

AGENDA
Board of Directors Meeting #6 2023
HYBRID (in person and virtual)
Tannery Room, Aurora Town Hall

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 299 554 340 132

Passcode: NSzsou

Wednesday July 12, 2023 @ 7pm

John De Faveri, Chair

1 (1 min)	Agenda MOTION to Approve the Agenda	John De Faveri
2 (1 min)	Previous Minutes MOTION to approve the minutes for 5A and 5C Board meetings on June 14, 2023	John De Faveri
3 (1 min)	Statements of Conflict of Interest	ALL
4 (20 min)	Guest: Michael A. King, Acera Insurance Presentation and Q & A on Insurance coverage	
5 (45 min)	Executive Committee Report from the committee	John De Faveri
6 (45 min)	Finance & Audit Committee Report from the committee - Interim Financial Statement to May 31, 2023 2024-2026 DRAFT Budget – for discussion (approval in September) MOTION to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to May 31, 2023 MOTION to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report	Michelle Lockie
7 (5 min)	Executive Director Report Monthly Report – reporting on June MOTION to Receive the Executive Director Report	Suzanne Haines
8 (5 min)	Development Committee Report from the Committee 2023 YTD report MOTION to Accept the Development Committee Report	

9	New Business	ALL
10	Next Meeting September 13, 2023 at 7pm	
11	MOTION to Adjourn Meeting	ALL

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In attendance: John De Faveri, Damien Chan, Sharon Kelly, Morry Patoka, Michelle Lockie, Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi (virtual), Parisa Sabet (virtual), Edlene Antonio, Alicia Lauzon

Regrets: Anita Townsend

Staff: Suzanne Haines (Executive Director)

Wednesday July 12, 2023 @ 7pm

John De Faveri, Chair

1 (1 min)	Agenda MOTION to Approve the Agenda MOVED by: Michelle Lockie 2 nd . Damien Chan CARRIED	John De Faveri
2 (1 min)	Previous Minutes MOTION to approve the minutes for 5A and 5C Board meetings on June 14, 2023 MOVED by: Morry Patoka 2 nd . Michelle Lockie CARRIED	John De Faveri
3 (1 min)	Statements of Conflict of Interest	ALL
4 (20 min)	Guest: Michael A. King, Acera Insurance Presentation and Q & A on Insurance coverage	
5 (45 min)	Executive Committee Report from the committee Board directs staff to continue to pursue a partnership relationship with the Town for the Aurora Town Square project. Councillors request staff and ACC Board continue to educate Town Council and staff about the excellent service ACC can provide to help make Town Square a success. MOTION to Accept the Executive Committee Report MOVED by: Damien Chan	John De Faveri

	2 nd : Morry Patoka CARRIED	
6 (45 min)	Finance & Audit Committee Report from the committee - Interim Financial Statement to May 31, 2023 2024-2026 DRAFT Budget – for discussion (approval in September) MOTION to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to May 31, 2023 MOVED by: Edlene Antonio 2 nd . Damien Chan CARRIED MOTION to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report MOVED by: Morry Patoka 2 nd . Edlene Antonio CARRIED	Michelle Lockie
7 (5 min)	Executive Director Report Monthly Report – reporting on June MOTION to Receive the Executive Director Report MOVED by: Sharon Kelly 2 nd . Michelle Lockie CARRIED	Suzanne Haines
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Parisa Sabet
07/17/2023

June 2023

Special Events

2023-24 Performing Arts Season Launch

Voices of the World Phase One: In the Community

June 20, 2024

Aurora Armoury

Supporters and partners with the Aurora Cultural Centre joined us in celebrating Phase One (October to January) of our concert program mix at venues throughout the community. Mingling Folk, Jazz and Classical music, the season will feature a half-dozen Aurora debuts along with some familiar faces. See the first half of our season here:

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/performing-arts/>

Performing Arts Programming

G'zaagiin maleñki – I Promise You a Forest

WeeFestival

June 3, 2023

Aurora Seniors Centre

Attendance: SOLD OUT 50 Registered with waitlist (capacity 50)

Inspired by the seasons and the Indigenous Medicine Wheel, an Abitibi experimental cellist, an Anishinabeg artist and traditional musician, and a Polish-born director, unite to create an immersive space full of sounds, textures and poetic movement for young children to discover.

Drum, cello, voice, breath and the stage tell the story of the encounter of these three women who intertwine past and present, tradition and contemporaneity in a poetic and inclusive process. This immersive theatrical music concert will stimulate your senses and warm your heart! G'Zaagiin means I love you!

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/weefestival/>

Seiler Trio

June 10, 2023

Trinity Anglican Church

Attendance: 67 (capacity 257) plus 51 livestream views

The Seiler Trio brings together three outstanding Canadian musicians, exploring the great traditions of the piano trio repertoire with their unique blend of intensity, passion and generosity, along with forays into different styles and new Canadian music. Mayumi, Rachel and

Angela have performed together in various formations over the last two decades, with the Via Salzburg Chamber Series, Ensemble Made In Canada, and the Mercer-Park Duo, and since 2010 as the Seiler Trio.

