

# ANNUAL REVIEW '99

Office of Cultural Affairs



CITY OF VANCOUVER



# ANNUAL REVIEW '99

## City of Vancouver's Cultural Objectives

To ensure our future as a creative city,  
open and accessible to artists, to the  
broadest range of artistic expression,  
and to the widest participation.

## Office of Cultural Affairs

The Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) advises  
Vancouver City Council on issues and  
strategies related to the cultural sector,  
develops and administers cultural policies  
and programs, and participates in city  
planning and development processes.

## Who We Are

Nancy Duxbury, Cultural Planning Analyst  
Jenny Fung, Secretary  
Sue Harvey, Cultural Planner  
Bryan Newson, Public Art Manager  
Alice Niwinski, Cultural Planner  
Burke Taylor, Director  
Lorenz von Fersen, Cultural Planner

## Mayor

Philip W. Owen

## Councillors

Fred Bass  
Jennifer Clarke  
Lynne Kennedy  
Daniel Lee  
Don Lee  
Tim Louis  
Sandy McCormick  
Gordon Price  
George Puil  
Sam Sullivan

## City Manager

Judy Rogers

## Goals

The following goals were adopted by Council on October 27, 1987, to guide the City of Vancouver's overall direction and specific decisions concerning the arts and the development of cultural policy:

- ❑ To promote a high level of creativity and excellence in the cultural life of Vancouver.
- ❑ To promote diversity in the artistic life of the community, including both the professional and non-professional, the traditional and the innovative, the established and the aspiring.
- ❑ To encourage financial and managerial efficiency in the operation of Vancouver's cultural organizations.
- ❑ To ensure the existence of adequate facilities for the creation and presentation of the arts in Vancouver.
- ❑ To ensure that all Vancouver residents and visitors, including senior citizens, youth, low income people, members of ethnic minorities and other distinct groups have opportunities to enjoy and participate in cultural activities.

## Contents

5	Foreword
6	Special Initiatives
6	Portrait V2K Millennium Project
6	Regional Cultural Plan: Phase 3
7	Grant Programs
7	Operating Assistance
	Major Exhibiting Institutions
	Operating Grants
11	Theatre Rental Grant Support
	City Theatre Rental Grants
	Baxter Fund Theatre Rental Grants
13	Project Funding
	Project Grants
	Diversity Initiatives
15	Organizational Development
	Arts POD
	Arts Administration Grants
16	Facility Assistance
16	Capital Support
	Capital Grants
	City-owned Capital Projects
16	Facility Development
17	Public Art Programs
17	Civic Public Art
17	Private Sector Program
17	Community Public Art
18	Other Programs
18	Transit Shelter Advertising
18	City Awards



Ballet British Columbia  
*The Goldberg*  
Dancer: Andrea Hodge  
Choreographer: John Alleyne  
Photo: David Cooper

## FOREWORD

What you have in your hands is one of two companion reports that together articulate the City of Vancouver's role in supporting and promoting a healthy cultural environment for its citizens. *Annual Review '99* highlights this year's special initiatives, and summarizes activity funded through our office on behalf of City Council. The other half of the information package, *Creative City*, provides a context for the annual summary. It presents an overview of the policies, programs, and planning activities for which the Office of Cultural Affairs is responsible.

The scope of the programs described here underlines the long-term commitment of past and present City Councils to an investment in arts and culture. The information in these pages also provides a sense of the breadth of activity generated by not-for-profit

arts and cultural organizations in Vancouver — from theatre workshops in the schools to a First Nations powwow in a park, from a hockey opera to the premiere of a new ballet.

Of course, this published account can't begin to describe how these activities enrich Vancouver's landscape and the lives of its people. It can't communicate the time, effort, and sheer determination that go into mounting an exhibition, organizing a festival, or undertaking any of the many activities supported through City programs. Nor can the report convey the extent to which these support programs and the OCA's other initiatives involve collaborations with many different partners: with our colleagues in other City departments, with other public and private agencies, and with talented artists, hard working arts managers, and dedicated volunteers. We thank them, and we thank the people of Vancouver for making our community a place where the arts can thrive.

Office of Cultural Affairs Staff

## Regional Cultural Plan: Phase 3

### SPECIAL INITIATIVES

#### Portrait V2K Millennium Project

In 1999, working with City Council, other civic organizations, and the people of Vancouver, Cultural Affairs staff helped launch the City's Millennium project, Portrait V2K. This community-wide popular history initiative is building a legacy of personal stories and photos about Vancouver at the turn of the Millennium, which will eventually be lodged as a permanent archive with the Vancouver Museum, City Archives, Vancouver Public Library, and Vancouver schools. The project's highlights include an exhibition at Vancouver Museum, a 96-page book, 200 street plaques throughout the city, and a dozen "Stone Stories" set in parks and boulevards. Following City Council's commitment of \$150,000 for the project in 1999, another \$600,000 was raised from senior governments, corporate sponsors and donors. Stories and photographs can be viewed at the project's website: [www.portraitv2k.com](http://www.portraitv2k.com).

As a member of the Regional Cultural Plan Steering Committee, the Office of Cultural Affairs has been integral to creating a cultural development strategy for Greater Vancouver. In September 1999, the committee — consisting of cultural staff from Greater Vancouver municipalities and chaired by the Director of OCA — published its recommendations in *Strategies for Regional Arts and Cultural Development in Greater Vancouver*. Informed by a series of research studies and by extensive consultations, the recommendations focused on strengthening region-wide access to the arts, improving the region-wide exchange of cultural information, and facilitating common economic development initiatives. In September 2000, the committee presents its implementation plan and recommendations to City Councils throughout the region, seeking their participation in an intermunicipal cultural development partnership.

