

2023 Report to the Community



Art
Anonymous
Yes Day 2023


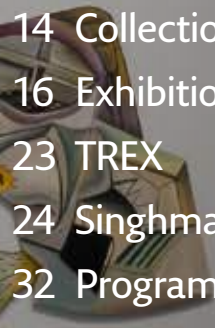



Installation view of the exhibition, *Hanny Al Khoury - La La Lands*. Photography: Charles Cousins

On the cover: A family tours the exhibition *Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art*. Photography: Charles Cousins



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Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to update you on this past year at your AGA. The AGA had a great year with record visitor attendance for the last 6 years, wonderful exhibitions and the opportunity for our patrons and members to enjoy the Gallery and our many programs and events. Thanks to you, we are back and better than before.

The success of this past year would not have been possible without the support of our municipal, provincial and federal governments. Their long-term support allows your AGA to achieve both artistic excellence and financial stability, two of our main strategic goals. This past year, we have also continued to appreciate the ongoing support of our Members and Director's and Curator's Circle patrons, many corporate sponsors as well as donations to AGA Always, our 100th Anniversary Campaign.

Yes, it is finally here—in 2024 we will be celebrating our 100th anniversary. We are not only the oldest cultural institution in Alberta, but an institution that can clearly say that we have stood the test of time. The goal of AGA Always has been to raise a \$20 million endowment to celebrate our history and prepare us for the next century. We have continued to secure donations over the past year and the AGA Always Campaign continues to be supported by a generous grant from the Edmonton Community Foundation as well as the time of a volunteer campaign cabinet.

Banksy, various altered street signs. *From Warhol to Banksy*, Art Gallery of Alberta, 2023.
Photography: Charles Cousins

We have received approximately \$2 million in donations so far and we will be ramping up our campaign in 2024, to engage as many supporters as possible. I hope you will consider making a donation that will assist us in amplifying your AGA for the next 100 years.

The success of this past year would not have been possible without the leadership of our Executive Director and Chief Curator, Catherine Crowston, as well as the efforts of her hardworking and inspiring team of employees and volunteers. In addition to their regular goals of achieving artistic excellence in the visual arts and ensuring that your AGA is a welcoming environment for everyone, the team is also working on some fantastic programming, special exhibitions and yes, a big birthday party to help us celebrate our centenary year. Stay tuned for more exciting announcements and join us to celebrate what the visual arts has and continues to mean to our province.

In closing I would like to thank and acknowledge the other members of the Board of Directors for their service and commitment to the AGA. On behalf of our Board, please accept our thanks for your attendance and support and our hope to see you in 2024 to celebrate our 100th anniversary together.

Leon Zupan

Chair, Board of Directors



Installation view of *kisikayastew P/67°U° ...when the night shines like the day*.
Photography: Charles Cousins



Informational text panels on the right side of the wall, likely providing details about the artwork or the artist.

Message from the Executive Director

2023 was another exciting year at Your AGA. Our exhibition program featured the work of Alberta artists in dialogue with artists from across the country and from around the world. Our exhibitions revolved around a number of themes, including sport and society, dance and the body, collecting as seen through the vision of several visionary Canadian private collectors, and new experimentations with materiality, as seen in the work of contemporary artists engaged with ceramics and textiles.

We began the year with the pairing of two exhibitions that examined sport and its representations, to understand and critique culture. The exhibition *To Play in the Face of Certain Defeat* was both a celebration of diversity and an urgent call to action around issues of racial marginalization created by Canadian artist Esmaa Mohamoud. The artworks in this exhibition included basketballs and basketball jerseys, Victorian-era ballgowns, hockey mesh and reconstructed football equipment, including branded black leather footballs and African wax-printed helmets. In her work, Mohamoud draws on the industry of professional sports, transforming athletic equipment and symbols to illustrate pervasive, discriminatory behaviours and attitudes based on race, class, gender, and sexuality.

In Black and White, an exhibition of the work of Edmonton-born artist Dean Drever, featured a broad selection of Drever's work created solely in black and white. Utilizing images and symbols of power and authority combined with references to sports, primarily as hockey, Drever's work addresses the drive for dominance and control, which impacts society in many ways. In this work, black and white are used to be both positive and negative, foreground and background, reality and myth, right and wrong.

In May, the exhibition *Dance Party* embraced the blending of art, dance and choreography to explore movement as a method of claiming space. Forms of dance are embedded in all cultures as a way to both celebrate and dismantle traditions. The artists featured in *Dance Party* assert themselves in space and enact an embodied celebration of identity. The exhibition acknowledged that if trauma is held in the body, so too are healing and joy.

In 2023, we also explored three different stories of private collecting. The exhibition *Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art* told the story of the Sobey family's visionary engagement with Canadian and Indigenous art. The exhibition *From Warhol to Banksy* featured works of art that defined the Pop Art movement, highlighting the careers of some of the art world's most iconic figures to explore how their irreverent and subversive art practices extended to their materials and methods of production, as they used their artwork as a tool to critique society and consumer culture. This exhibition featured the collection of Paul and Tracy Mitchell. In the fall, *The Collectors' Cosmos*:



Brendan Fernandes, *Free Fall: For Camera* (detail), 2019. Installation view from *Dance Party*. Photography: Charles Cousins



Kenzie Housego and Gabrielle Odowichuk, *Flirt Bot*, 2023. Embroidery, LEDs, Arduino micro-controller, textiles. Courtesy of the Artists.
Photography: Kenzie Housego.

AGA. These programs were diverse and multi-faceted, ranging from children's art classes, new community markets, late-night Refinery parties to our award-winning seniors' programs.

2023 continued to be a challenging year from a financial perspective. Despite this, we were thrilled to achieve record audience attendance this year, as we exceeded many pre-Covid years for gallery admissions. While 2023 was also impacted by the lack of a catering and event provider, at the end of the year we welcomed the Edmonton Convention Centre as our new food service partner. We anticipate many great things to arise from this strategic alliance in the years to come.

I would like to express our sincere thanks to the public funders and ongoing corporate sponsors who continued to support the AGA this year, as well all of our new supporters who joined the AGA family in 2023. The Poole Centre of Design, funded by the Poole Family Foundation through the Edmonton Community Foundation, continued to be a key AGA funder of inspiring programming focussed on the intersection of art and design.

The AGA relies on the goodwill of so many people to operate each year, and we would like to acknowledge the donors who made financial and in-kind contributions to support AGA operations now and in the future. Our most sincere gratitude is given to the many people, AGA Members, Curator's Circle and Director's Circle Members, private donors and AGA Always legacy endowment campaign supporters who gave so generously to the AGA this year. This includes those who donated works of art to help us grow our permanent collection.

I would like to thank all the AGA staff and volunteers for their contributions over the past year. In particular, I would like to recognize the management team: Dara Armsden, Alice Leung, Mike Slywka and Pat St. Arnaud, who work hard every day to ensure the success of the AGA. I would also like to welcome Trina Johnson, who joined the team in July 2023 to oversee the development of our anniversary legacy campaign and ongoing funding support.

