

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



NORTH YORK ARTS



MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CHAIR

On behalf of the Board and Staff, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported North York Arts in 2017. In our sixth year of operations we continued to build our arts services and programming in North York, we supported the opportunities of local artists, and we fostered new partnerships and engaged in more community events. Significantly, we were approved as a charity by the Canada Revenue Agency.

We are very proud of our achievements. In 2017, we connected with communities through programs and events such as Sunday Serenades at Mel Lastman Square; Beyond Access, Beyond the Creative at the Toronto Centre for the Arts (an Arts Entrepreneurial Professional Development Program); and Creative Leaders Youth Dance Program at Ephraim's Place Community Centre in Glenfield-Jane Heights. We developed new programming partnerships with Hot Docs, Nia Centre for the Arts, and Myseum, and we collaborated with the City and sister LASOs as a key partner for My City, My Six public art project to celebrate Canada 150. We also continued our outreach to develop partnerships with the business, educational and social sectors to ensure that NYA will serve North York's diverse communities.

As we enter halfway point of our current strategic plan, our vision will further contribute to the growth of community arts, engage

with underserved populations, develop creative talents and skills for youth, build a strong sense of belonging for the community through volunteerism, and enhance local economic activity through significant events outside the downtown core of Toronto.

We would like to thank our Board of Directors for their leadership and unwavering support along with our amazing staff for all their hard work and dedication. We would also like to say a fond farewell to NYA's inaugural Chair, Christine Harris and Ely Rosenblum (former Communications & Development Manager) for their contribution over the years to NYA. As well, we would like to thank our major partners for their year-round support: City of Toronto, Toronto Arts Foundation and Civic Theatres Toronto.

Finally, NYA will continue to work in collaboration with artists, arts organizations, community members and local businesses to provide arts programming and services throughout North York. We look forward to further building, celebrating and supporting the arts in 2018.

Sincerely,

Kristopher Dell
Chair

Lila Karim
Executive Director



FRONT COVER PHOTOS: ALEX USQUIANO, CITY OF TORONTO, CRAIG CHONG
ALEX USQUIANO, ISABEL SALES, KAYLA WONDERGEM

THIS PAGE: CULTURA FESTIVAL. PHOTO BY: ISABEL SALES

WHO WE ARE

North York Arts (NYA) is a non-profit organization and registered charity.

North York Arts is one of six Local Arts Service Organizations (LASOs) in Toronto whose purpose is to deliver on the City's social, economic and cultural goals outside of the downtown core. NYA was created to specifically address the needs and interests of artists, arts organizations and residents based in North York.

VISION

An inclusive, engaged, and sustainable arts and culture community in North York.

MISSION

To collaborate with artists, arts organizations, and partners to develop, strengthen, and promote cultural programming and initiatives for North York communities.

OUR VALUES

COLLABORATION

We believe in the power of working with artists and partners to build a stronger community.

SHARING

We stand for the free and open exchange of knowledge, experiences, and ideas.

LEARNING

We are committed to investing in learning opportunities to best support our communities.

INNOVATION

We support novel and creative approaches that bring about growth in the arts and culture sector.

EQUITY

We strive to ensure fair and equal opportunities for all partners, artists, and community members.

INTEGRITY

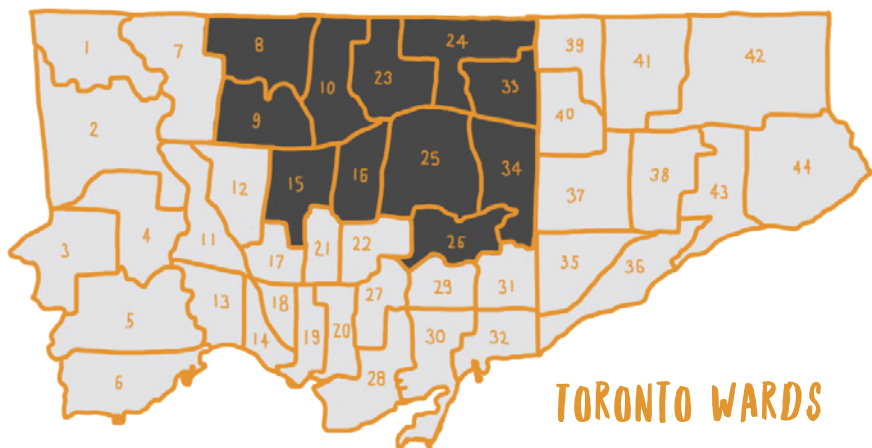
We consistently uphold our core values and our organizational responsibilities with the highest level of honesty, openness, and respect.