## GRANT PROGRAMS

The City's cultural support programs are carefully designed to address the various needs of cultural organizations and of the public they serve, contributing to affordability and excellence. Ongoing support sustains the operations of established organizations whose stability and artistic achievements are essential for a healthy cultural community. Project funding provides for development and experimentation among Vancouver's newer or smaller groups, including those from culturally diverse communities. To ensure the existence of adequate spaces where artists can create and share their work with the public, the City provides capital grants and actively pursues the development of cultural facilities. The City's public art programs give residents and visitors opportunities to experience art in our parks, along streets, and in other public places.

## Operating Assistance

### Major Exhibiting Institutions

The City of Vancouver holds an extensive collection of art and artifacts in trust for the people of Vancouver. These collections are managed and exhibited by independent not-for-profit societies—the Vancouver Art Gallery Association, the Vancouver Museum Commission, the Vancouver Maritime Museum Society, the Pacific Space Centre Society, and ASTC Science World. The institutions occupy City-owned or leased land and buildings at a nominal rent. The City, through the Office of Cultural Affairs, provides annual operating grants of \$3.5 million, as well as building maintenance and other services.

**Vancouver Art Gallery** \$1,831,400

VAG, the largest art gallery in the province, focuses on the exhibition and interpretation of modern and contemporary art, drawing on its permanent collections, inter-gallery loans, and major touring exhibitions.

**Vancouver Museum** \$830,800  
(including one-time grants)

The focus of Canada's largest civic museum is the story of Vancouver and its people — past, present, and future. In 1999, the City's \$830,000 contribution included \$200,000 in supplemental funds to assist with the museum's three-year plan for operational revitalization.

**Vancouver Maritime Museum** \$371,400  
(including one-time grants)

VMM is the principal maritime museum on the Pacific Coast of Canada and the city's link to its maritime history, art, culture, and technology. In 1999, the museum's \$371,400 in civic funding included a \$24,000 emergency grant to offset losses arising from a fire, and a \$82,000 supplemental grant to assist with the transition costs of switching the operations of the St. Roch from Parks Canada to the VMM.

**Pacific Space Centre** \$443,000

The centre educates, entertains, and highlights Canadian innovation and achievement by focusing attention on the exploration of space science and technology.

**ASTC Science World** \$80,000

The Arts, Science and Technology Centre: Science World combines science and the arts through exhibitry and programming featuring interactive family education and entertainment.

## Operating Grants

The City supports the ongoing activities of Vancouver's more established non-profit arts organizations through its annual Operating grants program. These grants are available to large and small organizations in the performing, visual, media, or literary arts.

**Arts Club Theatre** \$75,000

This regional theatre company's season on its Granville Island stage and at the recently restored Stanley Theatre encompasses new work by local playwrights, as well as the classical repertoire.

**Artspeak Gallery** \$9,000

Artspeak exhibits contemporary artworks by emerging and mid-career artists, fostering a critical dialogue between the visual arts and writing.

**Axis Theatre** \$11,500

This very active touring company presents physically based theatre in schools and mainstage productions for adults.

**Ballet BC** \$80,000

Vancouver's contemporary ballet company has gained an international reputation for innovative new work, as well as a loyal following at home in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

**Bard on the Beach Theatre** \$9,500

The popular annual summer Shakespeare festival in Vanier Park celebrated its 10th anniversary in 1999.

**Canadian Craft Museum** \$24,000

This downtown facility next to Cathedral Place has a year-round exhibition program of historic and contemporary craft and design.

**Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival** \$5,000

Civic funding contributes to the costs of the multicultural

festival program that accompanies the annual three-day dragon boat races in False Creek.

**Canadian Music Centre - BC** \$11,000

Vancouver's resource centre for contemporary music provides information, library, and other services for composers and the community at large.

**Carousel Theatre** \$19,000

The company, known for its high production values, presents theatre for families and young audiences on Granville Island and tours to schools throughout British Columbia.

**Chamber Music Festival** \$10,000

Organized by the Vancouver Recital Society, this annual summer music festival features young chamber musicians from North America and beyond.

**Children's Arts Umbrella** \$15,000

The multifaceted arts training centre for young people receives civic funding for its outreach activities and for its student performances.

**Children's Festival** \$116,400

This lively arts festival in Vanier Park, offering the best in children's education and entertainment from around the world, is organized by the Canadian Institute of the Arts for Young Audiences.

**Cineworks Independent Filmmakers** \$15,000

The services, screenings, and production assistance provided by the centre are important resources for Vancouver's independent filmmakers. The centre operates in a City-owned building, rent-free.

**Coastal Jazz and Blues Society** \$10,000

While the society is best known for the dynamic International Jazz Festival, it also presents year-round concerts of jazz, blues and improvised music.

**Community Arts Council of Vancouver** \$6,500

In 1999, the council embarked on a strategic planning process involving a major review of its mandate and long-term objectives. Civic funds were targeted to this initiative.

**Contemporary Art Gallery** \$38,000

The many activities of this well-respected public art gallery include seven annual exhibitions of work by local, national, and international artists.

**DanceArts Vancouver** \$27,000

The company is known for the *Kiss Project*, a theatre and dance festival featuring new creations, as well as for its community workshops and performances with young people.



**Dancing on the Edge Festival** \$6,000

The annual festival of contemporary dance at the Firehall Arts Centre and Playhouse Theatre highlights the work of local choreographers and offers opportunities to see new work from across the country.

**Early Music Vancouver** \$15,000

The Vancouver Society for Early Music presents a concert series of local and international early music ensembles, and organizes an annual summer festival. Its office is in a City-owned building, provided rent-free.

**EDAM Performing Arts Society** \$9,000

The contact improvisational dance company produces the work of artistic director Peter Bingham and other choreographers in its studio theatre and in venues throughout the city.

**Elektra Women's Choir** \$2,000

One of Vancouver's many excellent and acclaimed choirs, Elektra presents a program of concerts, recordings, and outreach programs throughout the year.

**Federation of BC Writers** \$2,500

The federation provides workshops, readings, and other services to writers in Vancouver and the rest of BC.