I am profoundly grateful to Leon Zupan, Chair of the AGA Board of Directors for his dedicated leadership and tireless commitment to the AGA and building for our future. The AGA Board of Directors and the AGA Always committee continue to provide guidance and support for the AGA team, and their work is most appreciated.

We are all working toward 2024 and the celebration of our 100th Anniversary.

With many thanks to all and best wishes for the very special year to come!

Catherine Crowston

Executive Director / Chief Curator



Hanny Al Khoury, *All One*, 2023. Oil on canvas, 76.4 x 101.5 cm. Gift in recognition of Mrs. Rahab Al Khoury.

Collection Acquisitions

The AGA acquired the following works in 2023*:

Hanny Al Khoury

All One, 2023*
Oil on canvas
76.4 x 101.5 cm
Gift in recognition of Mrs. Rahab Al Khoury

Unaware, 2023*

Oil on canvas
76.6 x 101.8 cm
Purchased with funds from the Cheryl M. Sutton Endowment Fund

James Carl

jalousie (13.4), 2013*
Metal venetian blinds
60" x 75" x 48"
Gift of the Artist

jalousie (gooch), 2018*

Metal venetian blinds and plastic garbage can
94" x 48" x 20"
Gift of the Artist

content (wwaf), 2014*

Marble
32 x 19 x 10 cm
Purchased with funds from the Soper Endowment

A.Y. Jackson

GIANTS TOMB, 1929*
Oil on panel
21 x 26.5 cm
Gift from Don Sexsmith and Brenda Bissell



A.Y. Jackson, *GIANTS TOMB*, 1929. Oil on panel, 21 x 26.5 cm. Gift from Don Sexsmith and Brenda Bissell.

Colin Smith

Ranchmen Motel, 2009*
 Inkjet print mounted on acrylic
 121.9 x 152.5 cm
 Gift of Colin Smith

Empress Hotel, 2013*
 Inkjet print mounted on acrylic
 121.9 x 152.5 cm
 Gift of Colin Smith

Pablo Picasso

L'Étreinte II, 1933*
 Drypoint, Bon a Tirer proof
 33.5 x 44.3 cm
 Gift of Neil Neumann

Mary Scott

Untitled, 1978*
 Acrylic on plexiglass
 60.5 x 76 cm
 Gift of the Artist

From the Ceiling Down: Calgary, 1982*
 Acrylic on canvas
 30.5 x 41 x 2 cm
 Gift of the Artist

Stephen Shore

The Giverny Portfolio, 1977-1982, printed 2002*
 25 dye-coupler prints
 40.6 x 50.8 cm (each)
 Gift in memory of Brenda Coleman & Matthew Coleman

Value of acquired works in 2023:

Donated \$340,643

Purchased \$27,000

*Works recognized in the 2023 Audited Financial Statements



Mariko Paterson, *Vanity Faire, Vanity Fare*, 2023. Cone 6 porcelain body, underglazes, glazes, china paints, gold lustre. Courtesy of the Artist.
From the exhibition *Between Things: Alberta Ceramics*. Photography: Charles Cousins

Exhibitions

Dean Drever: Pass the Hat

November 25, 2022 –April 16, 2023

Representing a documentation of the strength of the Haida First Nation while addressing its fragility due to colonial practices of oppression, Dean Drever's *Pass the Hat* stands 16-foot tall and is made of almost 11,000 pieces of paper.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Catherine Crowston. Presented by Capital Power Indigenous Art Fund.



Dean Drever: In Black and White

January 21-April 30

Dean Drever: In Black and White explores reciprocal functions of cultural identification. Specifically, variations between individual freedom and social oppression.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta, curated by Catherine Crowston and presented by the Capital Power Indigenous Arts Fund.



Esmaa Mohamoud: To Play in the Face of Certain Defeat

January 21-April 30

Esmaa Mohamoud explores the ways in which Black bodies at once appear—and yet are rendered metaphorically invisible—within the spaces they navigate.

Organized and circulated by Museum London.

MUSEUM
LONDON

Hanny Al Khoury: La La Lands

February 18-May 21

La La Lands is an imaginary place where traumas have been purged and exorcized. Although the forms and objects represent stories and events from the artist's life, their abstracted nature means that anyone can see things relevant to their own personal journeys.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Lindsey Sharman.

Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art

February 18-May 21

Paul-Émile Borduas, Franklin Carmichael, Emily Carr, A.J. Casson, Alex Colville, Maurice Cullen, Peter Doig, Mario Doucette, Brenda Draney, Clarence Gagnon, Lawren S. Harris, A.Y. Jackson, Ursula Johnson, Brian Jungen, Cornelius Krieghoff, William Kurelek, Jean Paul Lemieux, Arthur Lismer, J.E.H. MacDonald, H. Mabel May, David Milne, Kent Monkman, J.W. Morrice, Frederick B. Nichols, John O'Brien, Robert Wakeham Pilot, Annie Pootoogook, Christopher Pratt, Jean Paul Riopelle, Marc-Aurèle de Foy Suzor-Coté, Tom Thomson, Joseph Tisiga, F.H. Varley

Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art tells the story of one family's visionary engagement with Canadian and Indigenous art.

Organized and circulated by McMichael Canadian Art Collection and curated by Sarah Milroy. This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada. Ce projet est financé en partie par le gouvernement du Canada.

McMichael **Canada**

William Hogarth: Gone to the Dogs

April 1-August 13

William Hogarth was an English painter and engraver in the 1700s.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Lindsey Sharman.



Installation view, Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art. Photography: Charles Cousins *Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art*.
 Photography: Charles Cousins

kisikayastew ᑭᓯᓴᓴᓄᓄ ...when the night shines like the day

April 7, 2023-August 13, 2024

The exhibition is an exploration of the nêhiyaw teachings of the Thirteen Sacred Moons featuring work by Lana Whiskeyjack.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by the AGA's Adjunct indigenous curator MJ Belcourt Moses. This exhibition is presented by the Poole Centre of Design and the Capital Power Indigenous Art Fund.



Uii Savage: Celestial Passage

April 29, 2023-February 19, 2024

Celestial Passage is an augmented reality by Uii Savage that uses the AGA's Main Hall as a simulated observation site for viewing North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) satellite data in real-time.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Lindsey Sharman.

Dance Party

May 20-September 11

Phil Collins, Brendan Fernandes, Jeffrey Gibson, Cindy Mochizuki, Adrian Piper, Jeremy Shaw, Bárbara Wagner & Benjamin de Burca

Dance Party embraces the blending of art, dance and choreography and explores movement as a method of claiming space, transcending barriers and affirming a sense of belonging through the body.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Catherine Crowston and Lindsey Sharman.

