

2019 YEAR IN
REVIEW



 **ARTS COUNCIL
WINDSOR & REGION**



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FROM ACWR**



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**GOODBYE
FROM ACWR**



JUDE ABU ZAINEH

A Message from the **BOARD**

Dear Members,

I look back on the last year with incredible pride for ACWR. Our members, staff, volunteers, and community partners have elevated the work of the organization.

Julie Tucker and Talysha Bujold-Abu have brought the community into ACWR and ACWR into the community. One of the highlights for me this year was Tujjak: Nunavut Art Pop-Up Shop, which highlighted the work of artists from Nunavut. The emphasis and enthusiasm for Indigenous art has been apparent throughout the programming this year.

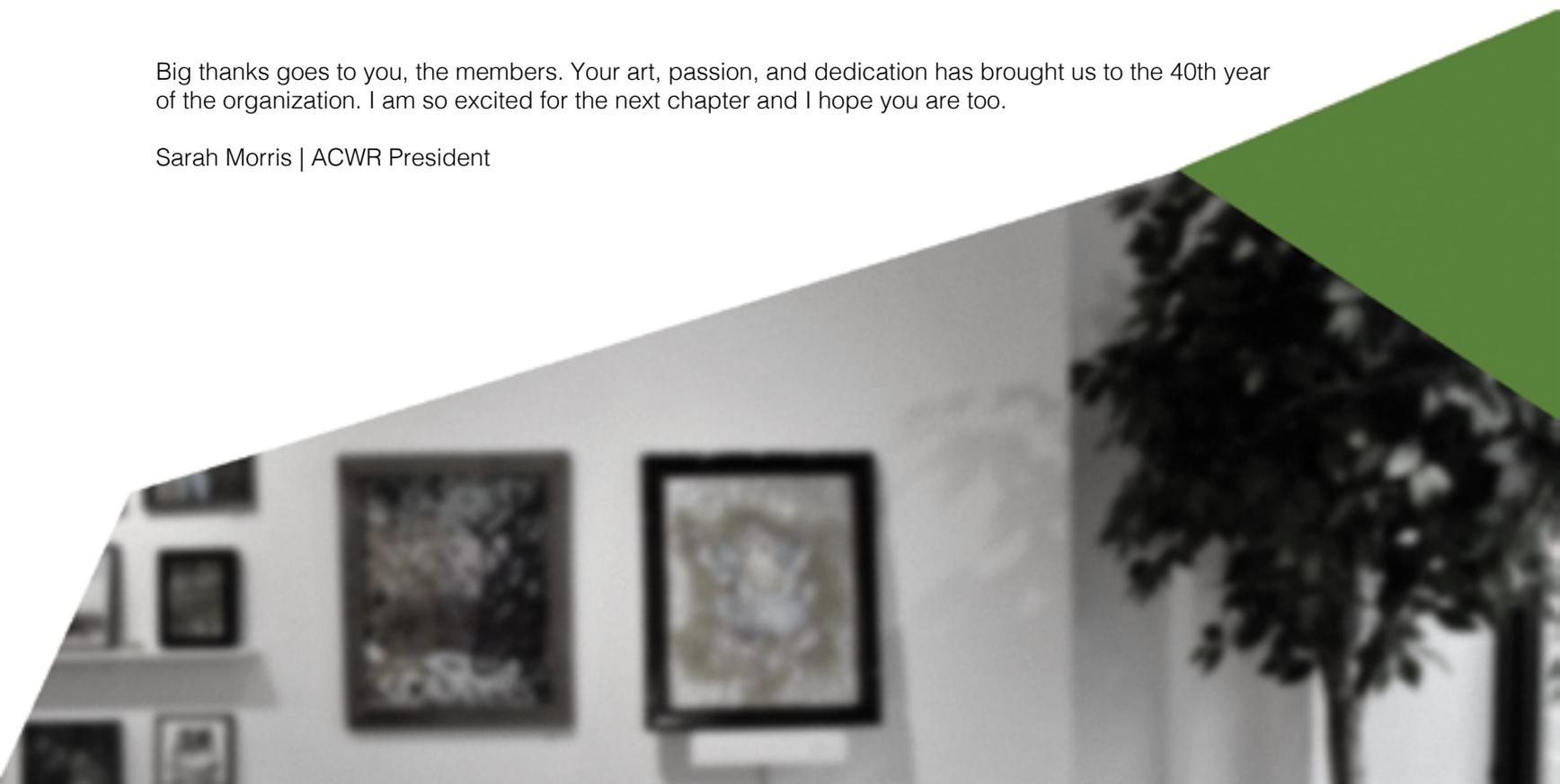
Vanguard Youth Arts Collective has been an exemplary part of the organization and the broader community. The 100 Journals Project, in partnership with several stellar organizations, has rightfully been gaining attention and accolades.