WHO WE SERVE

NORTH YORK

The 11 wards located in North York are:

8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 23, 24, 25, 26, 33, and 34.



PHOTOS BY: KAYLA WONDERGEM, CRAIG CHONG

NYA serves individuals and communities located within North York's 11 wards.

We provide inclusive arts events and programs to youth, families, and seniors with a focus on programs to serve the Newcomer and Neighbourhood Improvement Area communities. In addition, we provide services and programs to support both emerging and established local artists and arts organizations.



38,288

community
members
attended and
participated
in various
programs, events
and workshops



50

community,
sponsor, funder
and media
partnerships



101

volunteers at
NYA programs,
meetings, events
and workshops



45

programs, events
and workshops
produced including
city-wide initiatives



233

artists & performers
contracted to
showcase their
work at local
community events



2,171

hours of volunteer
community
engagement



Hired two new
part-time staff to
build the capacity of
the organization to
serve the North York
community



Approved as
a charitable
organization



8

wards programmed
in North York

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM PILLARS



In 2017, NYA had five main programming pillars that ensured diverse and meaningful community engagement that contributed to our mission and strategic plan.



1. ARTISTS IN THE COMMUNITY

CREATIVE LEADERS:

Creative Leaders uses the arts as a tool to empower individuals to be leaders in their communities through mentorship and skill development.

COMMUNITY CONNECTS:

Community Connects brings community and the arts together with programs that focus on arts education, engagement, and outreach.

“The workshop completely changed how I view my creative enterprise/practice!”

– BEYOND ACCESS, BEYOND THE CREATIVE PARTICIPANT



2. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Programs that respond to gaps in resources by providing high quality, accessible services that support the development of artists and arts workers.



3. REVITALIZING PUBLIC SPACES AND CULTURAL TOURISM

Free events in North York that connect communities to parks and public spaces. These programs help to build local partnerships and opportunities.

4. SPECIAL PROJECTS

City-wide initiatives that run in collaboration with other LASOs, and key-partners.

“The support and tools I received at NYA has allowed me to see a clear path to pursue and be successful in a career in the arts.”

– JULIA PASSARELLI, University of Toronto Undergraduate Student



5. VOLUNTEERISM AND INTERNSHIPS

NYA provides diverse and accessible volunteer and internship opportunities that strengthen civic engagement and encouraged participation in the arts.

Artists in the Community: Creative Leaders

- Ephraim's Place Dance Program
- Ephraim's Place DJ Program
- 6 Seniors Arts Access Programs with Legacy Collective

Artists in the Community: Community Connects

- No Strings Theatre Workshop
- Youth Photography Sessions
- Power of Influence
- Creative Foundations: EXPLORE
- Thorncliffe Park Project
- Ceramic and Glass Workshops
- Narrative Painting Workshops
- Next Stages: ESL Theatre Program

Development and Entrepreneurship

- Beyond Access, Beyond the Creative
- Newcomer Youth Recreation Forum
- 6 Information Sessions

Revitalizing Public Spaces and Cultural Tourism

- Nowruzgan Multicultural Exhibition
- Solitary Portraits Exhibition
- North York Visual Artists Exhibition
- Evolution Exhibition
- Cursory Exhibition
- Finding Home Exhibition
- Women I have Known Exhibition
- Kiss and Cry Gala Screening
- Tabla Taiko Concert
- DANCE. SCREEN. IDENTITY
- Hot Docs Film Festival Screenings
- Cultura Festival
- Sunday Serenades
- Blowout Symposium
- Heritage Singers Concert
- Chapley Park Event
- Tuesday Night Live Concert

Special Projects

- My City, My Six
- 4 Directions Festival
- What's Your Story?