Kenzie Housego: I <3 U

June 10-October 15

This interactive exhibition blends embroidery with digital technologies to explore dating, courtship and flirting.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Lindsey Sharman.



Installation view, *The Collectors' Cosmos: The Meakins-McClaran Print Collection*. Photography: Charles Cousin

From Warhol to Banksy

June 10-October 15

Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, Tom Wesselmann, Takashi Murakami, Banksy, Mr. Brainwash

This exhibition includes artists that define the Pop Art movement and shows how Pop Art continues to critique our world.

Organized and circulated by the Kelowna Art Gallery. Curated by Christine May. Courtesy of the Paul and Tracy Mitchell Collection.

**KELOWNA
ART GALLERY**

A Link with Nature: Early Botanical Photography, 1850-1950

September 2-December 31

Hippolyte Bayard, Francis Bedford, Karl Blossfeldt, Adolphe Braun, Harry Callahan, Imogen Cunningham, Bertha Jacques, Edwin Hale Lincoln, John Dilwyn Llewelyn, Auguste and Louis Lumière, William H. Martin, William Copeland McCalla, James E. McClees and Washington Lafayette Germon, Leslie Gale Saunders, Mary Schäffer, Stephen Shore, Edward Steichen, William Henry Fox Talbot, John Vanderpant, Mary Vaux, Edward Weston

An exhibition tracing the enduring influence of nature as photographic subject matter from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Danielle Siemens. This exhibition is presented by McBain Camera.

McBain

Between Things: Alberta Ceramics

September 2, 2023-March 3, 2024

Zimra Beiner, Tanya Doody, Bridget Fairbank, Rob Froese, Amy Gogarty, Trudy Golley, Corwyn Lund, Les Manning, Noriko Masuda, Benjamin Oswald, Mariko Paterson, Greg Payce, Jocelyn Reid, Kasia Sosnowski, Mabel Tan, Mary Shannon Will

This exhibition examines the ceramic object in relation to the world around it through the work of 16 artists working in ceramic sculpture and installation.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and co-curated by Lindsay Sharman and Diana Sherlock. This exhibition is presented by the Poole Centre of Design.

poole centre
pcd
of design

Second Skin

September 30-December 31, 2023

Catherine Blackburn, Demetri Broxton, Nick Cave, Dayna Danger, Aganetha Dyck, Ishi Glinisky, Cannupa Hanska Luger, Karin Jones, Pamela Norrish, Elsa Robinson, Curtis Talwst Santiago, Caitlin Thompson, Nico Williams

A dazzling group show that explores the symbolic potential of objects of adornment.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta, curated by Lindsey Sharman and Danielle Siemens and presented by TD Ready Commitment.

TD TD READY
COMMITMENT

The Collectors' Cosmos: The Meakins-McClaran Print Collection

November 4, 2023-January 28, 2024

This exhibition celebrates the donation of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Dutch and Flemish prints from the collection of Dr. Jonathan Meakins and Dr. Jacqueline McClaran to the National Gallery of Canada.

Organized by the National Gallery of Canada/Organisée par le Musée des beaux-arts du Canada.



Ally McIntyre: Kindling

November 4, 2023-January 28, 2024

This exhibition explores human-caused climate collapse through the lens of several animal characters.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Lindsey Sharman.

AGA Touring Exhibitions

Alana Bartol & Bryce Krynski: all roses sleep (inviolable light)

March 31-June 11

Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies

This exhibition blends how bees and humans experience and use the land around us to pose questions about our shared future.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and curated by Lindsey Sharman.

Community Gallery Exhibitions

5 Artists 1 Love

January 28-April 2

Ola Bolarinwa, Messanie Raphaël, Diana Ohiozebau, Ore Dipey, Brett Miles

5 Artists 1 Love is an annual art exhibition and Black History Month event, showcasing the artistic vibrancy and range of Edmonton's African-Canadian communities.



PUSH

April 12-June 9

Lonigan Gilbert, Matt Gould, Stephanie Jonsson, Michael Goto Magnussen, Lynn Malin, Diana Ohiozebau, Heather Shillinglaw, Deanne Underwood

Showcasing the works by local artists in the AGA's Art Sales and Rental (AS&R) collection, *PUSH* aims to broaden our understanding of what art can be and advances our appreciation for its limitless possibilities.

This exhibition is organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta, curated by Andrew Wujkowski and presented by AS&R in the Community Gallery.

Alberta Society of Artists: Home & Migration

June 17 - September 3

Asal Andarzipour, Eleanor P. Boyden, E. Ross Bradley, Cynthia Cabrera, Ricardo Copando, Sahar Hakimi, Sharon Lensen, Tatianna O'Donnell, Ting Pimentel-Elger, Shea Proulx, Sharon Rubuliak, Mona Sahi, Mitra Samavaki, Bonnie Scott, Deborah Lougheed Sinclair, Liz Sullivan

The Alberta Society of Artists is excited to present *Home & Migration*, a travelling exhibition of visual artworks from a varied selection of Alberta Artists.

This exhibition is presented in partnership between Alberta Society of Artists and the Art Gallery of Alberta.





Cannupa Hanska Luger, *Midéegaadi - Light Bison*, 2022. Mixed media regalia made of repurposed materials, single channel looped video, sound installation. Courtesy of the Artist and Garth Greenan Gallery. From the exhibition *Second Skin*. Photography: Charles Cousins

Boreal Barometer: The Art of Observation and Well-Being

September 9-November 12

Promise Beauregard, Devin Caine, Orisha Clark, Sandy Cohen, Maurissa Davis, Bertha Dewolfe-Auger, Shayanne Favel, Sarah Fedoruk, Lana Gal, Tralynn Ganter, Grace-Anne Grant, Tialandis Guinand, Jennica Hager, Sylvester Johnson, Bernadette Laboucan, Miya Lamoureux, Solene Lamoureux, Rachel Luong, Vivian Moghrabi, Yvonne Noskiye, Kurtis Pahtayken, Katie Reed, Marley Ribbonleg, Bernard St. Arnault, Donna Steele, Natalie Ward

Boreal Barometer: The Art of Observation and Well-Being presents artworks from arts students and staff from Portage College, located in Lac La Biche, Alberta, an historically important and culturally rich community within the Natural Region of the Boreal Forest.

Organized by Portage College and curated by Pierre Öberg.



Mosaic II

November 19, 2023-January 21, 2024

This exhibition features over 80 works of art from the Art Sales & Rental collection that represent the expanding, evolving and ever-changing community of Alberta artists.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta, curated by Andrew Wujkowski and presented by AS&R in the Community Gallery.



