

IACS (ArtSpring) AGM Annual Report November 26, 2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

It has been my pleasure to serve as president of the IACS(ArtSpring) board. This will be my final opportunity to express my gratitude to the board, the membership, and our E/AD for all the support shown me in this capacity. It was thoroughly enjoyable to work with all of you in support of the wonderful success of our cherished community treasure, ArtSpring.

We as a board have been busy with a variety of projects.

1. Successfully moved the name change forward through the CRA. We are now officially IACS(ArtSpring)
2. Doubled our membership numbers to 350+.
3. Launched our quarterly newsletter "What's Up"
4. Increased our fundraising capacity with the implementation of the Raffle in early spring.
5. In the interest of a forward thinking succession plan, starting with the text term, we have created a Past-President position on the board.
6. Established a working committee, preparing for the upcoming Lease Renewal with CRD.

The standing committees have fulfilled their various duties very well indeed.

The Planning Committee, chaired by Karen Arney, hosted a lovely Volunteer Appreciation event in April. Murray Reiss has updated our Redbook to keep the manual relevant and informative to take boards into the future. A successful bid was made for the CAPACOA grant to offset the costs for the board retreat in 2019.

The Development Committee, chaired by Christina Penhale, hosted a lovely event in appreciation of our generous and committed donors. The membership drive took place over October and has been very successful. The Donor appeal which is considered to be the most important and significant task of the board, took place with the appeal letters hitting the Post Office before the threatened strike. Thank you to all of you who responded to the appeal. You are vital to the success of ArtSpring.

The Nomination Committee, chaired by Debbi Toole, hosted a Meet and Greet in January. This provided an opportunity for our members to meet staff and sign up on various committees. This went very well indeed. We interviewed many candidates and have a roster of future candidates that gives us great confidence in moving forward. Thank you to our successful nominees.

The Finance Committee, chaired by Carole Eyles, has been diligent and ever watchful, effectively distilling the information so the board understands our financial picture. The discussions around the table have been far reaching and informative. We have been in very good hands. A special thanks for Carole's years of service.

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These are a few of our events and discussions over the past year. Moving into the future the focus is on the lease renewal, continued improved communication to the membership, increasing membership, and finally a policy review within the Redbook.

Thank you for staying connected and supportive of ArtSpring.

Debbi Toole, President

EXECUTIVE AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Thank you for your interest in and support of ArtSpring. We are fortunate to live in a community where people had the foresight to create an organization and building such as ArtSpring. How different this community would be without such a resource. I am reminded that the most important thing we do is serve this community. ArtSpring is a resource to this community: A space where the Secondary School can get experience working in a professional theatre, a space where the SSI Painters' Guild can meet on a weekly basis, a space where a youth choir has been formed and rehearses weekly. I could go on but it ends up sounding like a laundry list. There are almost 300 events in this building every year, 80% of those events are created and presented by members of this community. The other 20% is the curated season of concerts we call *ArtSpring Presents* which ensures that Salt Springers can see professional artists at a fraction of the cost of going to Victoria or Vancouver.

I am very grateful to the board, particularly the Executive Committee, for their support and hard work. It has truly been a pleasure working with you this year. This most recent year saw us celebrating ArtSpring's retiring Technical Director, Marv Coulthard, and we did it in proper style with a show full of community artists all emceed by the fabulous Deb Toole. After a long search, we also hired a new Technical Director, Amy Allen, who has been doing great work with all of our community users and visiting artists. We are so grateful to the volunteer work of Dick Tipping which saw ArtSpring through Marv's time of battling cancer. We are also so grateful to the many hours that Alan Coombes has donated to the theatre.

As a team we continue to look for ways to help our community users bring their work to the stage and gallery walls. We have made some changes to the use of the lobby space which we hope will encourage new artists and youth to display in those spaces. The theatre has seen a number of changes in the last year. Over the summer the curtain was split in half and the curtain track was entirely rebuilt. An additional curtain was rigged and hung off stage right to keep the backstage area hidden from the audience (a big thank you to Dick Tipping, Al Lehman, and Alan Coombes). In August 2018 ArtSpring purchased a new HD LED projector which has had an enormous impact on the experience of MET Opera viewers and the Salt Spring Film Festival. We have also improved the sound quality in the theatre using a pair of donated speakers.

I am forever amazed at this team and how they work together. They are definitely much more than the sum of their parts. My heartfelt thanks to my hard-working and passionate staff:

- Meghan Howcroft - Operations Manager
- Jane Aitken – Box Office Manager & Coordinator of Volunteers
- Jessica Beck – Marketing Manager & Operations Support

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- Erin Cleal – Building & Grounds Manager
- Amy Allen - Technical Director
- Marcus Kufner – Bookkeeper
- Nikki Christou – Custodian (contract)
- Diana Lundine – Treasure Fair Project Lead
- Anna Haltrecht – Dance Outreach Coordinator (contract)
- Wreford Miller – IT Support (contract)
- Adler Rabson – Sound Tech (contract)

Makana Youth Choir – Caroni Young (Director)

Youth Art Enrichment - Tracy Harrison (Facilitator) and Quentin Harris (Facilitator)

Some of the projects we worked on in the 2017-18 season:

Celebration of the Arts and Artist Mash-up:

October 2017 was the second presentation of “Celebration of the Arts”. Celebration is an opportunity for all artists to highlight the process behind their work, demonstrate their work, and provide opportunities for the visiting public to participate. Artists set up in the gallery and the visiting public enjoyed the experience of participating in various art forms. We also had a children’s art project section and the Artists’ Mash-Up performance in the ArtSpring Theatre. All events were well attended. It was decided to continue the event in the 2018-19 programming season but move the date to coincide with the Easter Art Tour in April 2019.

