



AGENDA
Board of Directors Meeting #10 2024
HYBRID (in person and virtual)
Aurora Town Square Schoolhouse Meeting Room
Wednesday December 18, 2024 @ 7pm

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 223 950 659 626

Passcode: Yd3QVN

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Mary Ann McConkey, Chair

1 (1 min)	Agenda MOTION to Approve the Agenda	Mary Ann McConkey
2 (2 min)	Previous Minutes MOTION to approve the minutes for the Board meeting on November 13, 2024 as presented	Mary Ann McConkey
3 (1 min)	Statements of Conflict of Interest	ALL
4 (10 min)	Executive Director Report • December ED Report – reporting on November activity • Q3 Complaints Statement • Q3 Compliance Statement • Transitional Plan Report for 2024 MOTION to receive the Q3 complaints and compliance statements as presented. MOTION to Receive the Executive Director Report	Suzanne Haines
5 (40 min)	Finance & Audit Committee MOTION to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to October 31, 2024 MOTION to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report	Michelle Lockie
6 (10 min)	Development Committee Report from the Committee • 2024 Activity for Committee and Board	Mary Ann McConkey

	MOTION to Accept the Development Committee Report	
7 (10 min)	Outreach Committee Report Report from the committee MOTION to Accept the Outreach Committee Report	Anita Townsend
8 (20 min)	Governance & Nominating Committee Report from the Committee - Governance Policy Review MOTION to approve the following updated policies as presented: - G1. Governance of the Centre - G7. Conflict of Interest - G9. Confidentiality - G11. Board Management - G13. Board Orientation - G16. Board Expenses - G17. Executive Director/Board Relationship Policy - G19. Anti-Harassment MOTION to acknowledge that the following policies were reviewed with no changes recommended: - G3. Compliance - G12. Board Compensation - G14. Conflict Resolution - G20. Equity and Inclusion MOTION to Accept the Governance & Nominating Committee Report	Edlene Antonio
9	New Business	ALL
10	Next Meeting January 15, 2025 All meetings will take place in the School House Meeting Room and be available in hybrid formats.	
11	MOTION to Adjourn Meeting	ALL



BOARD MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting #12 2024
HYBRID (in person and virtual)
Aurora Town Square Schoolhouse Meeting Room
Wednesday December 18, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

Mary Ann McConkey, Chair

Attendance: Edlene Antonio, , Phiona Durrant, Sharon Kelly, Michelle Lockie, Stephen Lusk, Mary Ann McConkey, (Interim President), Councillor Michael Thompson, Anita Townsend

Regrets: Councillor Harold Kim, Mandana Gholami Mobarakabadi, Morry Patoka

Staff: Suzanne Haines (Executive Director)

1 (1 min)	Agenda MOTION to Approve the Agenda MOVED: Michelle Lockie 2nd by Anita Townsend CARRIED	Mary Ann McConkey
2 (2 min)	Previous Minutes MOTION to approve the minutes for the Board meeting on November 13, 2024 as presented MOVED: Sharon Kelly 2nd by Edlene Antonio CARRIED	Mary Ann McConkey
3 (1 min)	Statements of Conflict of Interest None	ALL
4 (10 min)	Executive Director Report • December ED Report – reporting on November activity • Q3 Complaints Statement • Q3 Compliance Statement • Transitional Plan Report for 2024 MOTION to receive the Q3 complaints and compliance statements as presented. MOVED: Phiona Durrant 2nd by Stephen Lusk CARRIED	Suzanne Haines

	MOTION to Receive the Executive Director Report MOVED: Edlene Antonio 2nd by Sharon Kelly CARRIED	
5 (40 min)	Finance & Audit Committee MOTION to Approve the Interim Financial Statements to October 31, 2024 MOVED Stephen Lusk 2nd by Edlene Antonio CARRIED MOTION to Accept the Finance & Audit Committee Report MOVED: Sharon Kelly 2nd Edlene Antonio CARRIED	Michelle Lockie
6 (10 min)	Development Committee Report from the Committee 2024 Activity for Committee and Board MOTION to Accept the Development Committee Report MOVED Stephen Lusk 2nd by Phiona Durrant CARRIED	Mary Ann McConkey
7 (10 min)	Outreach Committee Report Report from the committee MOTION to Accept the Outreach Committee Report MOVED: Edlene Antonio 2nd by Michael Thompson CARRIED	Anita Townsend
8 (20 min)	Governance & Nominating Committee Report from the Committee Governance Policy Review MOTION to approve the following updated policies as presented:	Edlene Antonio