"...the audience was transfixed as Seiler and Mercer weaved lyrically in and out with their violin and cello respectively, between an equally memorable piano part by Park...Seiler and Mercer demonstrated seemingly effortless ease...all three ladies played with passion and emotion, leaving even the most athletic people in the room in awe of their stamina."

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/seiler-trio/>

John Sheard present 'The Last Hurrah'

Matinee and Evening performances

June 17, 2023

Aurora Armoury

Attendance - Matinee: 117 (capacity 150)

Attendance - Evening: SOLD OUT 150 (capacity 150)

It was John's final stop in Aurora, and he brought a hand-picked band and vocalists to cap off his legendary series. The repertoire was classic Sheard, featuring a first half of favourite selections from The Mamas & the Papas, and The Lovin' Spoonful. After the break, it was a look back at some of his most popular shows, artists and repertoire from the past 12 years. Selections from the British Invasion, the Beatles, Ella & Louis, Ron Hynes, a country tune or two, more Canadian Folk Legends, some favourite instrumentals – all wrapped up with stories and anecdotes from John's side of the piano bench.

Featuring: John Sheard, Russell deCarle, Mia Sheard, Greg Wyard, Sheila Carabine, Steve Briggs, Ryan Granville-Martin and Russ Boswell.

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/john-sheard-presents-mamas-and-papas-lovin-spoonful-matinee/>

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/john-sheard-presents-mamas-and-papas-lovin-spoonful/>

Gallery Programs

Seasons of Being

Solo Exhibition by Grace Shi

In person: May 11 – 18, 2023

Virtual: April 1 – June 3, 2023

Temporary Gallery Location: Aurora Town Hall, Second Floor

The Aurora Cultural Centre is shining a community spotlight on local artist Grace Shi. Having participated in numerous group exhibitions across the GTA, Shi holds an extensive portfolio of paintings and drawings waiting patiently to be presented in their own show. We are honoured to be the gallery to host Grace Shi's first ever solo exhibition!

Shi identifies one main protagonist in her artwork: the Light. She believes in the animism of the world; everything as a source of energy, life, and spirit. Often using the people closest to her in her life as inspiration; friends, families, and acquaintances, Shi uses the power of imagination to extend their spirit into the painted world around them. In *Seasons of Being*, Shi takes us on a fantastical journey through time and space. Through her artist lens we witness the world in transition between the four seasons of the year; landscapes lucid with life and change, and shining characters thriving within.

Grace Shi was born in China. After immigrating to Canada, she went to the Story Arts Centre of Centennial College to study Fine Arts. During her time at Centennial, she greatly enhanced her technical skills while broadening her vision as an artist and learned how to push her creative thinking into new realms. She finds inspiration for her paintings in everything around her. She combines media such as acrylic and oil paint to translate her profound awareness of the relationship of human society to nature in her artworks. She joined in the Fever Exhibition in March 2017 at Urban Gallery and the Emerging Show in April 2017 at Centennial Gallery. She also had paintings in the “Reverie” group show at the Artists Network Gallery in Toronto in March 2019. She has been a part of the Exhibition of Chinese Art and Education Association of Canada in the Chinese Cultural Central of Greater Toronto three times (July 2014, June 2015, and August 2017). During her education, she had joined many times in art exhibitions and won prizes for her work. Even at the beginning of her career, in 1988, she won the third prize in the Caricature Exhibition in Beijing.

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/seasons/>

Letters to the Earth: Between Despair and Hope

Group exhibition curated by Carmel Brennan

In person: June 3 – August 23, 2023

Virtual: June 3 – September 8

Temporary Gallery Location: Aurora Town Hall, Second Floor

Letters to the Earth: Between Despair and Hope is a conversation about the environmental crisis happening around the world and affecting Canadians directly. Prompted by curator Carmel Brennan, artists wrote a “letter to the earth” as part of their commitment to this exhibition; one exhibition of several occurring across Canada and abroad throughout 2023-2024.

“Letters to the Earth was a campaign begun in 2019 in the UK with a book of that title, in response to the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Scotland. The campaign called for a response to the awareness of climate change and an ecological emergency. “Letters to the Earth”, and a phrase spoken by Australian artist, Janet Laurence about being “between despair and hope’, struck me as significant. Letters to the Earth is an ongoing campaign. It is spreading around the world. To take a quote from the book of the same name, ‘we need to rethink and re-imagine what was previously deemed impossible. The stakes couldn’t be greater the time for action is now.’ I am on board with this action: Letters to the Earth – Between Despair and Hope.”