**Firehall Arts Centre** \$35,000

This downtown eastside venue is a producer and presenter of theatre and dance in Vancouver, and is well known for its work with artists from diverse communities. The centre occupies a City-owned building rent-free.

**Green Thumb Players** \$30,000

This internationally admired theatre company produces original Canadian scripts addressing issues for children, teenagers, and young adults, and tours extensively both at home and abroad.

**Grunt Gallery - Visible Arts Society** \$8,500

The artist-run centre's year-round program of exhibitions, performances, and publications often features the work of artists from First Nations and distinct communities.

**Headlines Theatre (Theatre for Living Soc.)** \$11,500

The company has developed a reputation across North America as a leader in community-based theatre that addresses a wide range of political, social, and other issues.

**Holy Body Tattoo** \$7,000

This dynamic contemporary dance company is in great demand both at home and abroad, and was the inaugural winner of the Alcan Performing Arts Award in 1999.

**India Music** \$3,000

The recital society brings a wealth of experience to its programming of Indian dance, instrumental and vocal music in the classical traditions of India.

**JumpStart Performance Society** \$6,000

The Vancouver-based dance company, led by choreographer Lee Eisler, explores the dilemmas and experiences of life in the 20th century.

**Karen Jamieson Dance** \$13,500

In recent years this contemporary dance company has focused on site-specific creations and continued its collaborations with First Nations artists.

**Katari Taiko Drum Group** \$2,500

The popular group is known for its community performances and its training in taiko drumming.

**Kokoro Dance Theatre** \$11,500

(including a \$1,500 supplement for a Butoh Festival)  
Led by Jay Hirabayashi and Barbara Bourget, the company focuses on new creations based on the Japanese butoh tradition.

**Little Chamber Music Series That Could Society** \$1,500

The innovative concert series is presented at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre, where the society is resident.

**Lola MacLaughlin Dance** \$6,500

The dance company produces and presents the distinctive choreography of Lola MacLaughlin.

**Main Dance Projects Society** \$4,000

This accredited school of modern dance and ballet has an active program of public performances, for which City funds are designated.

**Malaspina Printmakers** \$4,000

The organization offers equipment and services for artist-printmakers and exhibits their work at its gallery on Granville Island.

**Mascall Dance** \$7,500

Under the leadership of artistic director Jennifer Mascall, this contemporary dance organization emphasizes choreographic exploration and education.

**Moving Images Distribution Society** \$9,000

The organization links media artists and audiences through the distribution of Canadian independent film and video.

**Music in the Morning Concert Society** \$6,500

The society's popular daytime concert series of classical music continues to expand and attract new audiences.

**Native Daughters of BC, Post No.1** \$3,500

The society operates the Old Hastings Store Mill Museum, the oldest building in Vancouver, at the foot of Alma Street.

**New Orchestra Workshop** \$2,500

NOW is a programmer, presenter, and producer of live improvised music rooted in the jazz and avant-garde traditions.

**Or Gallery** \$9,000

The artist-run centre plays an important role in exhibiting the work of emerging and international visual artists.

**Pacific Baroque Orchestra** \$3,000

Vancouver's baroque orchestra produces its own concert series and performs regularly with other groups.

**Pacific Cinémathèque Pacifique** \$19,500

The centre for the presentation, interpretation, and preservation of Canadian and international cinema offers an alternative to commercial movie theatres. The cinema operates in a City-owned building, rent-free.

**Pink Ink Theatre** \$8,500

The company is known for its innovative staging of socially relevant plays, including French Canadian plays in translation.

**Pitt Gallery** \$7,500

The Unit/Pitt Society of Art and Critical Awareness is an artist-run centre exhibiting works that explore socio-political issues.

**Playwrights Theatre Centre** \$15,000

The centre makes an important contribution to local theatre by supporting new play development and by presenting regular play readings, workshops, and the Vancouver New Play Festival.

**Powell Street Festival** \$9,000

The festival celebrates Japanese Canadian and Asian Canadian arts, culture, and heritage.

**Public Dreams** \$12,500

Organizers of community-based, celebratory public performance events, including the annual *Illuminares*, *Circus of Dreams*, and *Parade of Lost Souls*. The group operates in a City-owned building, rent-free.

**Ruby Slippers Productions** \$6,500

The theatre company focuses on social commentary, often undertaking collaborations with other arts groups.

**Rumble Productions** \$6,000

The interdisciplinary theatre company is dedicated to the creation and production of new work, and to the development of young emerging artists.

**Satellite Video Exchange** \$15,500

In addition to presenting exhibitions and installations, the multifaceted SVES provides equipment, training, and support to local video artists.

**Théâtre la Seizième** \$6,000

Vancouver's French-language theatre company tours to schools throughout BC and presents mainstage productions for adults.

**Theatre Terrific** \$6,000

The company provides training and performance opportunities for people with disabilities through touring and local productions.

**Touchstone Theatre** \$20,000

Touchstone, one of Vancouver's more established contemporary theatre companies, produces and presents new Canadian work.

**Uzume Taiko Drum Group** \$7,000

Uzume expands the potential of traditional taiko drumming through the creation of new work and innovative intercultural collaborations.

**Vancouver Cantata Singers** \$14,000

This highly regarded 50-member choral ensemble specializes in little-known baroque masterworks.

**Vancouver Co-operative Radio**

(Community Radio Education Soc.) \$8,000  
Vancouver's independent, listener-sponsored radio station features a wide variety of local arts and cultural programming.

**Vancouver Cultural Alliance** (renamed Alliance for Arts and Culture) \$39,000

This umbrella service organization supports the professional performing, visual, literary, and media arts in Vancouver through advocacy, networking, training, and other services.

**Vancouver Dance Centre** \$15,000

The centre's services, resources, and initiatives support and promote Vancouver's professional dance community, including independent choreographers and dancers.

**Vancouver East Cultural Centre** \$67,000

This unique eastside venue and presenter of local, national, and international theatre, dance, and music completed its 25th anniversary season in 1999. The centre occupies a City-owned building, rent-free.