2020 is an important year for the organization as we usher in our 40th anniversary. We will be celebrating four decades of outstanding art in the community and looking to the future of the organization. I hope you will join with us in the planning, implementing, and of course, celebrating.

I would like to thank our Directors who have left the board this year: Jude Abu Zaineh and Gemma Smyth. Both brought great insight and contributions to ACWR and we wish them the best in their new adventures. I would also like to extend a big thank you to Jolie Inthavong who is finishing her term on the Board. She has previously served as Chair and has been a great help and partner for me as I stepped into that role.

Big thanks goes to you, the members. Your art, passion, and dedication has brought us to the 40th year of the organization. I am so excited for the next chapter and I hope you are too.

Sarah Morris | ACWR President



Updates from **STAFF**

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND ADVOCACY

I feel very proud that plans that were hatched when I first began in fall 2016 have come to fruition. I acknowledge all of the hard work of ACWR's past Directors and Staff who have guided the organisation. The past strategic plan had provided a successful way forward.

Firstly, I would like to thank my fellow staff including our talented students who lend us their expertise and enthusiasm: Talysha, Dominic, Paul, Evageline, Czarina and Laura. I would also like to thank the Board of Directors and our student volunteers Kristen and Ruby and the amazing Vanguard Youth Arts collective: Sophie, Stephen, Kristina and Sam. They are definitely our future leaders. It is the people who make this organisation grow and thrive and I am lucky to have worked with them all.

In this past year, it was great to see the exchange between the Nunavut Crafts Association and that great friendships that were formed between Windsorites and Nunavummi. The growth and progression of the FREE SPACE project. The first ever Cultural Industry Day and the Art + Law Indigenous Artist in Residence and the great conversations held at Art Share. These are just a few of the undertakings in our past fiscal year and they would not have been possible without our generous sponsors, funders, partners and volunteers. I would like to thank the Ontario Arts Council and the City of Windsor.

Our new way forward in the next five years, like the last three, will be guided by the strategic plan, the concerns of artists, cultural workers and the needs of our community. We live in a time of shrinking public funding, climate crisis, reconciliation and economic disparity and in the face of these struggles, I hope that our organisation continues to be a leader in bringing communities together. I know that we will continue to form meaningful and beneficial partnerships with the community.

Most importantly, I would like to thank all the members past and present. It is all of you that have kept this organisation going for 39 years. I ask all of you reading this to let people know about the ACWR and to become a member to support our work going forward.

Thank you,
Julie Tucker

GALLERY AND MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

One year, done! A sincere thank-you to our members, staff and board, and exceptional volunteer team for their continued support, dedication, and creativity.

Arts Council Windsor & Region and ArtSpeak Gallery are an integral pair; a resource, an artistic hub and point of connection - it has been an absolute pleasure to work alongside our local talent, as exhibitions go-up and come-down.

It is in these moments of transition that I witness the source, the energy of our creative community: dedication, exploration and a passion for the arts.