Feature Wall

Youth Council

February 17-March 19

Aditi Akkineni, Lucia Hernandez-Echevarria, Lilly Hunt, Nabeeha Irfan, Bella Jiao, Zoya Mahmood, Adorra Sergios, Bayan Shayeb

The AGA Youth Council is a group of 12 students ages 14-17 from around Edmonton who have come together to increase the presence of youth programming in art gallery spaces. They amplify youth voices by planning teen focused events and creating safe spaces for art making at the Art Gallery of Alberta. The Youth Council collectively decided to center their artwork on the theme of space. This topic allowed for creative freedom and a wide range of interpretations. They were inspired by how stories of space are woven into our various histories, cultures and traditions. To the Youth Council, space means no boundaries and endless possibilities. From works inspired by sci-fi film stills to philosophical interpretations of space, the Youth Council has captured a well-rounded essence of the universe.



Samantha Walrod, *Black Bear Road*, 2023. Acrylic on canvas.
Courtesy of the Artist. From the TREX Exhibit *Women Gone Wild*.

TREX

The Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition Program. Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta.

The Travelling Exhibition Program (Trex) was established in 1981 by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts with the vision that every Albertan would have the opportunity to experience visual art exhibitions in their own communities. The Trex program is a coordinated effort between The Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) and the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie, Grande Prairie (Trex Region 1); the Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA), Edmonton (Trex Region 2); The Alberta Society of Artists, Calgary (Trex Region 3); and the Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre, Medicine Hat (Trex Region 4).

The AGA has managed the Trex program for north central and northeastern Alberta (Trex Region 2) since 1986. In March 2018, the AFA awarded the AGA management of the Trex program for another five years (2018-2023). In December of 2023, the AFA offered the AGA management of the Trex program in north central and northeastern Alberta (Trex Region 2) for the 2024-2025 season.

2023 Trex Region 2 Exhibitions on Tour: 14

2023 Trex Region 2 Exhibition Bookings: 91 exhibition bookings (100% booking rate)

2023 Trex Region 2 Exhibition Visitors: 132,115





Participants at one of the ACA's many events that focus on youth. Photography: Valeriya Voronovskaya

Singhmar Centre for Art Education

Program Overview

Total Programs: 546 Total Participants: 14,124

By offering dynamic learning opportunities, Education & Learning at the AGA strives to connect students, community and ideas through art and creativity. We offer teacher and school programs; family programs; art classes and camps; youth programs and initiatives; adult programs and community outreach. We provide various access points to current exhibitions and hands-on artmaking that empower all members of our community to transform their lives with curiosity and play.

Education Goals

- Provide a point of entry to the AGA and current exhibitions that is accessible and equitable for people of all ages, experiences and capacities
- Foster problem-solving, critical thinking and collaboration through play, discussion, hands-on process and reflection
- Create innovative and interactive experiences that build connections between ourselves, our students and our communities

Teacher & School Programs

Teacher Programs

Total Programs: 14 Total Participants: 244

School Programs

Total Programs: 174 Total Participants: 6,916

- Teacher and school programs connect teachers and students to big ideas through various programming formats and access points, including in-person and virtual exhibition visits, studio projects, professional development sessions and online resources
- Connections to Alberta Education's Programs of Study in the areas of Social Studies, Language Arts, Science, French, Spanish and Early Childhood Learning
- In-depth investigations of featured exhibitions and studio practices
- Heightened focus on inquiry-based learning and student-centered programming



Installation view, *From Warhol to Banksy*. Photography: Charles Cousins

Family Programs

Family programs provide opportunities for families to connect to exhibitions through art explorations focused on play, hands-on art-making and exciting in-gallery experiences.

- Stroller Tours are in-depth tours of a current exhibitions offered once per month to parents with new babies. With added flexibility, caregivers can learn about art in a safe space where babies can be babies and parents can interact with other parents.

Total Programs: 11 Total Participants: 127

- Tours for Tots is a weekly art exploration for families with young children to discover exhibitions together. Themes change from week to week, and the program includes a gallery visit, hands-on art experiments, storytelling and more.

Total Programs: 45 Total Participants: 374

- Birthday Parties are fun-filled studio explorations for children aged 4 years and up. Birthday Parties include a gallery visit and interactive studio project led by Gallery Educators.

Total Programs: 34 Total Participants: 677

- All Day Sundays are once-per-month afternoons packed full of engaging art activities for the whole family. With exciting programs and projects that tie into current exhibitions, guests of all ages can join in and have fun.

Total Programs: 12 Total Participants: 415

Art Classes and Camps

Offered throughout the year, Art Classes and Camps are for children ages 6-12 and youth ages 13-17 to hone their visual literacy, critical thinking and artmaking skills. Each class or camp features close-looking activities and discussion, unique art projects and material explorations.

- Weekend Art Classes feature a wealth of opportunities for students to explore their creativity including investigative gallery visits and process-led art projects inspired by featured exhibitions. Weekend Art Classes are led by professional artists/educators and are focused on experimentation, risk-taking and participation in a dynamic studio setting.
Total Programs: 13 Total Participants: 105
- ArtBreak Camps are offered during the spring and summer school breaks. Students take the lead in these exploratory programs to discover the world around them through art activities, exercises and projects related to specific themes. Focusing on student interactions and personal experiences, these camps create bridges between art, ideas and the community.
Total Programs: 17 Total Participants: 204

Youth Programs & Initiatives

By engaging with art and ideas featured in current exhibitions, Youth programs provide teens the opportunity to hone their artistic skills and to expand and develop their creative voices.

- Youth Art Classes dive into the creative practices of artists featured in current exhibitions while providing opportunities to take artistic risks in a safe and fun environment.
Total Programs: 2 Total Participants: 9
- The AGA Youth Council is a group of dedicated teen volunteers committed to developing teen audiences at the AGA. As members of the council, youth have exclusive access to the inner workings of the Gallery, as well as unique opportunities to collaborate with local artists and creative professionals. They work alongside AGA staff to design and develop programming initiatives for teens.
Total Programs: 31 Total Participants: 292
- Studio Y Workshops are offered weekly and provide teens with opportunities to drop by the Gallery with friends to hang out and make art. A different topic is presented each week.
Total Programs: 13 Total Participants: 45
- Teen Night is a special night designed just for teens at the AGA. It is the perfect opportunity for youth to see what is happening at the Gallery, make new friends and be creative. Teen Night is developed and presented by the AGA Youth Council.
Total Programs: 2 Total Participants: 145

Adult Programs

- Adult Open Studio is a casual drop-in art workshop offered weekly. Featuring a new project and theme connected to current exhibitions each week, these workshops provide participants with opportunities to experiment and explore new ideas and materials in a relaxing studio environment.

Total Programs: 50 Total Participants: 581

- Art Express is a hands-on approach to art education for adults with developmental challenges. Class sessions take place in twelve-week intervals throughout the year and involve drawing, printmaking, painting, sculpture and mixed media art. Partnering with the Cerebral Palsy Association of Alberta, Art Express offers class projects that are inspired by current exhibitions and are focused on students expressing their creativity.

Total Programs: 45 Total Participants: 243

Community Outreach

Community Outreach activities foster engagement beyond our regular programming schedule and include partnerships with community organizations and activities off-site and in the community.