**Vancouver Folk Music Festival** \$55,000

The annual mid-summer festival hosts musicians from around the world at its beautiful Jericho Beach site.

**Vancouver Fringe Festival**

(First Van. Theatrespace Soc.) \$32,000

This yearly festival, held in September, offers Vancouverites a chance to see alternative theatre in its many forms, presented by Canadian and international theatre artists.

**Vancouver International Comedy Festival** \$7,500

The summer festival on Granville Island comprises theatrical performances, musical comedy, mime, circus, film, and improvisation for audiences of all ages.

**Vancouver International Film Festival** \$17,500

Every fall the two-week festival hosts a trade forum and presents 400 screenings of 300 films from around the world in venues throughout Vancouver.

**Vancouver International Writers Festival** \$20,000

The October celebration of the written arts offers Vancouver's well-read residents a cornucopia of readings, seminars, and panel discussions by Canadian and international writers.

**Vancouver New Music** \$24,500

The society, best known for its well-established concert series, also develops new opera and presents a biannual festival of contemporary new music.

**Vancouver Opera** \$14,000

In addition to its season at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, the VOA has a growing school and community outreach program, which the City supports through Operating grants.

**Vancouver Pro Musica** \$1,500

Pro Musica Society of Vancouver organizes a variety of events featuring new work by local musicians, including the *Sonic Boom* festival.

**Vancouver Society of Storytelling** \$4,000

The society's annual program of events celebrates storytelling and oral traditions from Vancouver's diverse communities.

**Vancouver Symphony Orchestra** \$46,000

In addition to its rich program of symphonic concerts at the Orpheum Theatre, the VSO performs in venues throughout Greater Vancouver. The City's primary support for the VSO is through rental grants.

**Vancouver Youth Theatre** \$10,000

This training organization presents plays for and by young people in schools and theatres throughout Vancouver.

**Vetta Chamber Music and Recital Society** \$2,500

The society's well-regarded chamber music concert series features the talents of local musicians.

**Waterfront Theatre** \$9,000

The rental facility on Granville Island is used by "theatre for young audiences" companies and other local performing arts groups.

**West Coast Book Prize Society** \$3,500

The society organizes the annual BC Book Prizes to honour and promote the best in British Columbian writing.

**Western Front** \$17,500

This well-established artist-run centre for contemporary art organizes residencies, exhibitions, concerts, dance performances, literary readings, and media art presentations.

## Theatre Rental Grant Support

### City Theatre Rental Grants

City Theatre Rental grants are a valuable form of assistance for established Vancouver arts organizations that perform regularly in a Civic Theatre: the Orpheum, the Vancouver Playhouse, or the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. Eligibility for these grants requires City Council's confirmation.

**Ballet BC** \$61,650

This internationally recognized contemporary ballet company receives civic rental assistance for its home season performances at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, in addition to its Operating grant.

**Coastal Jazz and Blues Society** \$7,300

The City's rental grant augments its Operating support for Vancouver's growing International Jazz Festival.

**Friends of Chamber Music** \$18,075

The society's international chamber music series at the Playhouse Theatre receives civic support through a theatre rental grant.

**Music in the Morning Concert Society** \$5,700

A recipient of operating funds, the society also gets a rental grant for its Civic Theatre concerts, which, in 1999, included a music and dance presentation with Ballet BC and the National Ballet.

**Vancouver Academy of Music** \$27,675

Annual theatre rental assistance gives young people in the academy's orchestral training program the opportunity to



perform in the Orpheum four times a year. The academy occupies a City-owned building rent-free.

**Vancouver Bach Choir** \$47,800

The popular 150-voice choir, which specializes in large-scale choral music, receives annual support for its concert season in the Orpheum Theatre.

**Vancouver Chamber Choir** \$41,350

Ongoing assistance for the award-winning choir is provided through rental grants for its Orpheum concerts, including this year's presentation of *Messiah*. The choir's offices are in a rent-free, City-owned building.

**Vancouver Opera Association** \$292,850

The VOA's annual season in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre is supported through rental grants, while its community and school outreach programs receive an Operating grant.

**Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company** \$352,335

The resident company at the Vancouver Playhouse receives funding for its annual season, which offers audiences a chance to see both contemporary and classical plays.

**Vancouver Recital Society** \$22,120

Civic support for the society is provided through annual rental assistance for its recitals in the Civic Theatres, featuring promising young musicians as well as superstars.

**Vancouver Symphony Orchestra** \$697,738

(including \$100,000 for office rental)

While theatre rental funding for rehearsals and performances in the Orpheum is the main source of civic support for the VSO, the City also provides an office rental grant and operating funds for outreach activities.

**Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra** \$5,700

With the City's assistance, the orchestra presents an annual concert at the Orpheum, offering its young musicians valuable performing experience.

## Baxter Fund Theatre Rental Grants

Baxter grants complement the City's Theatre Rental grants for established users of the three facilities by assisting smaller arts organizations that occasionally present special events in the Civic Theatres. The program is funded through the Vancouver Foundation's Donald Alexander Baxter Fund and administered by the Office of Cultural Affairs.

**Rosario Ancer Flamenco Arts Society** \$3,950

For the 10th anniversary Flamenco Festival held at the Vancouver Playhouse.

**Taiwanese Canadian Cultural Society** \$5,000

For the society's presentation of the Taipei Municipal Chinese Classical Orchestra at the Orpheum.

**Uzume Taiko Drum Group** \$3,950

For the Vancouver premiere of the ensemble's new concert at the Playhouse.

**Vancouver Chinese Choir** \$7,300

For the choir's 15th anniversary concert in the Orpheum, featuring the *Yellow River Cantata* and the symphonic poem *Bayanhar*.

**Vancouver New Music Society** \$5,925

For a three-night run of the new Canadian opera, *Elsewhereless*, by Vancouver composer Rodney Sharman.



Arts Umbrella Creative Movement Classes explore rhythms and music from around the world.