I look forward to welcoming in 2020 with ACWR.

Talysha Bujold-Abu

VANGUARD

A Year in Review

2019 for the Windsor-Essex community was rich in arts programming, including contributions from the members of the Vanguard Youth Arts Collective! Our year started off strong with the launch of our 100 Journals Project, supported by Windsor Endowment for the Arts. Young artists from a variety of community spaces were encouraged to share their lived experiences through written word, imagery, photography and other forms of expression that can be communicated through the sketchbooks. We were fortunate to take these journals on the road, bringing them to Art by the River in Amherstburg, the University of Windsor's Alternative Welcome Week, and 'Night Of', our free monthly artist meet-ups.

When we were not working on our own projects, Vanguard members were attending and participating in arts events throughout the region such as the Arts & Culture SHSM /ICE Workshop at the School of Visual Arts, Artcite's Art Share Panel, and exhibiting in the DIY Urban Symposium at the University of Windsor. Towards the end of the year we were able to host Windsor's very first Mess Fest 2019: a week long festival offering unique art events throughout the city. These events included: a film screening, paint night, photography and sewing workshops, drag show, and more with collaborations from creative hubs in the city such as Villain's Beastro, Full Circle Vintage, N9A Studios, and Phog Lounge.

We are pleased to end this year with exciting news after receiving word that Vanguard is a recipient of the RBC Future Launch Community Challenge grant for our Beyond Borders Project. This opportunity will help us to expand and reimagine the 100 Journals Project across Essex County.

Through these many experiences, Vanguard has learned that initiative, mindfulness and willingness to learn is the key to building a community. In the new year we hope to reach even more communities and collaborate with talented local artists for our upcoming initiatives.



2019 Accomplishments

PROMOTION

ARTS NOTES

ACWR manages the only comprehensive art and cultural calendar and accompanying weekly newsletter - ArtsNotes, with nearly 1000 subscribers. ACWR website (acwr.net) acts as a virtual hub for arts and culture in the Windsor Essex Region. Arts Notes Sponsors in 2019: City of Windsor - Cultural Affairs Office, Etsy: Made in Canada, Wathing Glory Die - Windsor Feminist Theatre, St. Clair College - Continuing Education, The Arts and Culture Alliance of Windsor Essex Region.

OUTREACH & INFO SESSIONS

Let's Talk | Strategic Planning Session
Crit Night Volume II | In partnership with local artists
Creative Space Rentals | Artsbuild Ontario
Funding and Organizing Media Arts and Artist-Run Culture | Media Arts Network of Ontario
Junos Panel 2019 | City Music Exchange, Panel Discussion
Climate Strike | Friday for Future
DIY Urbanism Symposium | Extending the Conversation & Action, Panel Discussion
Theatre Networking Discussion | Scheduled 2020
Arts & Culture SHSM / ICE Workshop | 2019

SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram: 1136 // 1395
Facebook: 1839 // 2450
Twitter: 2506 // 2551

PARTNERSHIPS

WORKING WITH THE ENVIRONMENT

(April 30th - May 3rd, 2019) The 9th Annual Working with the Environment, Highschool Art Show - a collaborative partnership supported by Unifor 200. This event provides local high school students an opportunity to showcase their artistic talents and share their work with the community: works of art that reflect the theme of the "environment", "working (labour)" or a combination of both.

Thank-you to the WWE jury: Karen McClellan, Debby Grant and Evangeline John.

TUJJAK NUNAVUT ART POP-UP SHOP

(March 4 - March 22 2019) March 2019 the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association (NACA) in partnership with the Arts Council of Windsor & Region presented Tujjak: Nunavut Art Pop-Up Shop – an opportunity to experience beautiful, contemporary works sourced from Canada's most creative region.

In Inuktitut (the Inuit language), Tujjak is an island where one lands and makes a temporary camp – an apt metaphor for a temporary shop featuring the work of Nunavummiut artists. In the spirit of connecting Northern artists and their works with Canada's most Southern city, a public celebration was held, along with a series of workshops led by Inuk makers.





