

Belfry Theatre

2019-2020 Season
Annual Report



REPORT FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Artistically, the Belfry Theatre's 2019-2020 Season was an exceptional one. We programmed five outstanding plays—each of which grappled with difficult questions. Programming for our 2020 SPARK Festival included four major presentations—from Newfoundland, the Yukon, Vancouver and Syracuse, NY—three mini plays that converged musically, created by Krystal Cook, K.P Dennis and Tobin Stokes—an Indigenous artist, a Black poet, and a Caucasian composer, respectively. SPARK programming also included two readings of plays in progress and three readings of plays from diverse cultures, as part of Puente Theatre's WorldPlay series.

Our Mainstage season opened with Lucy Kirkwood's *The Children*, which deals with a disaster at a nuclear power plant and raises the question: what kind of planet will our children inherit? It was beautifully acted by Brenda Robins, Nancy Palk and Joseph Ziegler. Molly McDowell Powlowski was Assistant Director as part of our Emerging Artist Enhancement Program.

Canadian playwright Kat Sandler returned to our Mainstage with a comedy that deals unflinchingly with racial profiling by police and voice appropriation. *BANG BANG*, a co-production with the Manitoba Theatre Centre, was directed by their new Artistic Director Kelly Thornton.

In the run-up to the holidays, we produced *Every Brilliant Thing*—which uses audience participation to remarkable and joyous effect. With a stunning solo performance by Dawn Petten, sensitive direction by Estelle Shook, a live DJ, and a reconfiguration of the Belfry's stage, our patrons were captivated. Lancelot Knight assisted Brian Linds on the sound design as part of our Indigenous Learning Exchange program.

In February 2020, we premiered Tara Beagan's *The Ministry of Grace*—a highlight of the season, embraced by the audience and, for many, their favourite Belfry production ever! With the exception of composer Allison Lynch, this was a totally Indigenous creative team—playwright, director, set, costume and lighting designers.

We launched the 2020 SPARK Festival on March 7th, with Puente Theatre's beautifully staged reading of the Romanian play *Insomniacs*, followed on subsequent days by an all-ages Dance Party, a reading of Jan Wood and James Fagan Tait's new play *Same Old Same Old*, the previews and openings of *Busted Up: A Yukon Story*, from Open Pit Theatre

in Whitehorse, and the BMO Studio Theatre presentation of *Destiny, USA*.

And then the reality of COVID-19 set in. On Friday the 13th, the day after the Mainstage and BMO openings, we cancelled the remainder of the festival—before the companies of *Between Breaths* and *Kismet, Things Have Changed* began their travels from St. John's and Vancouver, respectively. The 2020 SPARK Festival was over—with the exception of the presentation created by the high school students in our Belfry 101 program. Their collective creation was quickly recalibrated, and they created short and effective pieces reacting to COVID—possibly the first instance of online programming—which quickly became so prevalent.

We then cancelled the final Mainstage production—*1979*, Michael Healey's play about ethics in politics—putting ten artists out of work, including participants in our Indigenous Learning Exchange and Emerging Artist Enhancement Programs.

Despite the pandemic, we remained busy with our less public artistic and community responsibilities.

Our New Incubator Project—traditionally three creators and/or theatre companies in a two-year development process with access to space and mentorship—received so many dynamic applications, that we accepted ten projects. In order to nurture all of these artists, we formed the Creators' Circle—a playwrights' unit—facilitated by Governor General's Award-winning playwright Kevin Kerr.

Our Artistic and Community Liaison, Taiwo Afolabi, began with us in August of 2019 and worked quickly, establishing new relationships within the community, and strengthening existing ones. Most of the organizations Taiwo targeted deal with IBPoC communities. Taiwo and I also began addressing all of our Belfry activities, to enable them help integrate the diverse and non-diverse segments of this population.

We formalized Tower Residencies—an offer of the Belfry tower as a space for writers—with priority given to IBPoC writers.

The IGNITE! Program was created in May as a means of putting money into the hands of artists during COVID-19. Three pairs of theatre-makers—previously unknown to each other—primarily from the IBPoC community—were provided with seed money and no instructions—other than to brainstorm ideas.

We have also been examining the Belfry's activities through the lens of Black Lives Matter. While we have focused energy over the past few years on creating space for Indigenous artists, with regard to the rest of the IBPoC community, our efforts to date have been somewhat token—with the exception of SPARK presentations such as *Sound of the Beast* and *Good Morning, Viet Mom*—and this season's production of *BANG BANG*.

Prior to the murder of George Floyd and the subsequent revitalization of Black Lives Matter—we organized a meeting of IBPoC artists and arts administrators within the CRD, scheduled for June 11. More on that in next year's Annual Report.

I have to restate my pride in the season we brought to the stage prior to the arrival of COVID-19. We engaged—and never talked down to—our audiences, offering them substantial plays dealing with contemporary issues. We are doing the work we should be doing—and we are recognized as a mature and important theatre company in this country.

Tara Beagan—playwright and director of *The Ministry of Grace*—recently tagged me in a Facebook post. “Lots of theatre companies have been posting about their good and improved intentions lately...(At) the Belfry Theatre... we were fully supported at every step, with resources and impassioned collaborators. The audiences came out because the Belfry has been building beautiful diversity into the programming for some time. It takes time and real commitment.”

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not thank our Executive Director, Ivan Habel, for his exemplary care and support of the artists who lost work at the Belfry due to COVID-19 and the staff members for whom we are responsible. Ivan went above-and-beyond in this—eschewing the necessary and choosing to be guided by the ethical.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Shamata". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Shamata

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

It is my great honour to provide the annual report of the President of the Belfry Theatre.

We began the 2019-20 season with great optimism. We were excited by the season chosen by our Artistic Director, Michael Shamata, and were looking forward to sharing it with our audience. However, the world changed.

As 2019 became 2020 it became clear that the world was going to face a catastrophic health and economic crisis – the scale of which we had not experienced in over a century. Soon after the conclusion of our powerful production, *The Ministry of Grace* by Tara Beagan and right in the middle of the SPARK Festival we made the difficult, but inevitable, decision to close the theatre. First it was the cancellation of the second week of the Festival and shortly thereafter, the remainder of the season.

In closing the theatre we recognized the significant financial impact this would have on the actors, designers, directors and companies contracted for the remainder of the season. This was our first priority and I am pleased to report that we met or exceeded all contractual obligations to the Belfry's contributing artists.

The arts are familiar with economic and financial challenges. Even at the best of times theatre is a difficult business. This pandemic, however, has produced a set of circumstances unlike any that we have confronted before. It has changed the very nature of our business. Theatre traditionally brings people together to be entertained, informed or to have their imagination or beliefs challenged. It is a powerful, collective experience. Currently, we are not able to do this and when we will be able to do so again is uncertain.

Despite the challenges there is much that we can celebrate.

The support of our patrons has been remarkable and has inspired both the Board and the staff. Literally thousands of subscribers chose to donate the value of their tickets for cancelled shows. Additionally, many businesses continued

their support despite getting no tangible benefit in return. This made a significant difference to the Belfry at a time when expenses had been incurred but revenue had disappeared. The generosity of our subscribers and our friends in business will not be forgotten.

The support of governments and foundations has also been exemplary. I would particularly like to acknowledge the federal government and the Vancouver Foundation. Both quickly recognized the fragility and importance of the cultural sector and provided much needed assistance. We are incredibly grateful.