## Project Funding

### Project Grants

Civic support for one-time initiatives, new or emerging groups, or groups that work on a project by project basis is provided through the Project grants program. The grants contribute to a broad range of art forms and activities, based in different cultural traditions and artistic practice. The City introduced a second Project grant deadline in 1999 to provide applicants working on short-term projects with greater flexibility.

**Aboriginal Art and Culture Celebration Society** \$4,000

For the society's June celebration of aboriginal art and culture, presenting contemporary and traditional aboriginal artists.

**Artsite (Arts in Action Society)** \$3,240

For the *Artsite* project, featuring the installation of temporary art exhibitions in vacant storefronts.

**Astrid Dance** \$4,000

Toward the development of new work by artistic director Cornelius Fischer-Credo, and for the organization's production in fall 1999.

**Battery Opera Performing Arts Society** \$2,000

In support of this interdisciplinary company's local performances and the development of new work.

**Centre Culturel Francophone de Vancouver** \$2,500

Funding for the 10th annual *Festival d'été*, which encompasses visual, media, and performing arts.

**Chinese Cultural Centre of Vancouver** \$4,000

To assist with artists' fees and co-ordinating costs of the centre's *Summer Melodies* outdoor concerts and its Mid-Autumn Moon Festival.

**Chor Leoni Men's Choir** \$1,000

Assistance for the choir's concerts at Christ Church Cathedral and other Vancouver venues.

**DanStaBat Performance Society** \$4,500

For the development and presentation of a new evening-length dance work by artistic director Chick Snipper in May 2000.

**Edgewise ElectroLit Centre** \$1,000

Funding for the *Telepoetics* series, which links Vancouver poets and audiences by satellite with colleagues and audiences around the world.

**Electric Company Theatre** \$5,000

Toward the production of *The Wake*, a theatrical work bringing the history and locale of Granville Island to life.

**Griming Dragon Theatre** (renamed Felix Culpa Theatre) \$2,000

To assist with the company's local productions of *Trouser Parts* and *Judith*.

**Full Circle: First Nations Performance Society** \$4,000

Support for the development and production of artistic director Margo Kane's new play, which explores the experience of growing up in a mixed cultural context.

**Hard Rubber New Music Society** \$2,000

Toward the creation of a new full-scale work, *Hard Rubber on Ice*, an interdisciplinary performance on ice.

**Intertribal PowWow Committee** \$1,500

For the traditional inter-tribal powwow held on the Mother's Day weekend at Trout Lake Community Centre and sponsored by Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House.

**Joe Ink Performance Society** \$5,000

Contributing to the development and presentation costs of *The Body Remembers* by choreographer Joe Laughlin.

**Katherine Labelle Dance** \$2,500

Toward the costs of the full-length production of *Becoming Sophia*, an interdisciplinary work by choreographer Katherine Labelle in collaboration with other artists.

**Modern Baroque Opera** \$4,000

To assist with this young opera company's presentation of the rarely produced *Arcifanfano*.

**Norman Rothstein Theatre** (Westside Theatre Soc.) \$4,500  
To help maintain the venue as an affordable rental facility for Vancouver artists and audiences.

**Opera Breve Vancouver** \$500  
For *Operamania*, a community concert in the Downtown Eastside.

**Pacific Theatre** \$1,000  
Toward the costs of the theatre company's mainstage 1999/2000 season in its 124-seat facility.

**Savage Media Society** \$1,500  
Toward music commissioning and composers' costs related to the production of the *Songbird Oratorio*.

**Seniors' Research Group of Chinese Opera and Music** \$1,000  
Assisting with the society's annual performance of Peking Opera.

**SongRise Choral Society** \$3,500  
For the second *SongRise* New Year's Eve celebration, featuring Vancouver composers and soloists as part of a participatory choral concert.

**Spring Break Theatre Festival**  
(sponsored by Van. Professional Theatre Alliance) \$3,500  
To assist with the development of this festival for young audiences, which presents a week-long program of productions by five different companies during Spring Break.

**Standing Wave** \$1,500  
Toward this new music ensemble's Vancouver concert and commissioning activities.

**Theatre M.O.M.** (Theatre Modular Organizational Management Society) \$5,000  
For the administrative, marketing, and other support services provided by the organization to Vancouver's smaller theatre companies.

**Vancouver Access Artist Run Centre** \$2,000  
For the gallery's six month-long exhibitions of work by artists pushing the boundaries of current artistic practice.

**Vancouver Asian Heritage Festival Month Society** \$3,000  
In support of this city-wide presentation of visual, literary, and performing arts focusing on contemporary Asian Canadian works.

**Vancouver Moving Theatre** \$2,000  
Contributing to the range of this interdisciplinary group's spectacle-based performances for audiences of all ages.

**Vancouver Summer Festival** \$4,000  
To assist with planning and development costs for a large-scale international music festival in the summer of 2000.

**Westcoast Sacred Arts** \$3,500  
In support of a new three-day festival of music and visual arts that brings together artists from distinct communities to showcase the spiritual aspects of their work.

**Western Theatre Conspiracy** \$4,000  
For the company's Vancouver premiere of *As Bees in Honey Drown* at the Waterfront Theatre.

**Wild Excursions Productions** \$5,000  
To assist with artistic director Conrad Alexandrowicz's dance and theatre projects during 1999.

## Diversity Initiatives

The program supports artistic development in distinct communities, as defined by race, ethnicity, or disability. Focusing on the performing and visual arts, it provides grants for developmental projects involving new creation or interpretation, for artistic leadership training, and for cross-cultural partnerships.

**Curious Tongue** (sponsored by Touchstone Theatre) \$8,000  
In support of a full-scale production of *Je me souviens*, a multicultural portrait of life in Montreal and Vancouver from a Black Anglophone perspective.

**Firehall Arts Centre** \$10,000  
For a ten-month residency by First Nations actor and playwright Marie Humber Clements, which includes the development of a play based in the Downtown Eastside, together with related readings and workshops for neighbourhood women.