CULTURAL INDUSTRY DAY

(April 2019) Developed by the Arts Council Windsor & Region in partnership with Workforce WindsorEssex, this event was designed to address a growing need in our region - for a burgeoning creative workforce to be nurtured and supported through education and connectivity. A success with over 225 students attending and participating in breakout workshops. Speakers included: Chelsea Greenwell, Daniel Bombardier (Enjoy Denial), Elaine Chatwood, Jody Boston, Meredith Finch, Stefan Cvetkovic (Datsunn)

This program is presented in support by a committee of teachers and board representatives from: the Greater Essex County District School Board, the Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board, Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence - with sponsors and partners; St. Clair College, University of Windsor's Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, and the City of Windsor.

CULTURE DAYS

(September 24-28, 2019) Culture Days is a national celebration of arts and culture; inviting the public to get hands-on and behind-the-scenes as a means of highlighting the importance of arts and culture in our communities.

The Colour of Art by The Artists of Colour (September 27, 2019) - featured a weeklong exhibition by The Artists of Colour and reception event that included poetry readings, musical performances, and a presentation of literary work on slave narratives.

The Artists of Colour - formed in 2008, have become a positive voice through art forms by black artists within the Canadian Diaspora. The Artists of Colour is a group comprised of artists whose mandate it is to speak boldly of our history through the visual and oral language of art.

ISLAMIC HERITAGE MONTH

(October 18-20, 2019) ACWR is partnered with The Initiative Core Gallery (IGNR) and The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at (AMJ) to honour and celebrate Islamic Heritage Month - featuring the artwork of Hadi Ali Chaudhary. Events included a reception, calligraphy workshop drop-in, and meet & greet.

FURTHER CONNECTIONS

Women in Culture Month | May 2019

MayWorks 2019 | Art + Feminism, Wikipedia Edit-a-thon

MayWorks 2019 | Working with the Environment, High School Exhibition

MayWorks 2019 | For Hire, Exhibition and Publication

Art by the River | Vanguard Youth Arts Collective

Etsy: Made in Canada | Vanguard Youth Arts Collective

Climate Strike | Friday for Future

World Indigenous Law Conference | 2167 VR Touring project & Indigenous Art + Law Residency

Windsor International Film Festival (WIFF) | One Day In The Life Of Noah Piogattuk, Opening Remarks

SUPPORT

ART.WORK WORKSHOPS

The Arts Council Windsor and Region partners with artists, organizations and businesses to provide special programs, including: professional development, creative learning and networking opportunities for artists of all ages and all disciplines. All ACWR programs aim to infuse arts and culture into everyday life, while giving artists and community organizations the opportunity to come together to facilitate discussion and connection.

FREESPACE - 2019

FREESPACE began out of a community need, Windsor & Region needed a space for professional development opportunities in the arts. FREESPACE Residency Program is a great opportunity: to build your resume, to rehearse, to explore, to document.

2018/2019 - Kristina Bradt and Abigail Roelens

2019/2020 - *to be announced*

CURATORIAL FREESPACE - 2019/2020

(2019/2020) Curatorial FREE SPACE - ACWR partnered with the Art Gallery of Windsor and Arcite Inc. to host three exhibitions of contemporary art, curated by emerging curators. ACWR initiated this project because artists in the Windsor-Essex community felt there was a lack of critically engaged curation of regional artists.

Each exhibition includes a publication, published by Woodbridge Farm Books, Windsor ON. The inaugural exhibition, For Hire curated by Anthony Youssef (May 2019) featured local artists Natalie Nadeau and Vince Kogut. For Hire explored how they employ the subject of labour in their practice as both process and aesthetic; a reflection on the socio-economic climate in a post-industrial city. In 2020, the curators are Nadja Pelkey and Adrienne Crossman.