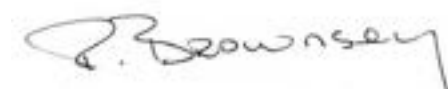
The Belfry is fortunate to be led by our Artistic Director, Michael Shamata and our Executive Director, Ivan Habel. Between them they have kept the Belfry focused on the future and on developing innovative programming which will allow the theatre to continue serving our community. Michael and Ivan are supported by a remarkable staff. Individuals who have responded to uncertainty with unmatched professionalism.

I would also like to thank the Directors of the Society who continue to provide advice, support, direction and oversight as the theatre responds to the myriad of challenges presented by the pandemic.

The ongoing financial contribution of public funding agencies at the federal, provincial and local level must also be acknowledged. The Belfry could not exist without this support. Equally important is the contribution made by individuals and companies in support of the Belfry. These funds both support our operations and validate our role in the community.

The past year has been difficult and it is unclear when some sense of normalcy will return. The Belfry, however, will manage this crisis. In its almost fifty years, the Belfry has survived many challenges. It will survive this one and it will prosper.

Thank you.



Richard Brownsey
Board President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The 2019 – 2020 Season was one for the record books – a year in which so many other records were being broken. As we all know, March brought with it a host of postponements, closures and terminations to seasons everywhere. The Belfry too was affected by the sudden and unwelcome arrival of a pandemic, but because of the support of our patrons, sponsors, public and private granting bodies, we had the resources and resolve to weather this storm. That extensive support also allowed us to proudly report that all contracted artists for the Belfry, whether contracts had commenced or not, received compensation for the abrupt change in their and our plans. Even with that, it would be remiss of me not to recognize the extreme stress and financial strain placed on all artists and especially those we consider part of the Belfry team.

Being an artist in this country is an insecure pursuit at the best of times. For actors, designers, and other performing artists the year was particularly perilous. Our thanks to all of our loyal contributors who make the making of theatre financially viable. Our special thanks for their continued support through what are the most difficult of times for all of us.

When a radical decision such as the cancelation of a show must occur – or in this case the remainder of a season – the work on the resulting fall-out begins. Part of that work was consideration of how to take care of the artists who were already at the Belfry, those who were yet to arrive, and those who had been anticipating future work. Concern too for our staff, our audiences and the businesses that would be affected by a cessation of activity, the most affected were the artists who survive from show to show. The loss of a show can mean so much more to someone whose entire career is a contract to contract existence. Because the Belfry is financially sound – not rich but stable – there was no question but to ensure that all artists of the 2019-20 season were compensated for the work they were committed to on our behalf. For this we are even more grateful to the contributions of donors, sponsors, grant providers and the generosity of all of our patrons.

The Belfry's ability to weather through difficult times is not only possible as a result of financial support, but through the dedication of an exceptional team of staff and volunteers.

My thanks to the Board for continued support, patience, and understanding: President Richard Brownsey, Vice President Dr. Sheila Elworthy, Secretary Ross Woodland, Treasurer Robert Thomson, CA, Gloria Back, Paulina Grainger, Dr. Joan McArthur-Blair, Kini McDonald, Joan Peggs, Andy Stephenson, and Alison Watt.

The abrupt end of a season and the subsequent planning and replanning that carried through the spring into summer was of course the news of the year, but other events also happened that are important to note.

As mentioned in Michael's report, the work we have undertaken in community building under the leadership of Taiwo Afolabi is making a profound difference in how the Belfry sees its role in this community and in pointing out the directions in which more work needs to be done. While Taiwo has moved on to his career in academia, that work will be carried on because of the path he helped lay for us.

The presence too of Kristy Charlie as our Indigenous Cultural Advisor has also set the company on a stronger path to reconciliation through action. Her guidance to all of us in further understanding the relationship of land and place to the Indigenous people helped ground us in a resolve toward reconciliation through action and not mere words.

It is not possible to know for sure what the future holds, but given the strength of our people, I am confident about a solid, creatively inspiring, and financially secure future for the Belfry.

The Belfry is the sum of many parts, Directors, Designers, Actors and an entire team who, while largely unseen and unknown by many of our patrons contribute enormously to the work that makes the theatre we produce so extraordinary. I want to finish this report by recognizing that incredible staff- a team who care for our patrons, honour our donors and sponsors, build our productions, care for our artists, communicate to our public, balance the books, clean our theatre and reach out to our community; each of them are the heroes of our sustainability, our reputation and our excellence.



Ivan Habel

2019-20 BELFRY STAFF

Community & Artistic Connections Manager	Taiwo Afolabi
Development Coordinator	Kate Barry
Front of House Manager	Jane Broomfield
Education Coordinator	Jonathan Brower
B4Play Audio Technician	Ben Brysiuk
Indigenous Cultural Advisor	Kristy Charlie
Box Office Clerk	Evan Coates
Front of House Supervisor	Samantha Currie
Box Office Clerk	Helena Descoteau
Marketing & Communications Director	Mark Dusseault
Director of Production & Operations	Mike Ford
Audience Services Manager	Ian Gibson
Executive Director	Ivan Habel
Head Technician & Systems Administrator	Keith Houghton
Company Manager	Valerie Houle
Front of House Supervisor	Nora Kidson
Scenic Artist	Carole Klemm
Graphic Designer	Jeff Kulak
Head of Wardrobe	Joanne LeSage
Box Office Clerk	Rebecca Marchand
B101 Co-Facilitator	Dave Morris
Financial Officer	Patricia O'Brien
Box Office Clerk	Morganne Orchard
Box Office Clerk	Sarah Pitman
Head of Props	Peter Pokorny
Master Carpenter	Dale Pudwell
Associate Artist	Anita Rochon
Artistic Director	Michael Shamata
Scenic Painter & Custodian	Lara Shepard
Technical Director	Gregory Smith
Venue Technician	Lukas Smith
Director of Development	Susan Stevenson
Box Office Clerk	Celine Stubel
Associate Artist	Deborah Williams
Box Office Clerk	Allison Yauk
Box Office Supervisor	Eryn Yaromy
Box Office Clerk	Golnaz Zad
Photographers:	David Cooper, Emily Cooper, Don Craig, Derek Ford, Jo-Ann Richards, Peter Pokorny
B4Play Host:	Gregor Craigie

The Belfry Theatre is a member of:

The Professional Association of
Canadian Theatres

Theatre Communications Group, USA

ProArt Victoria

The Victoria Chamber of Commerce

Tourism Victoria

The Belfry Theatre engages professional
artists who are members of Canadian
Actors' Equity Association.

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER OF THE BOARD

As you are probably well aware, the difficulties placed on all of us through the current pandemic have placed significant strains on our people and our operating results. We continue to plan for a return to performances but planning is made extremely complex when our crystal ball is significantly cloudy. Through this difficulty our management and staff have performed admirably, and I cannot thank them enough for their efforts.

The curtailment of the balance of our 2020 season in March resulted in a significant shortfall in earned revenues which were \$511,000 lower than in 2019. Public and private funding, including pandemic relief funding, helped offset some of this decline with public funding up \$210,000 over the prior year and private funding increasing by \$88,000 to \$699,000. Total expenses were somewhat reduced with the shortened season, dropping by \$175,000 to \$2,776,000, resulting in an operating loss of just under \$59,000 for the year. We were the fortunate benefactors of an estate bequest of just over \$211,000 during the year which resulted in a surplus of approximately \$152,000 for the year.

