

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 4/12/2022 2:21:01 PM
Subject: [Upcoming News Release: City invests \\$6.1 million into critical core funding for arts and culture sector \(April 13, 2022\)](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that pending Council's approval of the next round of operating grants for Arts and Culture groups, the City will be issuing the below news release the morning of April 13, 2022.

These grants align with the City's key civic policy and strategic directions, such as Culture|Shift, the COVID-19 Economic and Business Recovery program, the Reconciliation framework and the Equity Framework.

Please keep the contents of this news release embargoed until Council votes on this matter later today.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

City of Vancouver
News release
April 13, 2022

City invests \$6.1 million into critical core funding for arts and culture sector

Yesterday afternoon, Council approved \$6,104,505 in operating grants to 149 cultural non-profits, including seven new groups receiving this type of funding for the first time. This investment was informed and guided by community input, and uplifts the contributions of a strong network of arts & culture organizations located in Vancouver on the shared unceded and traditional territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

“Despite the sector-wide challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, cultural organizations who received core funding today continue to excel in advancing the City’s goals of contributing to a diverse and vibrant community, and amplifying the voices of creative people, while allowing each of us to see ourselves reflected in our shared stories,” said Kennedy Stewart, Mayor of Vancouver. “These critical Council-approved investments continue to provide support to organizations who embody Culture|Shift’s key directions, and contribute significantly towards advancing Cultural Equity, Accessibility, Reconciliation and Decolonization goals.”

Funding Highlights

- [Vancouver International Bhangra Celebration](#) received their first operating grant from the City to elevate South Asian youth culture through their annual 5X Festival, virtual residencies, pop-up dance performances and ongoing engagement with the community through weekly newsletters.

- [WePress](#) received an operating grant to build community capacity and resilience through art-making offering printmaking workshops, providing access to equipment and art supplies, arts facilitation, and with a focus on people from equity-denied communities in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.
- [Greater Vancouver Professional Theatre Alliance Established](#) received an operating grant to increase the appreciation of the arts by providing programs, conferences and workshops, and resources related to theatre and advancing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) in the sector. They achieve this through activities like co-hosting a national symposium on EDI, digital learning for underrepresented artists, and research in support of healthy and safe workplaces.

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These grants align with the City's key civic policy and strategic directions, such as [Culture|Shift](#), [the COVID-19 Economic and Business Recovery program](#), the [Reconciliation framework](#) and the [Equity Framework](#).

View the full grant report, including the complete list of grantees, [here](#).

The City of Vancouver invests close to \$14M in grants to local arts and culture non-profit organizations each year to support operations, major and small capital projects, and capital planning.

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Media contact:

Civic Engagement and Communications

media@vancouver.ca