- Art Hive is a weekly community-based artmaking initiative that is open to all and welcomes participants as artists. Partnering with the St. Stephen's College Art Therapy program at the University of Alberta, Art Hive is a safe(r) and inclusive space that uses artmaking as a tool for collaboration, dialogue, skill-sharing and community engagement for people across different cultural and socio-economic backgrounds, ages and abilities. No art training or experience is required to participate.

Total Programs: 48 Total Participants: 474

- Beyond the Park Art Contest: The AGA partnered with Laberinto Press to find their next book cover artist. The contest was open to artists ages 4-7. Entries were exhibited in our Education Gallery in April. The winning entry will be featured on the front cover of Laberinto Press' anthology *Beyond the Park* to be published in 2024.
- Our Family Roots: A month-long art exhibition from March 12 to April 3 in the TD Education Gallery in partnership with the Alberta Genealogical Society and St. Thomas Aquinas School. Students are invited to investigate their family roots and create a poster for display. The exhibition was open to the public, and the Education and Learning team hosted a special reception and ceremony as part of the outreach initiative.

Total Programs: 1 Total Participants: 200



ACA's Main Hall is often used for a variety of outreach programs. Photography: Dante



Photography: Valeriya Voronovskaya

- Art Cart Educators from the AGA delivered drop-in art programming on Churchill Square in partnership with the Edmonton Arts Council. Art activities explored a range of art, artists, techniques and materials.
Total Programs: 7 Total Participants: 246
- K-Days: The AGA Education Team delivered a roving roster of art activities in Hall G in partnership with Explore Edmonton. Projects included a large art installation and art to take-a-way.
Total Programs: 10 Total Participants: 1,293
- Urban Farm: Educators from the AGA delivered children’s art programming on-site at the Urban Farm in partnership with Explore Edmonton. Art activities focused on sustainable art practices and materials including a bee hotel, a bird nest helper and a small-scale weaving with reusable materials.
Total Programs: 8 Total Participants: 148

Special Presentations

Programming initiatives and prototypes that are new or one-time programs not part of our regular programming schedule.

- Art and Language Meet Up featured an afternoon tour and discussion in three target languages (English, French and Spanish) bringing heritage speakers and language learners together.
Total Programs: 1 Total Participants: 36
- AGO x AGA was a virtual collaboration organized and hosted by the Art Gallery of Ontario. As special presenters, AGA Educators co-created virtual sessions for students grades 1-8, featuring artworks from the AGA’s and AGO’s collections.
Total Programs: 4
- In-Gallery Workshops were facilitated by our Curator of Indigenous Art MJ Belcourt Moses and local artist Alayne Goodwill-Littlechild in tandem with Lana Whiskeyjack’s exhibition *kisikayastew Pr’b’^U°...when the night shines like the day*. These workshops focused on traditional Indigenous art forms including Fish Scale Art, Dentalium Shell Earrings, Applique Beadwork, Medicine Bags and Porcupine Quill Pendants
Total Programs: 4 Total Participants: 28

Programming and Engagement

AGA programming provides opportunities for our patrons and the public to learn more about art and artists in featured exhibitions in a range of presentation formats.

Lectures, Talks and Panels

These programs offer opportunities to connect more deeply with art through facilitated conversations and access to local artists and experts in the arts and cultural field.

Total Programs: 15 Total Participants: 354

- January 21: Artist Talk with Dean Drever
- February 7: Webinar - Navigating the Artworld with Dr. Syrus Marcus and Elsa Robinson. Partnership with CARFAC Alberta
- February 17: Curator's Talk, *Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art* with Sarah Milroy (McMichael Canadian Art Collection)
- March 16: Artist in Conversation with Hanny Al Khoury and Lindsey Sharman
- April 22: Curator's Tour of *Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art* with Danielle Siemens
- April 27: Performance and Artist Talk with Uii Savage
- May 18: Chinatown's Influence on Art and Culture with Councillor Jennifer Rice, Yong Fei Guan, Kev Liang and Shawn Tse
- May 30: Webinar - Why Visual Artists Need a Contract with Chris W. Carson and Terrance Houle. In partnership with CARFAC Alberta
- June 1: Curator's Tour of *William Hogarth: Gone to the Dogs* with Lindsey Sharman
- June 9: Artist in Conversation with Kenzie Housego and Lindsey Sharman
- August 24: Demystifying Grant Writing with Kari McQueen from AFA
- October 3: Webinar - Call for Submissions: 101 with Tyler Shepard. In partnership with CARFAC Alberta
- November 4: Curator's Tour of *The Collectors' Cosmos: The Meakins-McClaran Print Collection* with Collectors Dr. Jonathan Meakins and Dr. Jacqueline McClaran and Sonia Del Re, Senior Curator of Prints and Drawings (National Gallery of Canada)
- November 14: Public Lecture: Alberta and the West Changing Canadian Art by former Senator Patricia Bovey, moderated by Senator Paula Simons
- November 16: Art Industry Night. In partnership with CARFAC Alberta



Photography: Charles Cousins

Film Night

Our monthly film nights highlight themes from current exhibitions as well as ongoing social and cultural affairs.

Total Programs: 13 Total Participants: 348

- January 12: Double Feature - *Charlotte* (2021) and *Loving Vincent* (2017)
- February 9: Double Feature - *Moonlight* (2016) and *If Beale Street Could Talk* (2017), in partnership with YEG TheComeUp
- Anime Night - *Pom Poko* (1994) and *The Red Turtle* (2016), in partnership with the Alberta Society for Asian Popular Arts (ASAPA)
- April 13: Spotlight on the Films of Kent Monkman
- May 4: Anime Night - *Tokyo Godfathers* (2003) and *Paprika* (2006), in partnership with ASAPA
- June 15: Double Feature - *Factory Girl* (2006) and *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar* (1995)
- July 6: Spotlight on Banksy - *Banksy Does New York* (2014) and *Exit Through the Gift Shop* (2010)
- July 13: Anime Night - *The Super Mario Bros Movie* (2023) and *Final Fantasy VII: Advent Children* (2005), in partnership with ASAPA
- August 10: Double Feature - *Cunningham* (2019) and *Pina* (2011)
- September 14: Anime Night - *Ghost in the Shell* (1996) in partnership with ASAPA
- October 13: Halloween Double Feature - *Get Out* (2017) and *Hereditary* (2018)
- November 9: Spotlight on Art and Fashion - *McQueen* (2018) and *The First Monday in May* (2016)
- December 14: Double Feature - *Alice Neel* (2007) and *All the Beauty and the Bloodshed* (2022)

Refinery

Refinery is a late-night party that encourages a unique way to look at and engage with art. Each Refinery leans into a different theme and includes live performances, art activities and more.