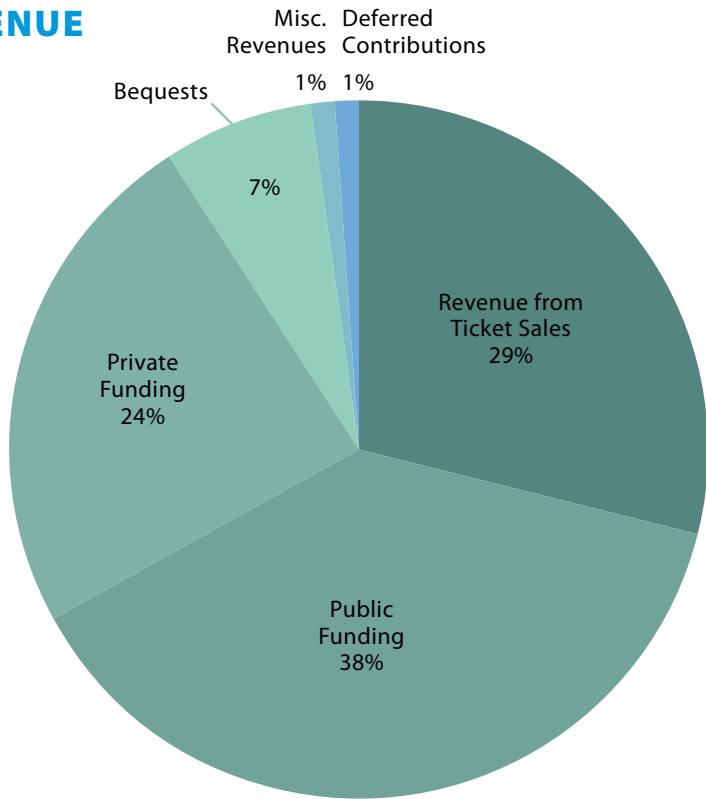
Our balance sheet remains healthy even after the significant capital expenditures during the year, with working capital of \$407,000 at the end of the year, compared to \$162,000 in the prior year. Total fund balances improved to \$2,483,000 this year, compared to \$2,331,000 in 2019.

We continue to diligently monitor our cash flows and operating activities as we hope for a planned resumption of performances in early 2021.