TREASURER'S REPORT

North York Arts (NYA) had an outstanding first full year of operations, and it is with great honour that I present the Treasurer's Report for fiscal 2017. The financial highlights exhibited have been audited by the firm of Hogg, Shain & Sheck.

I am delighted to share that our organization achieved its 2017 financial objectives and goals. We continued to promote our long-term strategic vision, which resulted in an increase in sponsorship and public funding. Our main sources of funding remained stable and we were awarded public funding from the municipal and provincial governments. This allowed for NYA to hire additional staff to help support new programming initiatives, and it ensured that the governance and administrative infrastructure remained disciplined to supported continued growth.

As 2017 was our first full year of operations, we recognize that we need to continue to cultivate our corporate and earned revenue streams in order to strengthen the revenue capacity for the organization, reduce reliance on the public sector funding, and develop the long-term sustainability of NYA.

Moreover, in 2017, the Finance & Audit Committee developed and implemented an Operating Reserve Policy for NYA. The policy ensures that an adequate level of unrestricted net assets is available to support the organization's ongoing day-to-day operations (this specifically excludes programming expenditures) in the event of unexpected shortfalls.

I also take this opportunity to specifically extend my gratitude to the Finance & Audit Committee for their exceptional work. The Finance & Audit Committee collaborates with the Board of Directors, the Executive Director and NYA staff, our Bookkeeper and external Auditor to ensure that all financial matters are managed with care, integrity, and consistency. NYA was able to achieve our 2017 financial goals while serving the best interests of the artists and community that we support, our partners, our donors, and the organization as a whole.

Sincerely,

Jason Ho
Treasurer

REVENUES

11%

**CORPORATE
SPONSORSHIPS**

13%

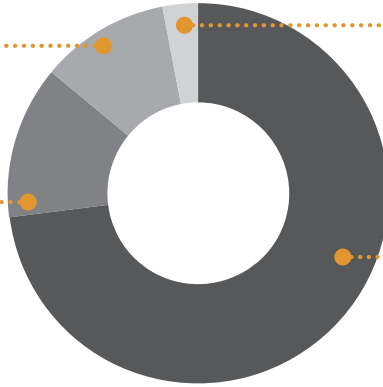
**CONTRIBUTIONS
AND DONATIONS**

3%

EARNED REVENUES

73%

**PUBLIC SECTOR
FUNDING**



EXPENSES

1%

OTHER (AMORTIZATION)

11%

**GENERAL
ADMINISTRATION**

3%

PROFESSIONAL FEES

3%

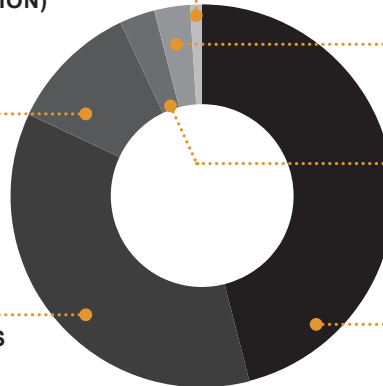
**MARKETING AND
COMMUNICATIONS**

36%

ARTISTIC EXPENSES

46%

**SALARIES AND
BENEFITS**



**The percentages presented in the information graphic for fiscal 2017 have been derived from the Financial Statements of North York Arts as audited by Hogg, Shain & Sheck. A copy of the audited 2017 Financial Statements may be obtained by contacting Lila Karim, Executive Director of North York Arts.*



***“It really has been
a pleasurable
experience working
in the heart of
North York, helping
unite people young
and old together
through art.”***

– MELODY WU,
NYA Volunteer



North York Arts gives our utmost thanks to all of the partners, funders, and donors who contributed to our organization and programs this year!