Total Programs: 2 Total Participants: 1,108

- March 4: Go for Gold
- October 28: Rave to the Grave

Event Days

Full-day programming, including performances by local artists, art activities and complimentary film screenings.

Total Programs: 4 Total Participants: 1,844

- February 20: Family Day



Dancing in the Main Hall during Refinery. Photography: Dante

- August 19: Pride Day at the AGA
- June 21: Indigenous Peoples' Day at the AGA
- October 5: Seniors' Takeover Day

Special Presentations

Unique programming initiatives and prototypes that occur outside our regular schedule of events.

Total Programs: 3 Total Participants: 214

- July 20: AGA After Dark - AGA Goes Pop
- September 14: Student Night at your AGA, in partnership with MacEwan University and the University of Alberta
- September 22: AGA After Dark, Banksy Edition

Public Tours and On the Spot

Weekly public tours and presentations of current exhibitions.

Total Programs: 299 Total Participants: 918

Aging Artfully

Starting this year, we invited seniors from our community to come together and support programming initiatives for their peers. This initiative led to the creation of the AGA's newest advisory group, known as Aging Artfully. Through their efforts, we introduced a tour series and new film-screening program, Cinema for Seniors.

Total Programs: 15 Total Participants: 422

Seniors' Tours

- April 28: Tour of *Generations: The Sobey Family and Canadian Art*
- May 27: Tour of AGA Collection
- June 23: Tour of Dance Party
- August 18: Tour of *From Warhol to Banksy*
- November 24: Tour of *The Collectors' Cosmos: The Meakins-McClaran Print Collection*

Cinema for Seniors

- January 13: *Loving Vincent* (2017)
- February 10: *Herb and Dorothy* (2008)
- March 10: *Women in Gold* (2015)
- April 13: Spotlight on the Films of Kent Monkman
- May 12: *Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry* (2012)
- June 9: *Factory Girl* (2006)
- July 14: *Banksy Does New York* (2014)
- August 4: *Pina* (2011)
- November 10: *The First Monday in May* (2016)
- December 8: *Alice Neel* (2007)

Community Tours

Our Community Tour Series invites a new speaker from the community each month to lead a tour of a current exhibition, giving our audience a unique perspective of the artwork on display.

Total Programs: 10

Total Participants: 460

- January 26: Tour of *Road Trip* with Lincoln Ho from Yegventures
- February 23: Tour of *5 Artists 1 Love* with Darren Jordan
- March 30: Tour of *Esmāa Mohamoud: To Play in the Face of Certain Defeat* with Lebo Disele
- May 25: Workshop for *Dance Party* - Salsa Dancing with Maxwell Aguilar
- June 29: Tour of *From Warhol to Banksy* with LaDonna Stone
- July 29: Workshop for *Dance Party* - Intro to Hip Hop with Nimihitotân Dance Collective



Touring *Between Things: Alberta Ceramics* with curator Lindsey Sharman. Photography: Dante

- August 31: Tour of *Dance Party* with Jen Dunford
- September 28: Tour of *From Warhol to Banksy* with Visual Arts Student Association (VASA)
- October 26: Tour of *Between Things: Alberta Ceramics* with Lori Fossum from the Edmonton Potters Guild
- November 30: Tour of *The Collectors' Cosmos: The Meakins-McClaran Print Collection* with Alex R.M. Thompson, SNAP Gallery

Markets

Our Market Series invites local entrepreneurs, artists and craftspeople to share their work with our audience.

Total Programs: 4 Total Participants: 3,279

- May 20 and 21: Comic and Zine Market
- July 29 and 30: CREATE Indigenous Arts Market in partnership with I.A.M. Collective
- August 19: Pride Market
- November 25 and 26: Handmade for the Holidays



The gallery was host to a wide variety of vendors during several markets held throughout the year. Photography: Charles Cousins

Outreach Tours and Programs

Throughout the year, we offer free tours and exhibition access to community groups, fostering engagement and connections with the AGA.

Total Programs: 4 Total Participants: 203

- January 14: Tour for YEGThe Come Up
- February 2: Student Mixer for the University of Alberta and MacEwan University
- May 6: Tour for Canadian International Immigrant and Refugee Support Association (CIIRSA)
- November 25: Art Bus, in partnership with Visual Arts Groups

Partnerships

Throughout the year, the AGA partnered with local organizations to co-host events, concerts, and programs aiming to bring new audiences to the Gallery.

Total Programs: 2 Total Participants: 73

- February 16: All That You Change Poetry and Open Mic, in partnership with the Green Room and Roots on Six
- February 18: Qaleidoscope Queer Film and Performance on Tour, in partnership with Queer City Cinema

Community Partners

- 5 Artists 1 Love
- Alberta Society for Asian Popular Arts (ASAPA)
- CARFAC Alberta
- HIV Edmonton
- I.A.M Indigenous Art Collective
- MacEwan University
- Roots on Six
- The Green Room
- Queer City Cinema
- Visual Arts Student Association at the University of Alberta
- YEG TheComeUP
- University of Alberta



Visitors enjoying Trudy Golley's *(a)blaze* from the exhibition *Between Things: Alberta Ceramics*. Photography: Charles Cousins



Membership

By the end of 2023, the AGA had a total of 2,914 members, ranging from individuals to families.

Our members don't just gain access to art—they support it.

Membership helps us sustain our community outreach efforts, as well as present a diverse range of exhibitions and programs.

Our philanthropic members further enrich their connection with the AGA by generously adding a tax-deductible, charitable donation. Curator's and Director's Circle members also enhance their knowledge of the art world through a more immersive, in-depth AGA experience.

Exclusive events and previews, workshops and studio visits and captivating talks with visiting curators and artists are just a few of the unforgettable experiences we deliver to members.

Did you know? Some memberships include reciprocal admission at over 1,000 museums and galleries across Canada, plus Bermuda, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama and the United States! Local membership is a valuable addition to your travels.

Our members join to support the arts and become a part of a community that nurtures and celebrates artistic expression.



Photography: Charles Cousins

Enterprise and Visitor Experience

Acting as “the face of the AGA”, Enterprise and Visitor Experience creates a warm and welcoming environment for our guests, clients, customers and members. By marrying the attributes of its four programs—Guest Services, Art Sales & Rental, the Community Gallery and shopAGA—Enterprise reaches into Alberta’s creative community and helps build sustainable financial opportunities for artists and makers while attracting visitors to Edmonton’s downtown.

Guest Services

As the first point of contact for most visitors to the AGA, Guest Services plays an integral role in ensuring visitors enjoy their time at the Gallery. In addition to processing admissions, Guest Services also serves as a hub of information for visitors, clients and artists.

With 2023 being the first pandemic-era year without government-mandated health and safety restrictions and open travel borders, the AGA reported considerable growth in attendance. Overall visitation, including all programming, education and events, increased by over 32% from the previous year and the highest since 2017 with the majority of visitors interacting directly with our Guest Services team. By providing ongoing training to our Guest Services Associates and streamlining daily processes, the increased traffic was managed to ensure the exceptional level of personal service we strive to provide all visitors.