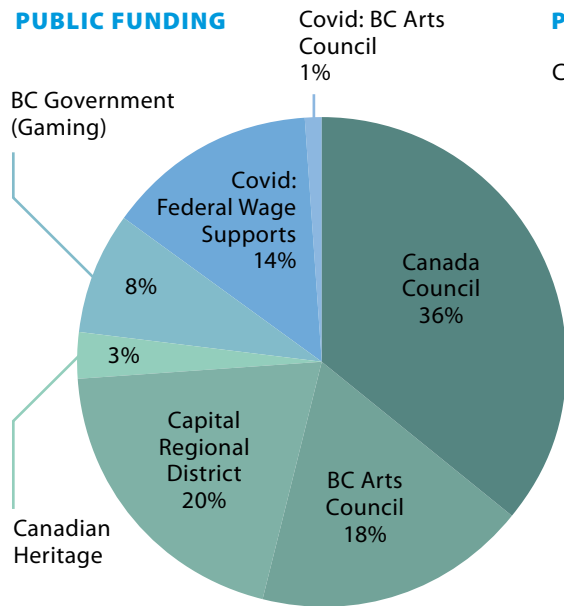


Robert Thomson, CPA, CA

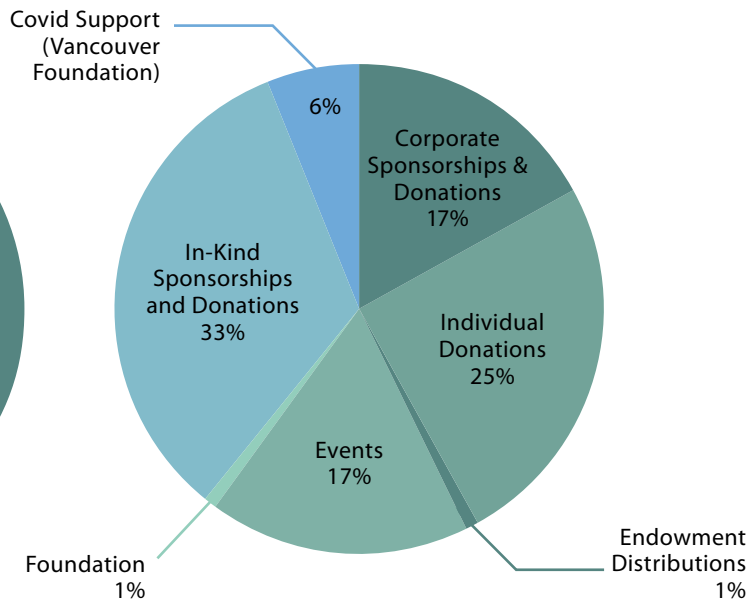
REVENUE



PUBLIC FUNDING

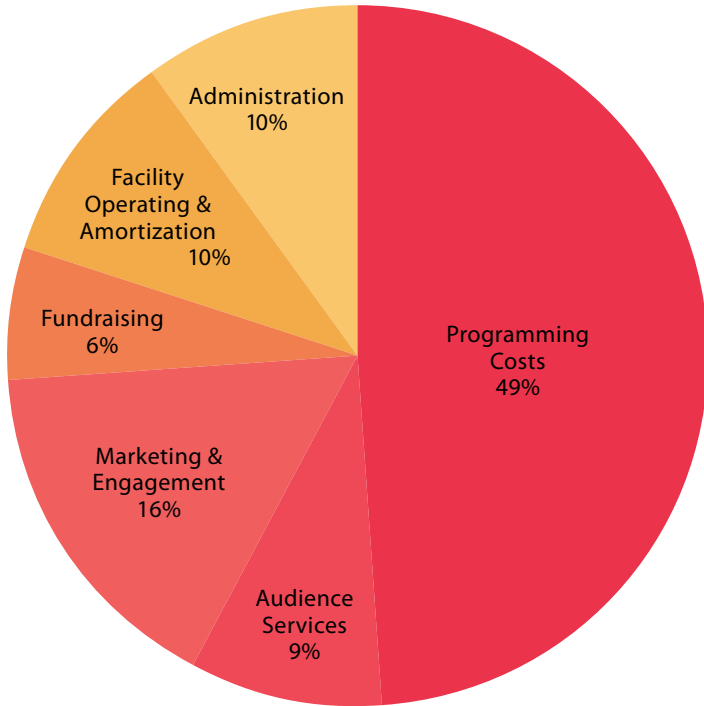


PRIVATE FUNDING

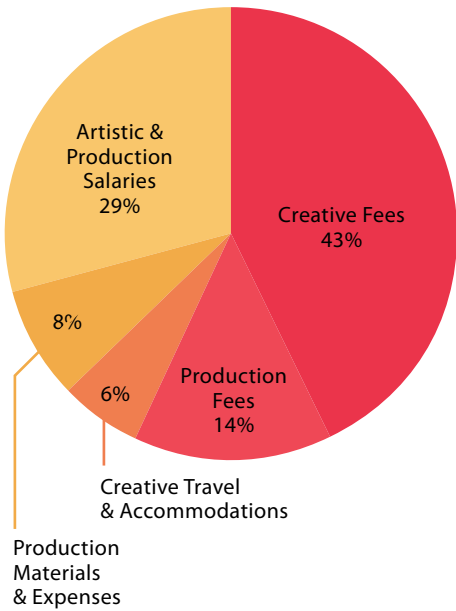


* Full audited statements are available at belfry.bc.ca under *About*

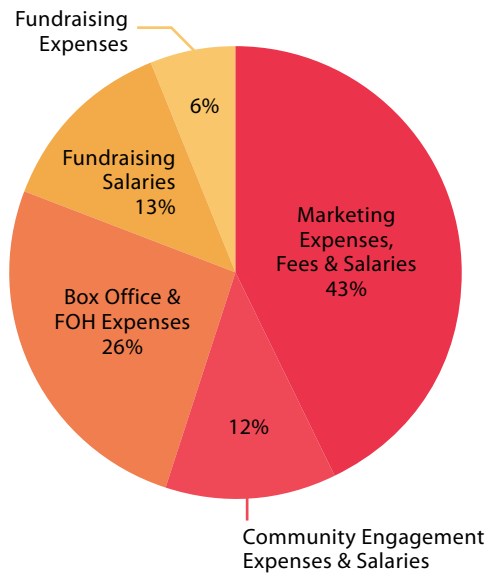
EXPENSES



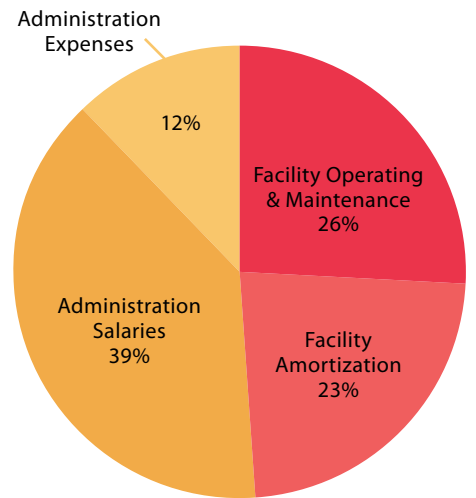
PROGRAMMING COSTS



PROGRAM SUPPORT COSTS



ADMINISTRATION COSTS



* Full audited statements are available at belfry.bc.ca under *About*

Belfry Theatre

HISTORY

The Belfry Theatre was founded in 1974 (as the Springridge Cultural Centre) as an alternative venue for touring productions, concerts and community arts events.

Renamed the Belfry Theatre, it began producing plays in 1976 with a focus on contemporary work, especially Canadian plays. The Belfry is one of the most respected professional theatre companies in Canada.

The company resides in a former Baptist church built in 1892. From the company's inception until 1991, the Belfry rented the main theatre space in the building and shared the complex with a homeless shelter. In 1991, then-owners, The Cool-Aid Society relocated and the Belfry began the first capital campaign to buy and restore the building. Initial interior and exterior renovations were completed in 2000 with the restoration of the exterior. Further renovations of the lobby area, theatre and studio seating were completed in 2016. The building is listed in the heritage registry and has won a number of awards for its restoration.

In 2009, Chair Emeritus Patrick (Paddy) Stewart made an extraordinary contribution of \$250,000 to the Belfry, which was matched with funds from Arts Sustainability Victoria, enabling the Belfry to pay off its building mortgage.

MANDATE VISION AND MISSION

The Belfry has played an important role in the cultural community of the Greater Victoria region for 44 years. The Belfry's Mandate is:

- To promote the theatrical arts through the year-round professional production of plays from the contemporary repertoire with an emphasis on Canadian plays.
- To develop new Canadian plays and encourage a high standard of writing for the stage through an active and ongoing play development program.
- To serve both our community and Vancouver Island as a theatrical resource centre, providing both rental space and professional workshops to a wide range of community groups.
- To provide Greater Victoria with professionally staffed and managed rental venues, available to both touring and community-based organizations.

Our vision is to achieve excellence in the production and presentation of innovative contemporary theatre in our heritage home.

Our mission is to enrich our community by inspiring and entertaining audiences with theatre that is nationally recognized for excellence, while maintaining our commitment to artistic development, professional integrity and financial sustainability.

In addition to the plays presented on stage, we offer a number of ancillary activities designed to enrich the theatre-going experience for young people and the general public, provide professional development opportunities for local artists, and attract as wide a community as possible to the theatre.

TODAY

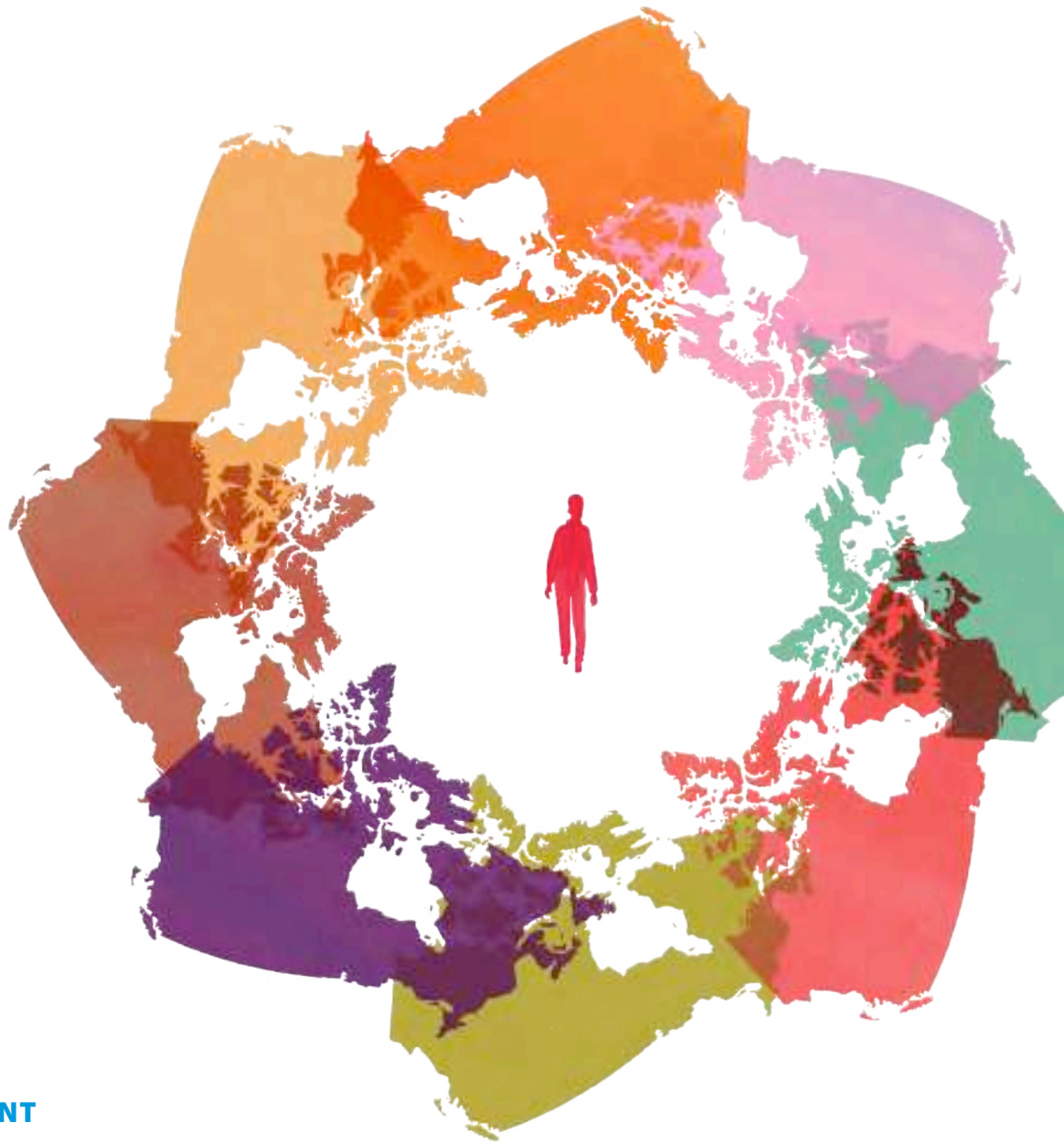
The Belfry produces and presents ten or more plays per year: one or two summer productions, a four-play Mainstage series, and the SPARK Festival, our mid-winter festival of innovative and alternative work from across Canada.