MAJOR SUPPORTERS



PARTNERS / FUNDERS / DONORS

- Airsa Art and Thought Association
- Akin Projects
- Art Ignite
- ArtReach
- Art Starts
- Arts Etobicoke
- Arts in the Parks
- Bathurst Manor Action Group
- Casa Maiz
- Centennial College
- Cinmatoscape
- City of Toronto
- Civic Theatres Toronto
- Christine Harris
- Cultura Festival
- Delmanor
- Dreamation
- Dispatch Talent
- East End Arts
- ec designs
- Ely Lyonblum
- Ephraim's Place Community Centre
- Fallon Butler
- Friends of the Arts
- Government of Ontario
- Great Gulf Doors Open
- Hotdocs Film Festival
- Humber College
- imagineNATIVE Film and Media Arts Festival

- Inspirit Foundation
- Israeli Artists Group of Toronto
- Jennifer Green
- Jazz Performance and Educational Centre
- Joe Borowiec
- John Ryerson
- Kya Publishing
- Lakeshore Arts
- Latin American Dossier of Arts
- Legacy Collective
- Lila Karim
- Love Music Initiative
- Melissa Foster
- MusiCounts
- Myseum of Toronto
- Neighbourhood Arts Network
- Nesha Karim
- Nia Centre for the Arts
- No Strings Theatre
- North York Centre
- North York Visual Artists
- Ontario Arts Council
- Ontario Book Publishers Organization
- Ryerson University
- Scarborough Arts
- Scotiabank Contact Photography Festival
- Sheila Foster
- Sick Muse
- Simeon Taole
- Snapd North York
- Sobara Group
- Social Planning Toronto
- Sociaphoria
- St. Louis Bar & Grill
- StreetARToronto
- Sunnybrook Hospital Veterans Care Centre
- Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra
- Tango Soul Productions
- TD Bank Group
- Teach2Learn
- Gibson House Museum
- Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office
- Thorncliffe Women's Committee
- Tirgan Festival
- Toronto Arts Council
- Toronto Arts Foundation
- Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition
- Toronto Outdoor Picture Show
- Toronto Public Library
- Toronto Recycling Arts
- Toronto Tabla Ensemble
- Urban Arts
- Voice of Purpose
- Weiming Hu
- Whole Foods Market
- Work in Culture

STAFF + BOARD

STAFF

Lila Karim

Executive Director

Melissa Foster

Program and Outreach
Manager

Cecilia Garcia

Program and Volunteer
Coordinator

Rachel Birnberg

Development and
Communications Coordinator

Ely Rosenblum

Former Development and
Communications Manager

BOARD

Kristopher Dell, Chair

Christine Harris, Former Chair

Joe Borowiec, President

Yonni Fushman, Secretary

Jason Ho, Treasurer

Fallon Butler

Afarin Mansouri

David Oliver

Diana Panagiotopoulos

Francesca Perez

Kathleen Sloan

Nina Zaslavsky

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mira Blumenthal

May Chook

Milleen Kung

Ryan Tremblay

Cindy Wan

Annie Wong

Susan Wright

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

North York Arts wants to thank all of the incredible volunteers and interns who donated their time and efforts this past year. Whether you spent time working in our office or helping out at our events, your contribution has been so valuable to our team and most importantly, our community! Your passion and commitment for the arts is inspiring and we can't wait to work with you again.



COMMUNITY NETWORK

Our Community Network continued to grow this year. We are so grateful to both new and old members who have chosen to follow along and support what we do! This year you have helped us get the word out about our programs and initiatives; we are excited to continue expanding and improving our network program.



PARTNERS

At the heart of NYA are the many dedicated partners we work with. This year, we were lucky to collaborate with so many artists, arts organizations, facilitators, community members, donors, sponsors, and funders. Your hard work is supporting so many and is helping to create a stronger arts and culture community in North York. We can't thank you enough for your partnership.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

North York Arts acknowledges this land on which we are gathered.

For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, Haudenosaunee and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.



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