORPORATION**  
**SCHEDULES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023**  
 (with comparative figures for 2022)

	2023	2022
<b>Grants</b>		<b>Schedule 1</b>
Sask Arts Board	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000
Sask Culture	260,000	156,731
Other grants	2,609	-
	<u>\$ 332,609</u>	<u>\$ 226,731</u>
 <b>Self-help</b>		 <b>Schedule 2</b>
Interest	\$ 5,519	\$ 327
Donations	3,915	-
Memberships	3,165	2,125
Sponsorship	-	724
	<u>\$ 12,599</u>	<u>\$ 3,176</u>

**Administration****Schedule 3**

Contract fees	\$ 28,021	\$ 22,465
Office operations		
Equipment	3,892	1,521
Office supplies	368	1,005
Printing, postage, photocopying		146
Rent	12,761	12,342
Software and IT	2,677	-
Telephone	1,948	3,358
Salaries and benefits	<u>202,052</u>	<u>146,662</u>
	<u>\$ 251,719</u>	<u>\$ 187,499</u>

**Travel & Meetings****Schedule 4**

Meetings - AGM	\$ 500	\$ -
Board honorarium	4,030	-
Board retreat	5,987	-
Professional development	550	-
Meetings - Interagency	147	47
Staff and board travel	3,588	636
Team building	914	-
	<u>\$ 15,716</u>	<u>\$ 683</u>

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**SASKATCHEWAN ARTS ALLIANCE CORPORATION**  
**SCHEDULES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2023**  
**(with comparative figures for 2022)**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Corporate Business</b>		<b>Schedule 5</b>
Insurance	\$ 4,743	\$ 3,966
Professional fees	5,371	5,287
Memberships	326	386
Service charges	508	229
	<u>\$ 10,948</u>	<u>\$ 9,868</u>
<b>Communications</b>		<b>Schedule 6</b>
Advertising	\$ 2,168	\$ 346
Website	6,347	5,832
	<u>\$ 8,515</u>	<u>\$ 6,178</u>
<b>Programs &amp; Services</b>		<b>Schedule 7</b>
Arts Congress/Summit	\$ 14,339	\$
Community development	5,390	12,865
National Liason	4,371	120
Reference services, research, representation	11,639	5,685
Status of the Artist Website Project	1,000	
Strategic initiatives	16,509	3,833
	<u>\$ 53,248</u>	<u>\$ 22,503</u>

# SASKATCHEWAN ARTS ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP FROM 2022-23

artSpace Saskatoon  
Art Gallery of Regina  
Art Gallery of Swift Current  
Blue Sky Cultural Connections  
CARFAC Saskatchewan  
City of North Battleford Art Galleries  
City of Saskatoon  
Common Weal Community Arts  
Conseil culturel fransaskois  
Curtain Razors  
Dance Saskatchewan  
Disabled Artist  
Dunlop Art Gallery  
FadaDance Troupe Inc.  
Free Flow Dance Theatre  
Globe Theatre - invoice done  
Godfrey Dean Art Gallery  
Gustin/Trounce Heritage Committee  
Horus Eye Productions  
Individual Community Members  
La Troupe du Jour  
Listen to Dis

MacKenzie Art Gallery  
Mann Art Gallery  
Moose Jaw Art Museum Inc.  
Northern Lights Bluegrass & Old time Music Society  
On the Boards  
Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils  
PAVED Arts  
Persephone Theatre  
Regina Folk Festival  
Regina Symphony Orchestra - invoice done  
Remai Modern  
Sage Hill Writing Experience  
Saskatchewan Association of Theatre Professionals  
Saskatchewan Choral Federation  
Saskatchewan Craft Council  
Saskatchewan Drama Association - invoice done  
Saskatchewan Festival of Words  
Saskatchewan Music Educators Association  
Saskatchewan Orchestral Association  
Saskatchewan Writers' Guild

Saskatoon Musicians'  
Association  
Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra  
SaskBooks  
SaskGalleries  
SaskMusic  
Station Arts Centre Co-op  
Wanuskewin Heritage Park  
Yorkton Arts Council  
Yorkton Film Festival





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