The original five-person staff from 1976 has grown to more than 40 including seasonal employees, contract workers – actors, directors, designers – and hourly work to dozens more technical staff. The annual budget has grown to more than 2.8 million dollars.

The Belfry has more than 250 dedicated individuals who volunteer as ushers, ticket-takers and bar staff during performances. Many of these volunteers have been with the theatre for years, including a few who have been volunteering since the theatre's inception. The Belfry Theatre, like all charitable, not-for-profit organizations, is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

The 2019-2020 season was truncated as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite the difficulties of this closure, the company managed to keep paying artists and keep most of our staff employed as we turned our attentions to finding new ways to connect with our audiences while planning for the day when we can once again gather in the shared experience of performance.

Charitable Registration 119215549



PLAYS IN DEVELOPMENT

THE MASTER LIST	by Rachel Aberle
BEING HERE: THE REFUGEE PROJECT	created by Joel Bernbaum from interviews conducted by Joel Bernbaum
IN A NUTSHELL	by David Ferguson
KINDRED	by Rosa Dolore
LONG LANCE	by Falen Johnson
THE SOLDIER'S WIFE	by Sean Harris Oliver
SAME OLD SAME OLD	by Jan Wood & James Fagan Tait

Bravo!

2019-20 ANNUAL FUND

The following individuals have invested generously in support of Belfry Theatre artistic and education programs



DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE: GODSEND (\$10,000+)

John & Suzanne Stewart
Patrick Stewart

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE: PRODUCTION SUPPORTER (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Stephen & Michelle Brown
The Nikki & Bruce
MacKenzie Family
Dr. Stephen Tax
Anonymous (2)

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE: ARTIST SUPPORTER (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Lee Adler
Ian & Gloria Back Fund †
Dr. Perry & Annamaria Bamji
Paul & Sheila Elworthy
Katherine Farris
& Kit Pearson
Mohan & Kathy Jawl
Patti-Anne & Martin Kay

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE: MEMBER (\$1,200 - \$2,499)

Honorable & Mrs. David
& Sandra Anderson
Susan & Gary Braley
Richard Brownsey
& Glynis Leyshon
Donna Christie
& Richard Shapka ◊

Stephen Cushing
& Debbie Gill

Eric & Nora

Lorraine Fallis

David Harris Flaherty

Barbara Greeniaus
& Bill Israel

Ivan Habel

Philomena Hanson

Bruce & Barbara Houser

Rob & Shirley Hunter

Audrey Johnson

Helen Lansdowne

Alan Marcus & Gail Nagley

Joan McArthur-Blair
& Jeanie Cockell

Cindy Petrowski & Phil Marsh

Mary McAvoy ◊

Kini McDonald

Barb & Steve Mckerrell

Anne McLaughlin

Dr. Mendoza

Michael Morres

Bill & Maureen
Murphy-Dyson

Robert & Ann Myers

Patricia O'Brien
& Michael Gaudet

Ronald & Judith Parish

Joan Peggs

Brad & Shelagh Rinald

Michael Shamata

Margaret L. Smith †

Andy Stephenson

Patrick Stewart

Judy Stewart

Robert & Anna Thomson

Al & Judith Title

Lesley Watson
& Evert Lindquist

Jane & Ross Woodland

Michael & Vicki Ziegler

Anonymous (3)

DISCIPLE (\$750 - \$1,199)

Nancy Bell & Kevan King
Commodore & Janice Drent
Susan Findlay
John & Anne Keay
Ajay Parikh-Friese
Mary Ellen Purkis
Bob & Joan Snowden
Susan Stevenson
& Bruce McGuigan
David Zussman
& Sheridan Scott

ADHERENT (\$500 - \$749)

Tom & Nancy Bailey
Lorie Bradley & Russ Pym
Nancy Buan
Sherry & John Butler
Chris & Mary Chapman
Darlene E. Clover
Diana Dampsy
Oksana Dexter
Jane Francis & Dave Skilling
Denny Gelinis
Sara Harman
Ray Jones

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Andrew Karwowski
& Sylvie Cote
John Krich
Marty Laurence
& Mort Nelson
Laurence & Anne Mackett
Mia Maki & Brent Iverson
Jeff McEown & Helen Smith
Joan McNeely
Sara Neely
Carol Nelson
Ivo & Sara Olivotto
Gwen & Wayne Phillips
Carmen & Ed Pitcher
Ronald & Juliana Polstein
Pauline Price
Susan & Peter Salomonsson
Avril & Robert J. Tyrrell
Tom Ward & Marlie Manning
B. Anne Wood
Pat Young
Anonymous (1)

CHAMPION (\$300 - \$499)

Arlette Baker
Sherri Bird & Bill Bird
Christine & Michael
Bloomfield
Al Bone & Ginny Crawford
Jane Clinckett
Ross Crockford
& Jennifer Wise
Gail Duguid
Lawrence Eastick
George Galt
Peter Gibson
Chris & Catriona Harker
Rosemarie & Mike Hayes
Peter Kruselnicki
Jeanne Lamon
& Christina Mahler
Oliver & Helen Lantz
Frank McGilly
Elinor Mix

Jon & Gail Muzio
Julia Retallack
Jaci Ross
Estelle Shook
Sandra T. Stott
Kenneth Thornicroft
Judy Treloar
Sharon Walls
& Warren Magnusson
Alison Watt
Barbara L. Wilson
Anonymous (2)

ADVOCATE (\$150 - \$299)

Marianne Alto
Sandra Anderson
Harry & Beryl Borris
Frances Bryan
Monty & Nancy Bryant
Jane Butler McGregor
Elaine Calder
& William J. Bennett
Colin & Linda Campbell
Karen Carter
Ida Chong, FCPA, FCGA
Chris & Susan Considine
B. & L. Copley
George & Diane Copley
Alex Currie
Trudy David
Susan & Graham Debling
Malcolm Foy
Adria Fraser
Leslie Glazier
Daphne Elizabeth Goode
Carol Goodger-Hill
Danelle Hames
& Matthew Law
Alan & Dianne Hanna
Piers Henwood
Anne Holtzman
& Gordon Philippe
Cara Joy Hughes
Sheila Hunter

Rex D. Johnson
Sydney Kalef
George Kyle
Sang-Kiet Ly
Joan MacLeod
Robert & Lynda Malpass
Ronald Manzer
Caleb Marshall
Margaret Martin
Pauline & David McDowell
Barbara McLaughlin
Terence & Ann McMullen
Rob Mitchell & Eloise Spitzer
Catharine & Anthony Moses
Julie & Bill Pearce
Adrienne Radford
D. Rothschild
Peter Seward
Linda Stead
Lorna Stirling & Edward Fong
Leonard & Valerie Stubel
Jeanette & Stephen Titus
David & Dorothy Torontow
Lindy Van Alstine
Donald & Adelina White
Glenn & Louise White
Carolyn Whitfield
Meredith Zwicker
Anonymous (15)

As of May 31, 2020

Our thanks to the
49 Believers (\$75 - \$149)
and 62 Friends (up to \$74)

† Through the Victoria
Foundation
◇ Contribution to the Belfry
Futures Fund (Capital
Improvement Fund)

**VI ARMSTRONG PLAY
CREATION FUND**

The following donors
have contributed
towards new play
development at the
Belfry

David Alexander and Paul McKinnon
Barbara Armstrong
Violet Armstrong
Paul and Salome Crowley
Dan MacDougall and Karen McDiarmid
Dave Secord and Amy Adams
Burke Taylor & Sue Harvey
Deanne Taylor & Michael Hollingsworth
Dr. Stephen Tax
Jan Wood & Brian Linds
Anonymous (1)

Bravo!