MEMBERSHIP & GRANT CONSULTATION

Members of the Arts Council of Windsor & Region are artists, art supporters, arts administrators, arts organizations and community members; whether working or supporting in the creative industries, ACWR strives to keep our members connected, to gain access to valuable resources and learn about artistic/professional development opportunities.

MEMBER BENEFITS

- Reduced Fees on ACWR programs and rentals
- Opportunities to exhibit
- Become a part of the artistic community & support creative endeavours throughout the region
- Access to online resources and our In-Office Resource Library
- Grant Consultation (Ontario Arts Council and the Arts, Cultural & Heritage Fund)
- Access to Health Insurance through The Arts & Entertainment Plan with AFBS
- Deals & Discounts at our wide range of Partnered regional cultural providers

VOLUNTEER & ON THE JOB TRAINING

ACWR hosted and facilitated multiple work study programs (over 2000+ hours) through partnerships with: Canada Summer Jobs, Oneida Nation of the Thames, the University of Windsor Volunteer Internship Program (VIP), and the Greater Essex Public School Board Co-op Program.

ACWR extends a sincere thank-you to our exceptional team - Paul Napigkit, Dominic Pinney, Evangeline John, Kristin Cochrane, Madison North, Ruby Mckinnon

ADVOCACY

ADVOCACY PAGE

ACWR developed a comprehensive page outlining both the economic and social case for the arts. It provides the community at large with media assets, statistics, and an advocacy toolkit. "Widely known as an automotive manufacturing hub and a border region, Windsor-Essex's art scene is inclusive of a variety of artistic disciplines and organizations represented by the talent and dedication of its diverse community. Arts and culture create communities that thrive along with preserving its historical significance and forming a unique identity as an industrious prolific city. Through continued support, the ACWR is able to keep its commitment of providing valuable services and programs to the community that increases accessibility for the arts, cultivate skills, and create opportunities for professional development.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2024

ACWR hired local company DARE impact consulting to conduct our 5 year strategic plan. Stakeholder engagement process included five points of contact: In September 2018, was a consultation event with members. In December 2018 and January 2019, key community partners participated in interviews. In January 2019 members of the Board and staff participated in a survey and a strategic planning session. In February and March of 2019, members participated in the 2019 survey.

ARTS VOTE 2019

#ArtsVote 2019 - Arts Council Windsor & Region (ACWR) shared each party's platform on arts, culture and heritage and disseminated these findings on all three social media channels. By sharing this information with the Windsor-Essex-Pelee community, we hope to assist the public with making an informed decision

ARTICLES/REVIEWS/RADIO

Reader's Digest - "PUSHING BOUNDARIES: Bringing together the historical and the contemporary in Anishinaabe art", Barry Ace Indigenous Art + Law Residency featured in the August/September 2019

Windsor Star (photos) - Black History in Windsor explored at ArtSpeak | with Nick Branicaccio

CBC Listen (live radio) - DIY Urbanism | with Tony Doucette

Matins sans frontières - Windsor Heat Exhibition, interview with Evangeline John

AM800 (pipeline) - Windsor Heat Exhibition

The Drive Magazine - All About Community, Arts Council Windsor & Region is here to Support You | Social Drive, with Tita Kyrtsakas

CBC (live radio) - Cultural Industry Day in Windsor | with Jonathan Pinto

Windsor Star (photos) - Students learn about making a living in the arts industry | with Dan Janisse

Windsor Star (photos) - Nunavut Art Pop Up Shop | with Nick Branicaccio

CBC News - The Windsor-Iqaluit art exchange continues with pop-up selling Nunavummiut works | with Tony Smyth

Windsor Star - Gallery features Walkerville students' artwork | with Mary Caton

CLIMATE STRIKE (September 20, 2019)

"Our house is on fire: sound the alarm." - Greta Thunberg

ACWR is taking initiative to become a zero waste organization to reduce our carbon footprint - we hope to bring the importance of global climate awareness to the community.