– Carmel Brennan, Curator of Letters to the Earth: Between Despair and Hope

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/letters-to-the-earth/>

Art Bytes: <https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/gallery-exhibitions/art-bytes/>

Art Byte #1: Installation of "Letters to the Earth: Between Despair and Hope"

Art Byte #2: Opening Reception of "Letters to the Earth: Between Despair and Hope"

Upcoming Gallery Exhibit

A Path to Totality

Solo Exhibition by Vicky Talwar

In person: September 9 – November 18, 2023

Temporary Gallery Location: Aurora Town Hall, Second Floor

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/a-path-to-totality/>

Education Programs

Summer Art Camp Programming

Our spring educational programs concluded in early June, below is a listing of the upcoming summer art camps for ages 4 – 12. These week-long camps run out of the Aurora Public Library with a capacity of 20 campers per class.

Program	Dates	Age Group	Capacity
The Wonderful World of Nature and Animals	July 3 - 7	4 - 6	20
The Wonderful World of Nature and Animals	July 3 - 7	7 - 12	20
Artistic Imaginations	July 10 - 14	4 - 6	20
Artistic Imaginations	July 10 - 14	7 - 12	20
Colour Around Us	July 17 - 21	4 - 6	20
Colour Around Us	July 17 - 21	7 - 12	20
Sculpt It!	July 24 - 28	4 - 6	20
Sculpt It!	July 24 - 28	7 - 12	20
Art Around the Globe	July 31 – August 4	7 - 12	20
Faces & Places	August 8 - 11	7 - 12	20
Art Through the Ages	August 14 - 18	7 - 12	20
Famous Artists and Their Styles	August 21 - 25	7 - 12	20
Now Streaming: Future Artists!	August 28 – September 1	7 - 12	20

Kaleidoscope in the Schools

Our KITS 2023-2024 program was launched at beginning of July 2023. The KITS 2023-2024 season will be available to 52 elementary schools including all Aurora schools, low-capacity schools across York Region, and the reserve school on Georgina Island. Each production has its own voice and vision for performing arts excellence with young audiences within the overall programming ethos of voices from Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities, with French and English offerings across several performing arts disciplines. Principals can make their selections through our website.

Artists / Production Company	Production Title	Language	Arts Discipline	Theme/Voice
Trevor Copp of Tottering Biped Theatre	Carnival of Animals/ Le Carnaval des Animaux	E/F	Theatre/Mime with Music	Classical music/storytelling
Little Pear Garden Dance	Tales of Goddesses and a Painter	E	Dance Theatre	Asian Heritage
Carousel Players	Lig & Bittle	E	Theatre	Storytelling

Chris McKoohl	Earth, Seas and Air	E	Music	Armenian
Lua Sheyenne	Yassama and the Beaded Calabash	E/F	Theatre	
Qiu Xia He and Andre Thibault	China Speaks Your Language/ JouTou	E/F	Music	
Mimi O'Bonsawin	(title TBD)	E/F	Music	
Kesha Christie	Talkin' Tales	E	Storytelling	

Administration

- Programming staff toured and met with the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto to discuss future collaborations. We will be meeting with the Japanese Cultural Centre and the Nia Centre (Black Arts Centre) in July to build relationships.
- Received approval for 3-year Canada Arts Presentation Fund grant for the 23-24, 24-25 and 25-26 seasons of performing arts presentations.
- Held Ontario Trillium Foundation recognition event at Chartwell Park Place for the OTF capital grant for the livestream hub. We announced a new partnership with Chartwell to bring livestreamed shows to retirement residences.

Human Resources

- Staff meet bi-weekly via Zoom to check in. Last meeting of the month is held in person.
- We are recruiting for a Gallery Assistant and Marketing Assistant. Applications are being assessed as they are received and posting will remain until the positions are filled. Please see links here for employment opportunities. <https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/work-with-us/>

Facilities

- Gallery in person visits continue Monday – Saturday from 8:30 – 4:30pm. Monday – Friday patrons enter through the main front door. Patrons are welcomed through the 3rd floor entrance on Saturdays and for after hours special events.
- **Update:** Health & safety information for the Aurora Public Library from Town – we have received documentation outlining procedures for power failure and fire alarms at Town Hall and have been asked to use these documents for the rooms at Aurora Town Square. We await a guide being completed by Town staff for the program rooms we are operating in for the summer. The guide will provide instruction for the following items: Fire Safety, Persons Requiring Assistance, Medical Emergencies. Elevator Entrapment, Power Failure, Threatening Calls/ Bomb Threats, and Building Evacuations.

Board Activities

Executive Committee Meeting: July 3

Development Committee Meeting: July 6

Facility Task Force Meeting: n/a

Finance & Audit Committee Meeting: July 6

Governance & Nominating Committee Meeting: July 10

Outreach Committee Meeting: TBA

Outreach one-on-one arts survey stakeholder interviews: June 12 - 28

Community Connections/Artistic Events

- Monthly meeting with Director of Community Services
- Ontario Presents bi-monthly provincial calls
- ArtsBuild Mentorship – April 2023 – January 2024
- ArtsVest Ontario Mentor and Training Resource April – December 2023
- Aurora Town Square Programming Collaborative Working Group
- Aurora Town Square Donor event
- Cultural Partners monthly meeting

Respectfully Submitted by
Suzanne Haines
Executive Director