The Belfry Theatre gratefully acknowledges the financial support of The Canada Council for the Arts, the Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia through the British Columbia Arts Council and the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, the Capital Regional District Arts Development Office and the City of Victoria.



SEASON SPONSORS

Helijet
Times Colonist

SHOW SPONSORS

BMO Financial Group
Broadmead & Oak Bay Hearing Clinics
Graham Isenegger & Neil Chappell
of CIBC Wood Gundy – Blue Heron Group
PARC Retirement Living
Peninsula Co-op
TD Bank Group

AFTERPLAY

Accomplishment Coaching

BELFRY 101

The Joint Pizzeria & Deli
London Drugs

BELFRY 101 IN THE NATIONS

FortisBC

BELFRY LEGACY SOCIETY

Horne Coupar LLP Lawyers & Notaries

BMO STUDIO THEATRE

BMO Financial Group

CRUSH 2019

Presented by Odlum Brown Limited
Boulevard Magazine
Delta Ocean Pointe Resort
EAT Magazine
Used.ca
Vessel Liquor Store

EMERGING ARTIST ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

RBC Emerging Artists Project

FACILITY AND OPERATIONS

CD Specialty Cleaning & Restoration
Costa Verde Landscaping
Dowell's Moving & Storage
The Finishing Store
Gabriel Ross Furniture
KPMG
Monk Office
Showcase Awards

FLORAL

Jennifer Roberts Florist

HOSPITALITY

Phillips Brewing and Malting Co.
Sea Cider
Truffles Catering
Vessel Liquor Store

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HOST HOTELS AND ACCOMMODATION

Chateau Victoria Hotels & Suites
Villa Marco Polo Inn

INDIGENOUS LEARNING EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Vel and Don Ferns Fund †
Anne McLaughlin Fund †
Patricia Margaret Shanahan Fund †
Victoria Foundation
Vital Victoria Fund †

MEDIA SPONSORS

98.5 Ocean
100.3 The Q
107.3 Virgin Radio
Boulevard Magazine
CFAX 1070
FOCUS Magazine
Times Colonist
The Zone @ 91.3
Used.ca

DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM SPONSOR

McCall Gardens Funeral & Cremation Service

SPARK 2020 FESTIVAL

Government of Canada
Caffe Fantastico
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FOUNDATIONS

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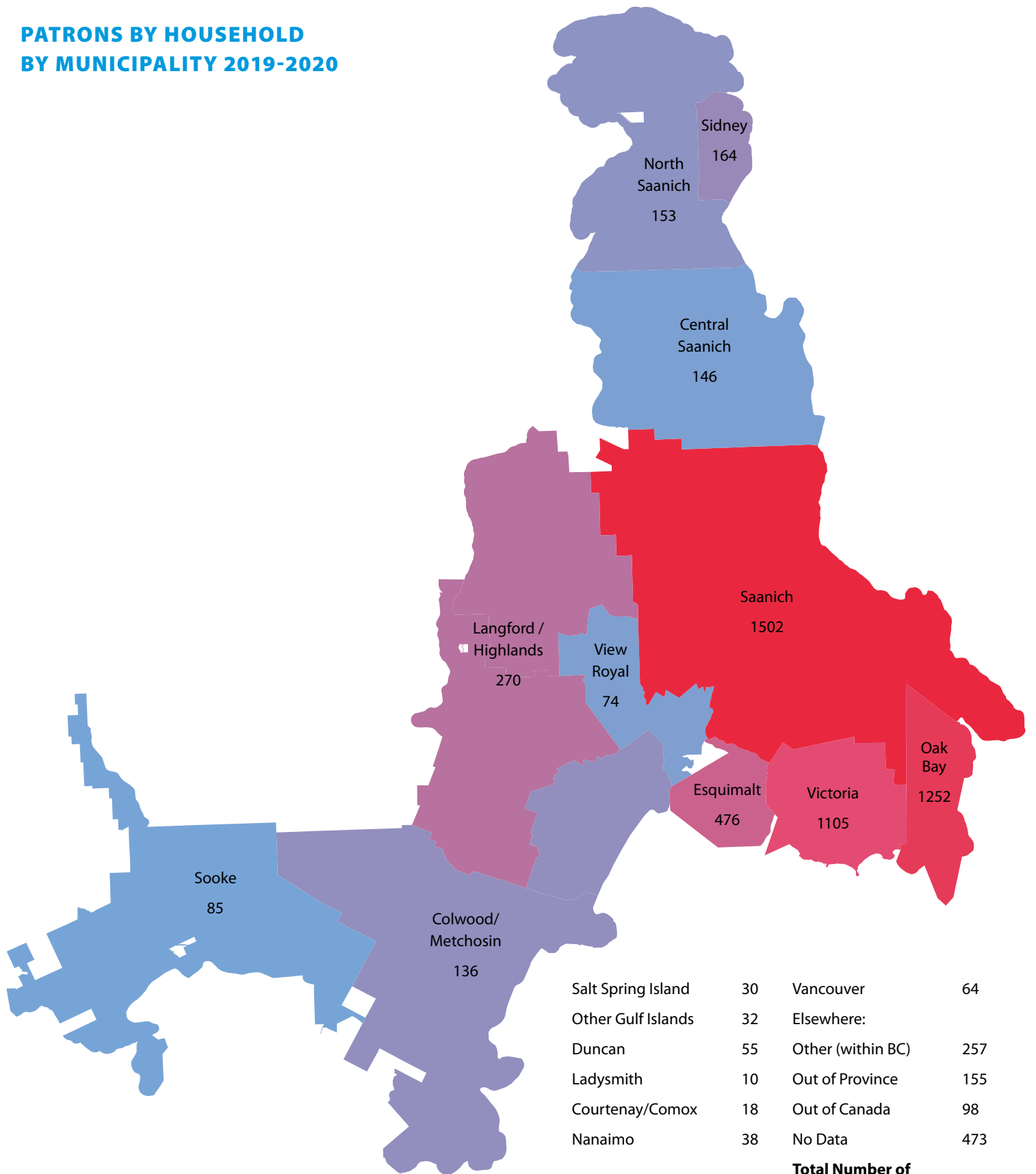
DONATIONS IN SUPPORT OF OTHER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS 2019–2020

During the 2019-20 season, the Belfry donated
170 tickets in support of 77 different groups, including:



100 Women Who Care	George Jay PAC	Pacific Peoples' Partnership
Arts Club Theatre	Gonzales Cooperative Preschool	Parent Support Services of BC
artsREACH	Gordon Head Refugee Sponsorship Constituency Group	Resistance Rising Choir
Astrolabe Musik Theatre	Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce	Restorative Justice Victoria
Ballet Victoria	Greater Victoria School District 61	Rotary Club of Oak Bay
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Victoria	HeadWay	Sierra Systems
Broken Rhythms - LASHBASH	InspireHealth	Signs of Hope in Africa
Cat's Cradle Animal Rescue	Intrepid Theatre Company	South Island Foster Parent Association
CBC Food Bank Day	Island Farms Employee Association	South Park Family School
CCPA	Island Montessori House School	Story Theatre
Cedar Hill Ladies' Golf	JDRF Canada	Theatre Inconnu
Central Music Parents' Association	Kalmo Refugee Support Group	Theatre SKAM
CFUV	Kidney Foundation of Canada	TheatreOne
Chemainus Theatre Festival	KidSport Greater Victoria	Together Against Poverty
Citizens' Counselling Centre	Lambrick Park Secondary	Urban Wildlife Stewardship Society
CNIB Eye Appeal	Make-A-Wish BC & Yukon - Vancouver Island	Victoria Academy of Ballet Scholarship Society
Cook St Village Activity Centre	Maritime Museum of BC	Victoria Arts Council
Cool Aid Society	MAXIMUS Canada	Victoria Brain Injury Society
Cowichan Valley Performing Arts Foundation	Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	Victoria Hospice
Dance Victoria	Music by the Sea	Victoria Hospitals Foundation
Delta Victoria	Mustard Seed Street Church	Victoria Humane Society
Esquimalt Music Parents' Association	Newcomers Club of Greater Victoria	Victoria Minor Hockey Association
Family Services of Greater Victoria	Oak Bay Tea Party	Victoria Symphony & Pacific Opera Victoria
Fernwood Community Association	Our Place	Western Canada Theatre
Gateway Theatre		

**PATRONS BY HOUSEHOLD
BY MUNICIPALITY 2019-2020**





RENTAL EVENTS AND ATTENDANCE

Event	Mainstage	BMO Studio	Studio B	Lobby	Total Attendance
Fernwood NRG	•	•	•	•	840
100+ Women Who Care Victoria (x3)	•			•	324
Black History Month Concert	•			•	256
University of Victoria IdeaFest	•			•	262
Here Magazine Gala	•	•	•	•	225
University of Victoria - Faculty of Humanities	•			•	222
Dan McDougal Art Exhibit				•	140
Hedwig & the Angry Inch	•			•	530
					2799

2019-20 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 - Joan Peggs
 - Cindy Petrowski & Phil Marsh
 - Ross Richardson
 - Jane Francis & Dave Skilling
 - Judy Stewart
- Plus a further four anonymous members

We invite you to join the Belfry Legacy Society by making a planned gift or bequest. Gift planning is an inspired, meaningful and deeply personal way to secure the future of the Belfry Theatre. The support of visionary philanthropy ensures that the Belfry will continue to flourish as Greater Victoria’s premier contemporary theatre company.

Consult your professional advisors about the many forms through which you can achieve tax advantages of charitable donations and bequests. Please inform us if you have included the Belfry in your estate plans, so we can acknowledge your support during and/or after your lifetime, according to your wishes, as well as to invite you to special events. Contact: Susan Stevenson, Director of Development, 250-385-6835 ext. 229 or development@belfry.bc.ca

BELFRY LEGACY SOCIETY SPONSOR

Horne Coupar LLP Lawyers & Notaries

LEGACY GIFTS

The Belfry acknowledges the generous recent and past gifts from the estates of:

- Violet Armstrong
- Helena Balczevska
- Roger J. Bishop
- Shirley Mae Dawson
- Marguerite Kathleen Friesen
- David Neil Lee
- Maria Luisa Macrae
- M. Grace Mersereau
- Margaret Seens
- Alan Geoffrey White
- Anonymous

DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM

- In Memory of my sister Beth, from Casey
- In Memory of Eric Adler
- In Memory of Violet Armstrong (2)
- In Memory of Agnes and Arnold Davies
- In Memory of brother Gerry Emery
- In Memory of Michael Fallis (2)
- In Memory of Jean Elizabeth Kódar
- In Memory of Nikki & Bruce MacKenzie from the family
- In Memory of Ronald Adam Polstein
- In Memory of Jacqueline Price
- In Memory of Jack & Lisa Valikoski

DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM SPONSOR

McCall Gardens Funeral & Cremation Service



PAID MEDIA

	Circulation	Number of Ads	Impressions
Times Colonist	45,000	54	2,160,000
Times Colonist - Digital	80,000	5	400,000
Monday Magazine	18,000	10	180,000
Boulevard	15,000	3	45,000
Upstage	2,000	3	6,000
Focus	12,000	7	72,000
Victoria Arts Marketing	Varies	10	72,000

ONLINE PLATFORMS

	Type	Followers	Engagements	Views	Notes
Facebook	Social Media	7,862	1,038,799	18,660	
Mailchimp	E-News	11,320	122,472		
Vimeo	Video Sharing			7,520	Video Views – That's 16 days, 18 hours, 50 minutes and 35 seconds of viewing time
YouTube	Video Sharing			28,657	Video Views – That's 28.5 days
Twitter	Social Media	8,597	245,616		
Instagram		1,761			
Flickr	Photo Sharing			36,478	Photo Views
SoundCloud	Podcast			723	Listens (up from 960 last year)
Website			71,094	530,007	Page Views - Up Next and Calendar are our most popular pages
Database					
New Audience Members			2,554		New folks who bought tickets this past year

2019-20 SEASON

SHOW INFORMATION



SUMMER

July 30 – August 18, 2019

BOOM X

Written, directed and performed by Rick Miller

Produced by Kidoons and WYRD Productions, in association with Theatre Calgary and The 20K Collective

Executive Producer	Jeff Lord
Lighting Designer and Production Manager	Bruno Matte
Video and Projection Co-Designer	Nicolas Dostie
Video and Projection Co-Designer	Irina Litvinenko
Virginie Leclerc	Costume and Props Designer
Stage Manager and Dramaturg	Craig Francis
Stage Manager (select performances)	Laurel Oneil
Set and Sound Designer, Composer	Rick Miller
Assistant Production Manager	Aidan Ware
Graphic Design	Logograph
Music Licensing	Lucie Bourgouin (Permission) Michael Perlmutter (Instinct)

Total attendance: 2986

PRODUCTION SPONSORS

VILLA *Marco polo* INN

parc
retirement
living

SEASON SPONSORS

TIMES COLONIST
Your Island Your Newspaper

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MAINSTAGE #1

September 17 – October 13, 2019

THE CHILDREN

By Lucy Kirkwood

Starring

Nancy Palk
Brenda Robins
Joseph Ziegler

Director

Michael Shamata

Set & Costume Designer

Christina Poddubiuk

Lighting Designer

Alan Brodie

Composer & Sound Designer

Tobin Stokes

Stage Manager

Jennifer Swan

Assistant Stage Manager

Carissa Sams

Choreographer

Jacques Lemay

Dialect Coach

Adrienne Smook

Assistant Director

Molly McDowell-
Powlowski*

*Molly McDowell-Powlowski's participation made possible through the Belfry's Emerging Artist Enhancement Program, funded by the RBC Emerging Artists Project.