	• G1. Governance of the Centre • G7. Conflict of Interest • G9. Confidentiality • G11. Board Management • G13. Board Orientation • G16. Board Expenses • G17. Executive Director/Board Relationship Policy • G19. Anti-Harassment MOVED: Michelle Lockie 2nd by Edlene Antonio CARRIED MOTION to acknowledge that the following policies were reviewed with no changes recommended: • G3. Compliance • G12. Board Compensation • G14. Conflict Resolution • G20. Equity and Inclusion MOVED: Edlene Antonio 2nd by Sharon Kelly CARRIED MOTION to Accept the Governance & Nominating Committee Report MOVED: Edlene Antonio 2nd by Michael Thompson CARRIED	
9	New Business • Final meeting for Councillors, Michael Thompson and Harold Kim. • Suzanne Haines thanked both for their support of and contributions to the Aurora Cultural Centre. • Councillors, Ron Weese and John Gallo will be the new Councillors representing the Town Council of Aurora on the Aurora Cultural Centre's Board.	ALL
10	Next Meeting • January 15, 2025 @ 7:00 pm All meetings will take place in the School House Meeting Room and be available in hybrid formats	

11	MOTION to Adjourn Meeting MOVED: Phiona Durrant 2 nd by Michelle Lockie CARRIED Meeting Adjourned: 8:45	ALL
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Minutes Submitted by: Anita Townsend
Secretary to the Board

Anita Townsend

November 2024

Special Events

Public Reception: *Seven Masters*

November 28, 2024

Homeroom Galleries

All were welcomed to the opening of *Seven Masters*, celebrated with opening remarks, light bites and sparkling refreshments. This exhibition of acquired works of art from the permanent collection of the Georgina Centre for Arts and Culture, including Helen Lucas, Albert Chiarandini, and more.



Gallery Manager Samantha Jones leads patrons through the exhibit.

Laptops for Waabgon Gamig

November 1, 2024

A heartfelt “chi-miigwech” went to Avanade and Reboot Canada! Five new laptops were delivered to students at Waabgon Gamig First Nation School on Georgina Island, supporting education, research, and creativity. Thank you also to the Waabgon Gamig staff and students for the warm welcome on delivery day!



A warm welcome from the Waabgon Gamig school community

Performing Arts Programs

Old Man Luedecke + Mehdi Rostami

November 1, 2024 at 7:30pm

Aurora Town Square Performance Hall

Attendance: 87 (capacity 235)

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/2024-25-old-man-leuedecke/>

Old Man Luedecke is the recording name of two-time JUNO award winning and Polaris prize nominated singer songwriter Chris Luedecke. A multiple East Coast Music Award winner known for his high energy banjo driven stompers, touching guitar ballads and dry humorous stories, Luedecke has been making a soundtrack to an authentic life for nearly twenty years. Songs like *I Quit My Job* at the beginning of his career and *The Early Days* at the beginning of his family and dozens of other fan favourites trace a warm line of effort, sadness and joy and provide a soundtrack to many peoples' own progress through adulthood, touching a rare place of truth and charm in the holiness of the mundane. His performing style with his easy-going humour and storytelling creates a rare space of hopeful and intimate magic.



Chris "Old Man" Luedecke in the Performance Hall

Mehdi Rostami, born in Kermanshah, Iran, is a professional sitar and tanbour player. Rooted deeply within musical collaborations spanning diverse cultural backgrounds, his is a unique cross-cultural sonic experience.

Amanda Martinez + Eliana Cuevas

November 16, 2024 at 7:30pm

Aurora Town Square Performance Hall

Attendance: 183 (capacity 235)

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/2024-25-amanda-martinez/>

Amanda Martinez is a Canadian singer-songwriter whose music is an original blend of influences from her Mexican and South African roots. Recognized with multiple nominations as Latin Jazz Artist of the Year (Canada's National Jazz Awards), Best World Music Artist (Canadian Folk Music Awards) and she was the winner of Best World Music Artist (Toronto Independent Music Awards). Her albums have reached the top 10 on iTunes World Music charts. She has headlined the Blue Note jazz club in NYC, entertained at the FIFA World Cup in South Africa, hosted Panamanian during CBC's coverage of the Pan American Games in Mexico and Canada. She has also been a guest recording and touring artist of award-winning guitarist Jesse Cook.