**Gallery Gachet** \$3,000  
For the art exhibition component of the society's *Up and Out* program, designed to provide public exposure for emerging artists who are also consumers of mental health services and/or survivors of abuse.

**La Luna Productions** (sponsored by VIEW) \$8,000  
To assist with *The Reclaiming Project*, a cross-cultural intergenerational play about the experiences of young people and their families in arriving and settling in Vancouver.

**Rice Girls Performing Group**  
(sponsored by Headlines Theatre) \$5,500  
Toward the development and rehearsal phase of the group's first full-length play, using the techniques of popular theatre to involve women participants from diverse cultures.

**Rumble Productions** \$8,000  
For an internship for an emerging theatre artist from a distinct community, providing experience in artistic production, play direction, and administration.

**Society for Disability Arts and Culture** \$10,000

To support the development of a choral group and a series of dance workshops by the society, whose goal is to celebrate the unique perspective, strengths, and creativity of artists and performers with disabilities.

**Society for the Development of Latin American Arts** \$3,000

For Mictlan Theatre's workshop production of its second play, *Run Jacinto Run*.

**Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company** \$10,000

For mentorships for two theatre artists from distinct communities, including opportunities to direct excerpts from the classical repertoire.

## Organizational Development

Organizational change and renewal are key to the cultural sector's ability to respond to growing competition for audiences, to the shifting priorities of public funders and private sponsors, and to the opportunities presented by new technologies. The City's Organizational Development fund helps organizations upgrade staff skills, secure the expertise they need to address operational problems, or undertake long-range strategic planning. In 1999 the fund provided for Arts Administration grants and for the City's contribution to the Arts POD Program.

### 1999 GRANT SUMMARY

Major Exhibiting Institutions	\$3,556,600
Operating Grants	\$1,248,400
City Theatre Rental Grants	\$1,580,293
Baxter Fund Theatre Rental Grants	\$26,125
Project Grants	\$97,740
Diversity Initiative Grants	\$65,500
Arts POD Grants	\$15,000
Arts Administration Grants	\$1,350
Capital Support	\$2,810,000
Community Public Art Grants	\$73,800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,474,808</b>

## Arts POD

Arts Partners in Organizational Development is a joint initiative of the City, BC Arts Council, Department of Canadian Heritage, and the Vancouver Foundation, with a \$90,000 province-wide pool. Administered by the Vancouver Arts Stabilization Team, the program provides consultants to help groups assess organizational strengths and weaknesses, and develop strategies that address operational challenges and long-term sustainability.

<b>Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>Early Music Vancouver</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Katherine Labelle Dance</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Kinesis Dance Society</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Mascall Dance Society</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Pacific Baroque Orchestra</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Powell Street Festival</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Theatre in the Raw</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Vancouver Folk Music Festival</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>Vancouver Youth Theatre</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>

## Arts Administration Grants

Maintaining an effective administrative structure is one of the bigger challenges facing arts organizations in today's changing and competitive environment. Arts Administration Training grants help organizations augment staff skills through short-term arts administration courses and workshops.

The program gave five organizations a total of \$1,350 to send staff to arts administration training at accredited institutions:

**Art Starts in Schools****Music in the Morning Concert Society****Pacific Cinémathèque Pacifique****Pangaea Arts Society****Vancouver International Writers Festival**

# FACILITY ASSISTANCE

## Capital Support

The City provides support for cultural facilities through a number of mechanisms including: direct provision of facilities (i.e. the Vancouver Civic Theatres), capital budget allocations to organizations operating out of City-owned facilities (i.e. Vancouver East Cultural Centre, Firehall Arts Centre) and, since 1975, capital grants to organizations located in their own (or leased) premises.

Capital grants to non-profit social service and cultural organizations are for facility purchase, renovation and refurbishment of facilities not owned by the City. Repairs, maintenance and equipment are not eligible. By policy, grants cannot exceed one-third of the total project cost — the balance of the funds must be secured by the non-profit organization through public and private sector fund raising.

## Capital Grants

### **Chinese Cultural Centre of Vancouver** \$50,000

Support for the construction of a new 240-seat theatre within the Chinese Cultural Centre complex.

### **Portland Hotel/Arts in Action - The InterUrban Project** \$75,000

The InterUrban Project aims to renovate and revitalize a vacant building in the Downtown Eastside to create community spaces, including an art workshop and performance space, gallery, meeting rooms, rehearsal space and community kitchen.

### **Vancouver Co-operative Radio (Community Radio Edn.Soc.)**

\$75,000

Assistance with the costs of moving the existing radio station to the newly-renovated Sunrise Hotel on East Hastings Street.

### **Vancouver Dance Foundation** \$900,000

The City has long supported the Vancouver dance community's dream of a suitable collective rehearsal and production facility. In 1999 Council reaffirmed its support by providing the largest ever capital grant to an independent cultural organization as well as support through a heritage density bonus for the Dance Centre site at Granville and Davie Street.

## City-owned Capital Projects

### **Vancouver Museum Commission** \$1,660,000

Phase 3 of a capital revitalization program: to create the Joyce Walley Learning Centre, new galleries and exhibit infrastructure for the permanent exhibition, *The Vancouver Story*.

### **Firehall Arts Centre** \$2,500

Completion of a \$265,000 exterior restoration project started in 1998, which won a Vancouver Heritage Award. This final component is for a new wrought-iron fence to enclose the backyard performance area.

### **Pacific Cine Centre** \$15,000

Funds to improve the heating and ventilation system and to make improvements to the lobby and public areas of this City-owned cinema, home to Pacific Cinéma-thèque and Cineworks.

### **Vancouver East Cultural Centre** \$32,500

Capital improvements to replace the furnace and fire exits, and to improve the air conditioning.

## Facility Development

In addition to contributing to facility development through Capital grants, the City actively seeks opportunities to acquire art spaces through zoning incentives such as density bonusing, where the City, in partnership with private developers, seeks affordable cultural or social service facilities at no cost to taxpayers.