Our Guest Services team is also involved in the Membership process, from enrollment, to visitation and renewal. Over the last year, growth in Memberships was a focus for the AGA and the AGA experienced a significant increase in active members. The Guest Services team are always pleased to be able to connect in person or over the phone with our new and returning members.

Art Sales and Rental

The longest-running program of its kind in Alberta, Art Sales & Rental enables the public to enjoy art in their homes and offices at a reasonable cost. This vital program supports Alberta artists through remuneration for artwork sold and rented. It also provides a high-profile platform through which professional artists can promote their bodies of work both physically and virtually. For the visitor, the Art Sales & Rental Gallery creates an accessible avenue to encounter thousands of artworks in every medium, which in turn builds understanding of and greater appreciation for Alberta art and artists.

In 2023, Art Sales & Rental:

- Represented 164 artists
- Carried over 1,460 artworks available for rent and purchase
- Rented an average of 104 artworks each month by 50 artists to 26 clients
- Sold 70 works to 51 clients

Recognizing the importance of stewarding Alberta's next generation of cultural workers, Art Sales & Rental hosted one field placement student from the Grant McEwan University Arts & Cultural Management Program. In this 280-hour placement our intern gained meaningful learning opportunities and real-world culture-sector work experience that included retail/rental operations and management, art handling, client & visitor relations and basic curatorial practices including art installation.

Community Gallery

A new initiative of the Art Sales & Rental program, the Community Gallery supports local community groups who are interested in curating and producing diverse art exhibitions with the intention of selling their artworks. Through this initiative, the AGA provides a venue for these retail exhibitions and supports their production, installation and promotion. Undertaken in a spirit of collaboration, openness and knowledge sharing, the Community Gallery space features up to five exhibitions per year and is always free to the public with all exhibited artworks available for sale.

In 2023, under the administration of Art Sales & Rental, the Community Gallery showcased four exhibitions: *Mosaics*, *PUSH*, *Boreal Barometer: The Art of Observation and Well-Being*, and *Mosaic II*. Combined, these exhibitions featured 286 artworks by 129 Alberta senior-, mid-career and emerging artists.

shopAGA

Attracting visitors to the heart of downtown Edmonton, shopAGA is an integral part of our creative community. Celebrating Alberta's provincial identity through the lens of the maker, shopAGA is committed to featuring well-crafted, original, culturally significant and locally sourced, small-batch, studio-made selections that complement AGA gallery exhibitions.

shopAGA is more than a retail destination. It is an integral part of an artist's diverse, whole-career professional practice. shopAGA's retail and marketing opportunities serve as an important component to an artist's larger career scope by supporting their revenue-generation streams and providing a platform on which to build profile in support of their artistic identity. And with a selection of over 1,000 pieces of art, fine craft and design created by 128 artists, designers and makers, shopAGA ensures underrepresented communities are provided opportunities to sell their works. In 2023, shopAGA vendor representation included:

- 49% new vendors
- 78% Albertan
- 21% Indigenous
- 7% persons of colour
- 7% new citizens
- 62% female-led business
- 2% LGBTQ+
- 9% senior (65+ years)
- 7% Francophone

Each year, shopAGA attracts more artists, designers, makers and writers who seek to be a part of this growing enterprise. As our catalog of creators grow, so do the buying selections for our customers, enhancing the gallery experience and making one's shopping excursion more interesting and culturally diverse.

Donors and Patrons

Thank you to our donors, members, sponsors, volunteers and funders for empowering the AGA to reach the remarkable milestone of our 100th Anniversary in 2024. You are instrumental in connecting our community through the discovery and wonder of the visual arts. We're embarking on our second century with excitement to spark ongoing engagement, creativity and innovation. Together we will craft a lasting future for art in our province.

Visionaries \$100,000 +

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Equity Committee

The Equity Committee focuses on advancing the AGA's commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility (IDEA).

The current Committee consists of four full-time staff and three part-time staff. While serving as the ex-officio, the Executive Director participates in committee meetings to offer guidance and advice.

2023 Accomplishments:

Accessibility

- Initiated accessibility strategies for the blind and low-vision community
- Completed Audio Description Training with VocalEyez
- Hosted Community Consultation in partnership with CNIB
- Developed touch stations for our featured exhibition Second Skin from September 30-December 31, 2023.

Education

- Initiated 5-min IDEA presentations and learning opportunities during monthly staff meetings
- Completed an IDEA module prototype for new staff

Outreach

- Organized an Art Industry Night for Equity Seeking Artists
- Participated in an Event hosted by the City of Edmonton's Indigenous Education and Programming at Fort Edmonton Park

Marketing

Throughout 2023, Marketing and Communications continued to position the AGA as the center of visual arts in Alberta by growing our brand affinity, increasing community partnership and promoting our exhibitions, events, education programs, shopAGA and Art Sales and Rental. We saw increased audiences, community engagement and visitation in 2023 and look forward to promoting the AGA's 100th anniversary in 2024.

Quick Numbers

- Over 127,000 social media followers - an increase of 6,000 from 2022
- 17,574 E-News subscribers or a 29% growth from 2022
- 55% e-newsletter open rate, more than double the industry standard
- 54 e-newsletters sent in 2023
- 102 media stories
- Partnered with 16 organizations or groups
- 32% growth in visitation since 2022

2023 Board Listing

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Volunteers

In 2023, the Art Gallery of Alberta had **144** volunteers. In total, they spent **1,340** hours providing support to our programs, special events, classes and exhibitions. Volunteers are essential to the AGA, and we would like to thank the following individuals for their time, efforts and dedication:

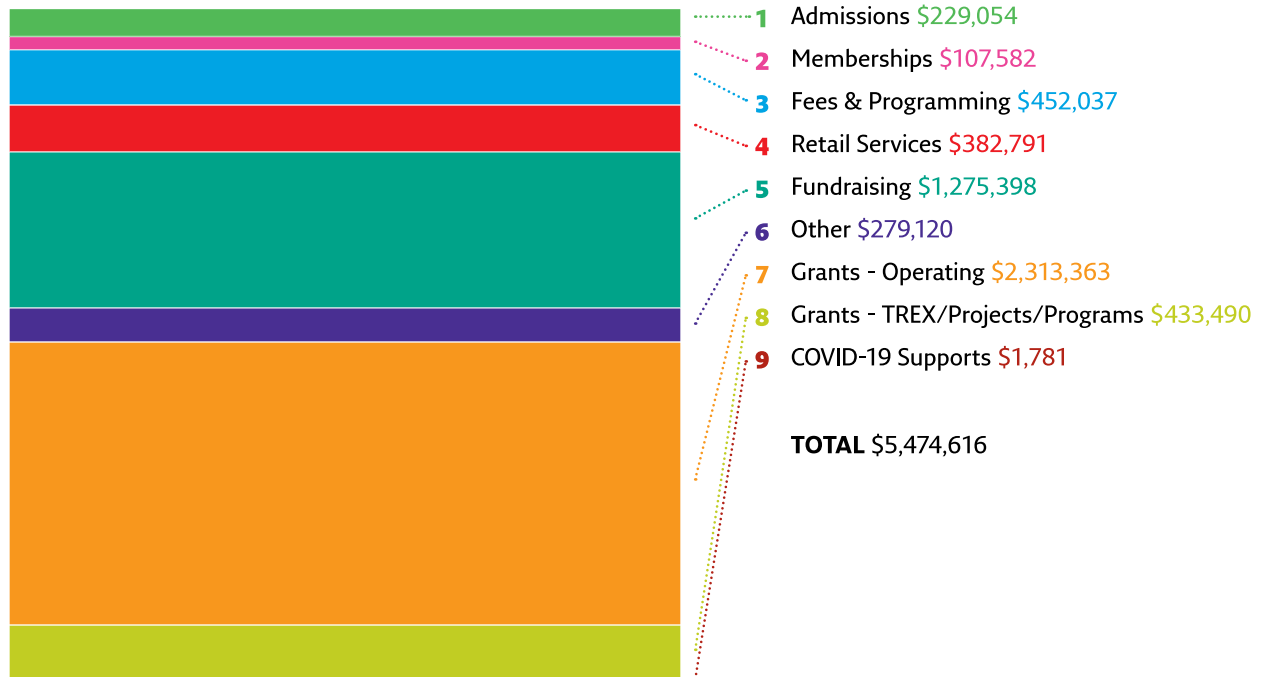
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Stefanie Braz	George Kasinyabo	Marnie O'Brien	Tori Taphorn
Sherisse Bruke	Amitoj Kaur	Labeebah Oke	Raissa Torres
An Bui	Gurleen Kaur	Alexandra Denise Orana	Patricia Towe
Cesia Cabezas	Jaileen Kaur	Charise Yael Orzales	Vanessa Traub
Rose Marie Cassis	Zalak Khatri	Tiana Osinchuk	Will Truchon
Rob Cauti	Sally Kim	Mike Otto	Elaine Tsuruda
Davi Cavanaugh	Christian Kruchak	Gemma Palmer	Barbara Vollanueva
Guninder Chahal	Nikki LaPointe	Riddhiben Patel	Valeriya Voronovskaya
Philip Christiansen	Kyra Larison	Gloria & Percy Perrich	Lynn & Xavier Wade
Ashlee Coleman	Chelsea Lau	Ryan Persaud	Mandy Wan
Nicoletta De Angelis	Graham Leggett	Sharon Pianzola	Amy Weber
Ursula Dhillon	Michelle Leung	Janine Pieterse	Jon Wild
Sherry Dinh	Yi Liang	Isabella Pino	Kathy Wiseman
Yekbu Dirik	Alexandra Ligtermoet	Aparnaa Pradhan	Aaliyah Wusu
Jenny Dmytryshyn	Jiayi Liu	Lori Purvis	Kate Xu
Xin Yi Dong	Brooke Lovegrove	Querida Quarshie	Julia Youm
Rachelle Drouin	Sophia Lucenara	Emely Quiring	Jieying Yu
Cristian Dumo	Bridget Lyne	Paris Ragbir	
Youmna Eltonesy	Kiana LyNguyen	Gabriela Ramirez	
Linda Frena	Elin Macleod	Shreya Ravi	
Abigail Fullwood	Elisa Mannarino	Christine Requino	
	Hannah Manning	Javier Reyes Delpech	



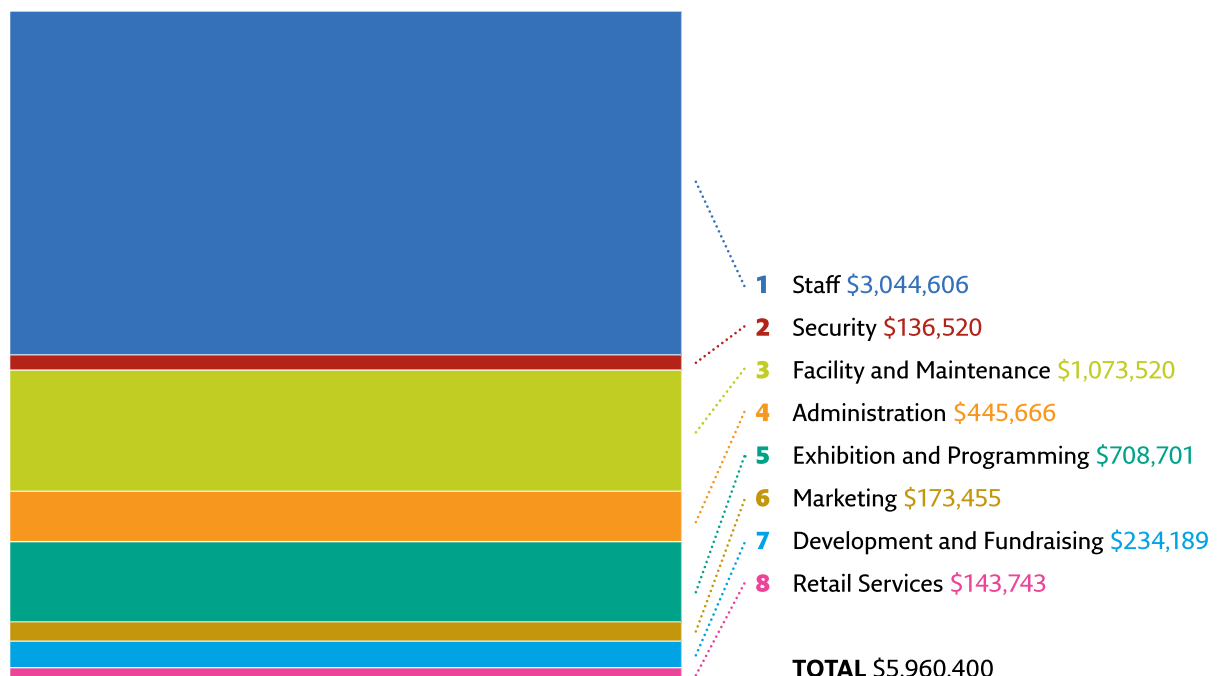
A visitor takes a closer look at a Rembrandt etching in *The Collectors' Cosmos: The Meakins-McClaran Print Collection*.
Photography: Charles Cousins

Revenues & Expenses

2023 Operating Revenue: \$5,474,616



2023 Operating Expenses: \$5,960,400





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art gallery of alberta

Art Gallery of alberta
2, Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2C1
www.youraga.ca
780.422.6223

Various works by Roy Lichtenstein from the exhibition *From Warhol to Banksy*.