Amanda Martinez shares her joyful energy with the audience

Eliana Cuevas is a Toronto-based artist celebrating the nuances and layered elements of traditional Venezuelan music. She won the World Solo Artist of the Year at the Canadian Folk Music Awards in 2018. "Reina Latina – Canada's emerging Latin music queen." – 680 News, Toronto

Canadian Brass

November 22, 2024 at 7:30pm

Aurora Town Square Performance Hall

Attendance: 235 (capacity 235)

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/2024-25-canadian-brass/>

Exciting, iconic and ever entertaining, the Canadian Brass is the world's most famous brass group. With 138 recordings, over 2 million albums sold and 3 Grammy Awards, this showstopper was the very first concert of the Great Artist Music Series in the new Performance Hall! From classics to contemporary hits, their music weaves freely across musical genres. Their infectious energy and unparalleled musicianship delivered an exhilarating evening for all.



Canadian Brass charms the sold-out crowd

Steven Taetz

November 30, 2024 at 7:30pm

Aurora Town Square Performance Hall

Attendance: 156 (capacity 235)

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/2024-25-steven-taetz/>

Not shy about the comparison to Michael Buble, this Aurora debut mixed carols, classics with a rootsy arrangement of Joni Mitchell's "The River" and new holiday originals. Seductive and irresistible crooning from a remarkable new voice, Steven was accompanied by his jazz pop quintet.



Steven Taetz sings holiday favourites and more

Upcoming Performing Arts Events

Fireside Munsch (Family Show)

December 7, 2024 at 2:00pm

Aurora Town Square Performance Hall

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/2024-25-fireside-munsch/>

Laila Biali with special guests Jane Bunnett

December 14, 2024 at 7:30pm

Aurora Town Square Performance Hall

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/laila-biali/>

Gallery Programs

Future Grounds

In partnership with Oddside Arts

Supported by the Town of Aurora

In person Beginning September 21, 2024

Aurora Town Square (multiple sites) and digitally on the Artivive app

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/future-grounds/>

The Living Corridor

A temporary mural by Annwin Arts and Joaquin Varela

In person: September 21 – January 19, 2025

Lower Hall Gallery

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/lower-hall-mural/>

Exhibition Activation: The Living Corridor

November 23, 2024

11 am – 1 pm

Art Activity Room

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/living-corridor-activation/>

Annwin Arts and Joaquin Varela, the talented artists behind *The Living Corridor*'s stunning 55-foot mural and exhibition, were joined by members of the public for a day of creativity!

Attendees learned and explored the specializations of the artists, from watercolour painting and drawing from life, to intertwining nature with craft.

All materials were provided, and donations were welcomed and encouraged.

Congruent (by definitions)

In person: October 24, 2024 – January 26, 2025

Location: Great Hall Gallery

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/congruent-by-definitions/>

Seven Masters: THE GCAC Permanent Collection

In person: November 28, 2024 – January 26, 2025

Location: Homeroom Galleries

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/seven-masters/>

Northeast of the end of Highway 404, where the winding currents of the Black River meet the vast waters of Lake Simcoe, stands the Georgina Centre for Arts and Culture—home to an outstanding permanent collection of fine art.

This collection began in 2004 with a landmark donation from local artist and collector Bruce Smith, which included works by Smith himself and his mentor and longtime friend, Albert Chiarandini. Often placed alongside the Group of Seven, Chiarandini devoted his career to capturing the landscapes of Southern Ontario in oils, depicting pastoral life with scenes of people, cows, homes, and churches nestled among the region's fields. Over the years, the collection has expanded through thoughtful acquisitions and generous donations, incorporating remarkable works by artists from Ontario and beyond. It has also evolved to embrace diverse mediums, including film and digital photography, printmaking, and more, while continuing to celebrate traditional practices.

In *Seven Masters*, the Aurora Cultural Centre is proud to present works by seven luminaries from the collection: Helen Lucas, Kay Murray Weber, Travis Shilling, York Wilson, Tom Zsolt, and, of course, Albert Chiarandini and Bruce Smith. Curated by Samantha Jones.

Fall Open Studio

Weekly on Wednesdays from October 9, 2024 through December 18, 2024

10am – 4 pm

Art Activity Room

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/events-for-artists/>

Artist Poet Gathering

November 9, 2024

11am – 1pm

Hallway Galleries

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/events-for-artists/>

Crit Club

November 21, 2024

7pm – 9pm

Art Activity Room

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/events-for-artists/>

Youth Open Studio + Critique

November 26, 2024

3 pm – 5 pm

Art Activity Room

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/youth-open-studio/>

Art Bytes

Art Bytes are an ongoing online series that accompanies our exhibitions and give viewers an opportunity to deepen their understanding about the art and artists. Art Bytes are available for viewing through our YouTube channel during and after gallery exhibitions.