ARTS SHARE

(June 27, 2019) Connecting Community | Panel Discussion - The region and its diversity continues to increase, and this growth is an undeniable part of our identity. Arts Share Panel asks, How can we ensure that our programming, services, and organisations reflect a multicultural community?

Community-based organizations that represent both Windsor and Hamtramck will discuss the importance and significance of inclusion, in both the services and programs they offer; exploring the important role grassroots organizations play in connecting marginalized and other communities through the arts. Featuring Panelists: Alissa Shelton – Bank Suey, Hamtramck USA, Jessica Rachel Cook – Artist/Educator, Windsor ON, Hugo Vega – YMCA of Southwestern Ontario, Windsor ON with Moderator: Czarina Mendoza, Windsor ON.

THANK YOU

FUNDERS



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CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

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un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario



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WFCU
Workforce Windsor Essex

VOLUNTEERS

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Kristina Bradt
Kristin Cochrane
Sue Cole
Stephen Drouin
Samantha Glinski
Jodi Green
Sophie Hinch
Xavier Imani
Evangeline John
Ruby Mckinnon
Paul Napigkit
Madison North
Nadja Pelkey
Dominic Pinney
Rebecca Welbourne

ACWR PARTNERS

Deals & Discounts with your ACWR Membership!

ART GALIA

1255 Tecumseh Rd E | Tecumseh ON
artgalia.com

15% off custom framing, 10% off art supplies and art classes

THE GIBSON GALLERY

140 Richmond St | Amherstburg ON
gibsongallery.com

10% off Artisan Shoppe sales

INTUNE MUSIC

934 Ottawa St | Windsor ON
intunewindsor.com

25% off first month's group classes

WINDSOR JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

1641 Ouelette Ave | Windsor ON
jewishwindsor.org

Member's rates on all activities and rentals

LEVIGATOR PRESS

1984 Wyandotte St E | Windsor ON
levigatorpress.ca

15% off all classes

LEAMINGTON ARTS CENTRE

72 Talbot St W | Leamington ON

SEAA/LAC Member's rates on group shows

MIRROR WORLD PUBLISHING

mirrorworldpublishing.com

15% off online sales with code: MWPARTS

SHO: ART, SPIRIT & PERFORMANCE

628 Monmouth Rd | Windsor ON
sho-studios.com

\$5 off select events

HOT POP FACTORY

<https://www.hotpopfactory.com/>

15% discount on Hot Pop Factory's laser cutting, laser engraving, and 3D printing services.

TALoola CAFE

390 Devonshire Rd | Windsor ON
taloolacafe.com

Free select beverage with purchase over \$5

SYMCHYSHYN PHOTOGRAPHIC

symchyshyn.com

15% off studio quotes (portraits, studio work etc.)

NANCY JOHNS GALLERY & FRAMING

4755 Wyandotte St E | Windsor ON
nancyjohns.com

15% off custom framing

COMMON GROUND GALLERY

3277 Sandwich St | Windsor ON

Free entrance to all events and free button at the door

GHOSTLIGHT PLAYERS

theatrewithoutfear.com

\$5 off theatre ticket prices at the door

UNIVERSITY PLAYERS

uwindsor.ca/universityplayers/

ACT UP! Ticket (\$8 Saturday Mattinee)

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS

Art Gallery of Windsor
Canadian Arts Productions
Ecole secondaire l'Essor
Essex District High School
Everywhere All the Time Productions
F.J. Brennan Catholic High School
Media City Film Festival
MMA Architect Inc.
Multicultural Council of Windsor Essex
Riverfront InterArts
Royal Canadian College of Organists
The Arts & Cultural Alliance of Windsor Essex
The Gourmet Imporium
Walkerville Collegiate Institute
W.E. Trans Support
Windsor Community Choir
Windsor Youth Centre

NEW!