Approved and/or completed in 1999:

A 5,500 sq.ft. art gallery through an amenity bonus agreement at 555 Nelson Street, which will become the new home of the Contemporary Art Gallery.

A 30-unit artists Live/Work studio co-op which the City bonused as a condition of rezoning of The Edge, 289 Alexander Street, and leased to a non-profit housing co-op, CORE.

A 15-year lease of one artist live/work studio secured as a condition of development and sub-leased by the City to a low-income artist for a term of three years at \$325 per month.

A community-use agreement, secured as a condition of rezoning, which provides for use of the Plaza of Nations by Vancouver-based non-profit cultural groups for up to three days per month.



## PUBLIC ART PROGRAMS

The City's Public Art Program promotes the development of public art in three distinct contexts: in City and Park Board capital projects; in major new private developments; and, by means of community public art grants, in neighbourhoods. The program is managed by the Office of Cultural Affairs in partnership with other civic departments. A Council-appointed volunteer advisory committee gives policy direction and practical advice on program implementation to City Council, staff, artists, and citizens. Separate juries of artists and community representatives select artists for each project.

### Public Art Committee

Theresa Best, editor  
Sheila Hall, artist and teacher, Emily Carr Institute  
Gordon Brent Ingram, landscape architect  
Johnny Leung, architect  
Robert McCarthy, developer  
Leah MacFarlane, architect  
Elisabeth Roy, artist and teacher, Emily Carr Institute  
Joanne Silver, businesswoman  
Claudette Dayan, artist

### Civic Public Art

Civic public art (capital) projects incorporate public art work into civic buildings, infrastructure, parks, and public open spaces. Civic projects typically incorporate a high degree of public consultation in the definition of the artist opportunity.

In 1999, a major public art process was initiated in a triangular street allowance at the corner of Keefer and Columbia streets ("Keefer Triangle") in Vancouver's historic Chinatown. Artists were provided with a prospectus containing detailed information about the site's present and historic uses, its social history, its architectural context, and recent revitalization initiatives. Ninety-eight proposals were received. The selected project is expected to be completed in 2001.

Following up on the "pole art" process which saw work by four artists commissioned for the tops of 17 utility poles along the 37th Avenue (Ridgeway) Greenway, budgets were approved and opportunities were defined for the Ridgeway Greenway's extension east from Victoria Drive to Burnaby's Central Park. These new projects are expected to be completed in 2000/2001.

## Private Sector Program

Private sector projects are incorporated into public realm areas of large (164,000 sq. ft. or greater) new developments which resulted from a land-use rezoning. Privately initiated public art work may be sited in publicly accessible areas of the private lands or in adjacent publicly owned lands.

Katherine Kerr's *Milky Way*, which employs ceramics, bronze-insets, and fibre-optic cable to relate Vancouver's maritime history to larger celestial patterns, was completed in 1999. The work is embedded in the block-long pathway running diagonally through this twin-tower development at 1300 West Georgia Street.

As well, public art processes were initiated at various sites at False Creek North. At Marinaside Crescent, just east of Davie Street, Chris Dikeakos and Noel Best's *Lookout* was commissioned to provide rain shelter and "portals" looking out over False Creek from the public median separating the street and the sea wall. Al McWilliams' *No Title*, a large, sunflower-like rosette constructed of granite, was commissioned to sit in the middle of a reflecting pool located in Landmark Mews, a privately owned but public right-of-way which connects Pacific Boulevard and the sea wall at False Creek. Alan Storey has been commissioned to create art work based on the industrial history of the site at Coopers Mews, another public right-of-way connecting Pacific Boulevard and Marinaside Crescent and the sea wall. These projects will be completed in 2000/2001.

### Community Public Art

The Community Public Art program invites artists and other design professionals to collaborate with residents on the conception and production of permanent or semi-permanent art works for important neighbourhood sites.

#### Dragonfly 2

(sponsored by Aunt Leah's Independent Lifeskills Soc.) \$18,000  
The second phase of a community sculptures project on the theme of insects and flight. The sculptures "perch" on public buildings, bus shelters and fences, adding humour and visual interests to the streetscapes in the Marpole/Oakridge area.

#### Grandview Terrace Welcoming Poles

(sponsored by Britannia Community Services Centre) \$20,000  
As part of a larger multi-year schoolyard greening campaign, the project involved students and community members in creating two suliias (half-totem poles) under the direction of a First Nations carver. The poles are part of an open-air classroom and community meeting space in the form of a Longhouse.

#### Offerings: A Mural and Garden Installation

(sponsored by Urban Native Youth Association) \$15,800

The project will create a set of urban totems for the Firehall Arts Centre and complement these with a sculpture/garden installation.

**Stepping Stones to the Future**

(sponsored by École Jules Quesnel) \$3,000  
Creation of a pebble mosaic to enhance the front entry and playground area of the school.

**Water Play Wall**

(sponsored by Hastings Community Association) \$17,000  
Local residents in collaboration with a landscape architect/artist will create a mosaic wall to act as a colourful backing to a new "water play wall" being built in Hastings Park.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Transit Shelter Advertising

In partnership with Pattison Outdoor, the City provides non-profit arts organizations with low-cost access to transit shelter advertising spaces throughout Vancouver. In 1999, 34 Vancouver arts organizations promoted festivals, concerts, theatre and dance performances, and art gallery exhibitions through the program, receiving \$161,330 worth of free advertising, while contributing \$15,470 in posting fees.

City Awards

**1999 CITY OF VANCOUVER BOOK AWARD**

Bud Osborn, for *Keys to Kingdoms*, Get to the Point Publishing  
In recognition of Vancouver's vibrant writing and publishing community, the City gives a \$2,000 annual award to the author of an outstanding book that contributes to an appreciation of the city's history, unique character or the achievements of its residents.