Art Bytes can be found here: [Gallery Art Bytes link](#)

We have missed reporting on Art Bytes this fall so are listing all that were created in the last 6 months

Art Byte Topic	Exhibition	Link
Arranging Early Bird Gets the Worm	Early Bird Gets the Worm	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dc1MLlIejkE&list=PLm2UcSbw79AnUmsFQYUd_cQ5m9GGQleHn&index=67
Build Your Alter-Ego with Jonah Strub	Early Bird Gets the Worm	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M14UMzO_KNE&list=PLm2UcSbw79AnUmsFQYUd_cQ5m9GGQleHn&index=68
Fool's Gold at Aurora Family Leisure Complex	Fool's Gold	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aHudWDKCHw&list=PLm2UcSbw79AnUmsFQYUd_cQ5m9GGQleHn&index=69
Artist Talk + Leatherwork Demo with David Trotter	Early Bird Gets the Worm	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrIjcSxVcQ8&list=PLm2UcSbw79AnUmsFQYUd_cQ5m9GGQleHn&index=70
Making The Living Corridor	Living Corridor	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOoySUKclzA&list=PLm2UcSbw79AnUmsFQYUd_cQ5m9GGQleHn&index=71

Congruent (by definitions) - Voiced by the Artists	Congruent	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TBJMBQNjpy4&list=PLm2UcSbw79AnUmsFQYUd_cQ5m9GGQleHn&index=72
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Upcoming Gallery Events

Two Exhibition Walk & Talks

December 7, 2024

3:15 pm – 5 pm

Homeroom Galleries & Great Hall Gallery

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/dec-7-walk-n-talk/>

Screening: Helen Lucas ... Her Journey – Our Journey

December 17, 2024

7:00 pm

Brevik Hall

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/screening-helen-lucas/>

Last Look: The Living Corridor

January 17, 2025

8:30 am – 5 pm

Lower Hall Gallery

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/event/living-corridor-last-look/>

Education Programs

Term Classes, Workshops and Short Courses

The Fall term education programs began in September and run into mid-December, including workshops and PA Day programs (there were nine such one-day programs in November). Our commitment to providing a vibrant and inclusive learning environment was evident in the range of classes offered and the positive feedback received from participants. Below is a listing of new programs in November, and their target age group. To see current educational offerings please visit: <https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/adult-classes/> or <https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/childrens-classes/>

Program	Dates	Age
Indigenous Art Series – Painting with Nature	November 3, 2024	16+
Crepe Paper Flowers	November 3, 2024	16+
Indigenous Art Series – Beaded Poppy Patch	November 10, 2024	16+
Cultural Centre PA Day Program	November 13, 2024	7 – 12 years
Cultural Centre PA Day Program	November 13, 2024	4 – 7 years
Media Art Comprehensive Workshop	November 17, 2024	16+
Candlelit Angels Woodcarving Workshop	November 24, 2024	16+
Autumn Ink – Sumi-e Japanese Painting	November 24, 2024	16+
Festive Lettering Ornament & Gift Tags	November 24, 2024	16+

Administration

- Received grant from Canada Council for Kaleidoscope in the Schools for 2025
- Presentation to the Town of Aurora for our 2025-2026 Budget on November 18, 2024
- Closed out two grants for the Ontario Trillium Foundation – KITS grow grant and the Brevik Hall Capital program
- New Sponsor and donor tours continue with the Development team
- ATS Tour and collaboration meeting with Aurora Chamber of Commerce – hosting a business after 5 on February 27, 2025.
- Applied for National Arts Centre Mentorship Program grant for Production staff.
- Staff connecting with program team at APL to discuss collaborative programming and promotion

Human Resources

- Please welcome Debbie Bunze and Gina Robinson as part-time Front of House Managers.
- Received federal funding for a Marketing & Development Intern from January – April. Melissa Ho will join us from January 6 – April 25th 2025 from the Arts Leadership Program at Queens University.
- Staff will be taking time off during the holidays. Each are required to indicate their time away in out-of-office messages. I will be away December 20th – January 5th inclusive.

Facilities/Aurora Town Square

- HVAC systems are now functional in 22 Church Street facility however the School House and offices are still cold. Facilities have provided space heaters.
- We continue to refine roles and responsibilities for internal and external users with Town Staff.
- Collaboration on Red 61 processes continue.
- Reconciliations being defined for our revenue from our tickets and recoveries from bookings.

Upcoming Board Activities

Development Committee Meeting: December 5

Finance & Audit Committee Meeting: December 13

Governance & Nominating Committee Meeting: December 10

Outreach Committee Meeting: December 9

Board Meeting/Public Meeting/Board Staff Social: December 18

Community Connections/Artistic Events

- Monthly meeting with Director of Community Services
- Aurora Arts, Culture and Heritage Network monthly meeting
- Women's Blues Revue – Massey Hall November 29

Respectfully Submitted by

Suzanne Haines
Executive Director