Total Attendance: 6420

NANCY PALK AND JOSEPH ZIEGLER

PHOTO BY DAVID COOPER

PRODUCTION
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TIMES COLONIST



MAINSTAGE #2
 October 29 – November 24, 2019

BANG BANG

by Kat Sandler

Starring

Sébastien Heins
 Tom Keenan
 Beverly Ndukwu
 Alex Poch-Goldin
 Warona Setshwaelo

Director
 Set Designer
 Costume Designer
 Lighting Designer
 Sound Designer
 Fight Director
 Firearms Consultant
 Consulting Director
 Apprentice Director
 Stage Manager
 Assistant Stage Manager

Kelly Thornton
 Adam Parboosingh
 Joseph Abetria
 Scott Henderson
 Brian Linds
 Jacquie Loewen
 Dave Brown
 Audrey Dwyer
 Eric Rae
 Jennifer Swan
 Zahra Larche

Total Attendance: 7127

ALEX POCH-GOLDIN, BEVERLY NDUKWU, SÉBASTIEN HEINS AND WARONA SETSHWAELO
 PHOTO BY DAVID COOPER

PRODUCTION SPONSORS

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Helijet

TIMES COLONIST



HOLIDAY

December 3 – 22, 2019

EVERY BRILLIANT THING

by Duncan Macmillan
with Jonny Donahoe

Starring	Dawn Petten
Director	Estelle Shook
Lighting Designer	Kerem Çetinel
Sound Designer	Brian Linds
Stage Manager	Christopher Sibbald
Apprentice Stage Manager	Becca Jorgensen
Assistant Sound Designer	Lancelot Knight*

*Lancelot Knight's participation is made possible through the Belfry's Indigenous Learning Exchange Program.

Total Attendance: 3239

DAWN PETTEN

PHOTO BY DEREK FORD

PRODUCTION SPONSORS



CIBC WOOD GUNDY
BLUE HERON
ADVISORY GROUP



SEASON SPONSORS



TIMES COLONIST



MAINSTAGE #3

February 4 – March 1, 2020

THE MINISTRY OF GRACE

by Tara Beagan

Starring

Sheldon Elter
Stafford Perry
PJ Prudat
Lara Schmitz

Director

Tara Beagan

Set & Lighting Designer

Andy Moro

Costume Designer

Jeff Chief

Composer & Sound Designer

Allison Lynch

Fight Director

Morgan Yamada

Stage Manager

Meghan Speakman

Assistant Stage Manager

Becca Jorgensen

Dialect Coach

Adrienne Smook

Total Attendance: 7019

SHELDON ELTER AND PJ PRUDAT

PHOTO BY ANGELA FUNK

PRODUCTION SPONSORS



FOCUS

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TIMES COLONIST

MARCH
09 – 22
2020



2020
spark
FESTIVAL

OPEN PIT THEATRE (WHITEHORSE, YT)

BUSTED UP: A YUKON STORY

Created by Geneviève Doyon & Jessica Hickman

Starring

Joel D. Montgrand
Caleb Gordon
Kaitlyn Yott
Lisa Goebel
Christine Quintana
Brenda Barnes

Playwright

Director & Tour Producer
Composer & Sound Designer
Lighting Designer
Set Designer
Costume Designers

Geneviève Doyon
Jessica Hickman
Brooke Maxwell
Brad Trenaman
Michel Gignac
Rosie Stuckless
& Odile Nelson
Becca Jorgensen

Stage Manager

Total Attendance: 420

SYRACUS, NY & VICTORIA, BC

DESTINY, USA

Written & Performed by Laura Anne Harris

With

Tamyka Bullen
Natasha Cecily Bacchus
Sage Lovell

Director

Projection & Caption Designer
Sound Designer
Stage Manager
& Lighting Consultant

Krystal Osborne
Matthew Koutzun
Alex Eddington

Siena Shepard

Total Attendance: 154

PRODUCTION SPONSORS



SEASON SPONSORS



2020

spark

FESTIVAL



HAZEL VENZON IN *KISMET, THINGS HAVE CHANGED* / PHOTOS BY MATT REZNEK.

ARTISTIC FRAUD OF NEWFOUNDLAND

BETWEEN BREATHS

Written by Robert Chafe

Directed by Jillian Keiley

Original Music Composed & Arranged by The Once (Phil Churchill, Andrew Dale & Geraldine Hollett)

Musical Direction by Kellie Walsh

Cast

Steve O'Connell

Berni Stapleton

Darryl Hopkins

Brianna Gosse

Steve Maloney

Kevin Woolridge

Iris Turcott

Sarah Garton Stanley

Sharon King-Campbell

Leigh Ann Vardy

Shawn Kerwin

Brian Kenny

Mara Bredovskis

Patrick Foran

Mallory Fisher

Dramaturgy

Additional Dramaturgy

Assistant Director

Lighting Designer

Costume Designer

Sound Design

& Technical Director

Production Manager

& Stage Manager

Managing Producer

Associate Producer

Total Attendance: 0

THE CHOP THEATRE, VANCOUVER BC

KISMET, THINGS HAVE CHANGED

Created and performed by

Emelia Symington Fedy

Daryl King

Anita Rochon

Hazel Venzon

Visual Design

Sound Design & Original Music

Lighting Design

Projection Design

Stage Manager

Projection Support Team

Visual Design Assistant

Set Construction

Transcribers

Agent

Producers

Total Attendance: 0

Drew Facey

Antoine Bédard

Brad Trenaman

Sophia Wolfe

Geoff Jones

Chimerik

Jessica Hood

Great Northern Way Scene Shop

Kyle Jesperson

Mark Chavez

Lindsey Angell

Donna Soares

Dani Fecko

Lisa Goebel and Chelsea MacDonald

PUENTE THEATRE PRESENTS

WORLDPLAY

Readings of plays from around the world.

Insomniacs: The Far Side of the Accordion by Mimi Branescu (Romania)

Motswana: Africa, Dream Again by Donald Molosi (Botswana)

Burning Vision by Marie Clements (Canada)



*GENEVIÈVE DOYON, KAITLYN YOTT, ROY NELSON, JOEL D. MONTGRAND, CALEB GORDON, DINAH GASTON, AND BRENDA BARNES IN BUSTED UP: A YUKON STORY
PHOTO BY ALISTAIR MAITLAND PHOTOGRAPHY*

BELFRY 101 LIVE VIA ZOOM

Created and performed by the students of the Belfry 301 Ensemble

Directed by Jonathan Brower and Dave Morris

Total Livestreamed: 697 (Facebook)
442 (Vimeo)

MINI PLAYS

Created by Krystal Cook, K.P Dennis & Tobin Stokes

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

Acting Shakespeare with Michael Shamata

NEW PLAY CABARET

Combine fourth year and MFA playwriting students from UVic's Department of Writing, add one part directors and two parts actors from UVic's Theatre Department. Simmer and serve hot off the press.

PLAY READINGS

Same Old Same Old

Written & Performed by Jan Wood & James Fagan Tait

Women in Clothes

Adapted by Michael Shamata & Paula Wing
Featuring K.P Dennis, Erin Ormond, Tenyah McKenna, Jana Morrison & Celine Stubel

HOOTENANNY

An all-ages dance party of awesome. Live humans playing music. Live humans dancing to music. Featuring The Avram McCagherty Quartet: Calvin Cairns, Avram McCagherty, Peter Dowse and Matthew Pease.



MAINSTAGE #4

April 21 – May 17, 2020

1979

by Michael Healey

Starring

Luisa Jojic
Anton Lipovetsky
John Ulyatt

Director

Glynis Leyshon

Set & Costume Designer

Pam Johnson

Lighting Designer

Geoff George

Composer & Sound Designer

Tobin Stokes

Video Designer

Carolyn Moon

Stage Manager

Jennifer Swan

Assistant Stage Manager

Becca Jorgensen

Assistant Director Jennifer

Dawn Bishop*

Assistant Costume Designer

Hailee Jake Friesen^

*Participation made possible through the Belfry's Indigenous Learning Exchange Program

^Participation made possible through the Belfry's Emerging Artist Enhancement Program, funded by the RBC Emerging Artists Project

Total Attendance: 0

ILLUSTRATION BY JEFF KULAK

PRODUCTION SPONSORS



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