**1999-2002 CITY OF VANCOUVER ARTIST RESIDENCY AWARD**

Steven Shearer  
The award is designed to recognize the work of a Vancouver professional artist by awarding rent-free occupancy of a City-owned artist live/work studio for a three-year term, based on criteria that include financial need and artistic merit.

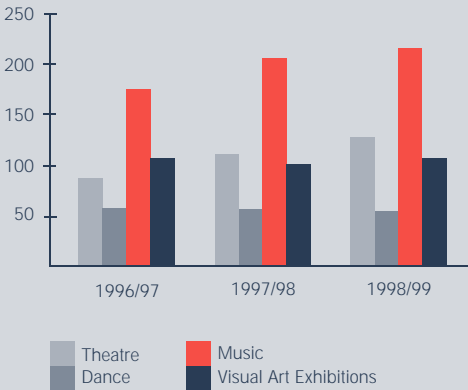
**1999-2002 CITY OF VANCOUVER ARTIST LIVE/WORK RENTAL AWARD**

Alison MacTaggart  
A professional artist, selected by a jury, is awarded occupancy of an artist live/work studio for a three-year term at \$325 per month based on criteria that include financial need and artistic merit.

STATS

The following statistics are based on information from a core group of 100 non-profit cultural grant applicants that have provided data for at least three consecutive years. The Office of Cultural Affairs will continue to report on these in subsequent Annual Reviews. The group does not include the five large exhibiting institutions.

Activity in Vancouver



Based on reported activity of a core group of 100, plus the VAG

## VOLUNTEERS

Almost 12,000 volunteers contributed 386,000 hours of service to the 100 core non-profit art organizations in 1999.

## Public Attendance

Attendance at public performances and visual arts exhibitions in Vancouver was 1,952,500 in 1998/99, up 6% from two years earlier.

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

In 1998/99, over 412,400 students attended performances by Vancouver arts organizations in their schools. Forty percent of these student were in Vancouver schools, 35% were in schools in other Lower Mainland municipalities, and

the remaining 25% were in schools in the rest of British Columbia.

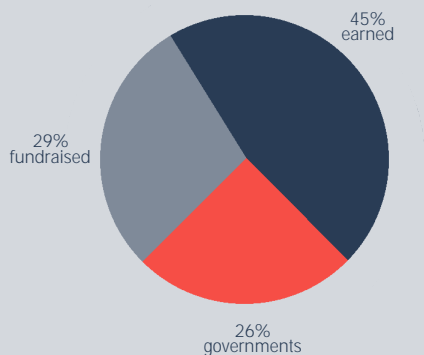
## EMPLOYMENT

Employment in full-time and part-time, permanent and seasonal positions is rising in Vancouver's non-profit arts sector. In the 100 core arts organizations, almost 6,600 positions were reported in 1999, an increase of nearly 1,000 positions or 17% since 1997.

## REVENUES

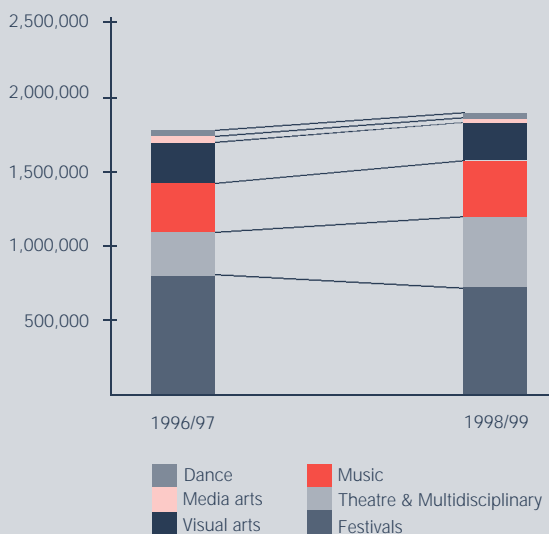
Total revenues of the 100 core non-profit arts organizations reached \$59.4 million in 1998/99 — an increase of 19% from two years earlier.

## Revenues 1998/99



Based on reported activity of a core group of 100 (does not include the five large exhibiting institutions).

## Attendance in Vancouver



Based on reported activity of a core group of 100, plus the VAG

## HOW TO REACH US

Office address:

Suite 100 - 515 West 10th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC, Canada

Mailing address:

Office of Cultural Affairs  
Community Services Group  
City of Vancouver, 453 West 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC, Canada V5Y 1V4

Tel (604) 873-7487 Fax (604) 871-6048

Email: [oca@city.vancouver.bc.ca](mailto:oca@city.vancouver.bc.ca)

Website: [www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/oca](http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/oca)

## Translations

This report describes the activities of the Office of Cultural Affairs in the City of Vancouver

Ce dépliant décrit les activités de l'Office des Affaires Culturelles de la Ville de Vancouver

Este folleto describe las actividades de la Oficina de Asuntos Culturales de la Municipalidad de Vancouver

Tài liệu này liệt kê những chương trình do Phòng Văn Hóa Thành Phố Vancouver thực hiện

ਇਹ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਵੈਨਕੂਵਰ ਸ਼ਹਿਰ ਦੇ ਸੱਭਿਆਚਾਰਕ ਕਾਰਜਵਿਧਾਨ ਦਫਤਰ ਦੀ ਸਰਗਰਮੀ ਵਾਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦਿੰਦਾ ਹੈ।

本單張介紹溫哥華市政府屬下文化事務部的活動與工作。

Thank you to all the cultural organizations that sent photographs to help illustrate this report.

Cover Images from left to right:

Wendy Thatcher in The Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company's *She Stoops to Conquer*, 1999/2000 Season. Photo: Tim Matheson

Arts Umbrella Creative Movement Classes explore rhythms and music from around the world.

Chris Dikeakos and Noel Best's *Lookout*. Photo: Barbara Cole

Ballet British Columbia, *The Goldberg*. Dancer: Andrea Hodge. Choreographer: John Alleyne. Photo: David Cooper

Design by Steedman Design

Printed on recycled paper by

Benwell Atkins Printers

© September 2000