Grants that ArtSpring received in 2017-18 because we have a professional presenting series:

- \$3,000 (Made in BC Dance on Tour)
- \$21,380 (BC Arts Council)
- \$26,000 (Canadian Heritage - CAPF)

We are so grateful to Country Grocer for continuing to support our children's programming by making performances accessible to youth through \$5 tickets, sponsoring performances for the schools, and sponsoring our Chamber Music Festival. Thank you to John Lefebre for making the Makana Youth Choir possible. We are also so very grateful to Mouat's Trading and the large number of individuals who support the ArtSpring Presents series through sponsorship. Finally, thank you to everyone who supports ArtSpring through donations, volunteerism, and attending performances. We couldn't do it without you.

As part of Capital Expenditures in the past fiscal year:

- New projector for the theatre

Future Projects:

- Flooring for Gallery
- Carpet in entire building

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- Thank you to Anna Haltrecht for all of her work as the Community Outreach Coordinator. The success of her work is clearly seen in ArtSpring's close to capacity dance audiences.
- 11th annual Chamber Music Fest, 13 students and three well received concerts.
- In 2017-18 we held the second Celebration of the Arts, intended to show the broad spectrum of art being created on the island, to give a window into the artistic process, and to inspire people to participate in the creative process.
- Painting interior/exterior of ArtSpring
- Renovation of the offices

Thank you for your support and interest. You help us make ArtSpring a vibrant, living place. ArtSpring is your theatre. Thank you for your support and trust.

Cicela Månsson, Executive & Artistic Director

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE REPORT

Cecila Månsson (Chair), Kate Merry, George Ehring, Joanne Whitehead, Derek Lundy, Luanne Katz, Joi Freed-Garrod, and ex-officio member Debbi Toole.

Programme Committee Report
The ArtSpring Presents series of 2017-18.

The Programming Committee members have a special interest in the arts, some as the most ardent of fans, some as artists themselves. I am grateful to this committee for lending me their time, eyes and ears in finding the best possible mix of artists to present at ArtSpring. Thank you to the members of this committee.

We hope that the breadth of the programming will entice the Salt Spring community to come and experience what ArtSpring is able to bring to the island. A few items of note:

In the *ArtSpring Presents* series of 2017-18:

Music:

Jane Coop
The Fretless
Luanne Katz
Early Spirit
Victoria Baroque
Gryphon Trio
Remi Bolduc Jazz Ensemble
Jan Lisiecki
Rolston String Quartet
Victoria Jazz Orchestra

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Constantinople
Jasper Wood
Daniel Lapp

Dance:

Josh Beamish
Ballet Victoria
MM Contemporary Dance (Italy)
Tara Cheyenne

Theatre:

Runaway Moon Theatre
One Man Pride & Prejudice
Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch
Krapp's Last Tape

Death Cafés

MET Opera Broadcasts - 6 live broadcasts

Workshops:

Youth Art Enrichment

- Art and Techniques of Robert Bateman – facilitated by Tracy Harrison
- Salish Art Workshop – facilitated by Quentin Harris

Choral Workshop Festival and Concert

- 3-day workshop with Morna Edmundson of Elektra Women's Choir

Josh Beamish

- Dance workshop for GISS/GISPA
- Dance workshop for Community

Ballet Victoria

- Dance workshop for GISS/GISPA

MM Contemporary Dance

- Dance workshop for GISS/GISPA

Tara Cheyenne

- Character development/movement workshop for GISS/GISPA
- Character development/movement workshop for Community

Chamber Music Festival

- Week-long young artist intensive study program culminating in concert.

Cicela Månsson, Chair

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TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF THE 2017-18 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

I would like to thank our bookkeeper Marcus Kufner and our EAD Cicela Månsson for their ongoing efforts to keep our finances in good order.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Finance Committee, Brian Gilliam, Debbi Toole, Cicela Månsson ex officio, Scott Howe and Brian Lawson community members, for their ongoing support and attention to detail.

Our fund-raising this year brought in \$128,000 thanks to a successful Treasure Fair, our inaugural raffle, and the generosity of our annual appeal supporters. Volunteers worked very hard and donors were generous as always. Thank you to all of you who support with both time and money the arts community on Salt Spring, especially this facility that makes so much of what is done here possible. You will have received your letter inviting you to continue to support ArtSpring financially for the coming fiscal year. Stay tuned for the 2019 Raffle, which is sure to be exciting.

Over the year revenue exceeded expenses by \$19,000. This includes overcoming the \$16,000 deficit from last year. We have moved \$15,000 of this surplus to rebuild our contingency fund. This year we purchased capital assets of about \$16,500, including computers, servers and satellite receivers and improvements to the theatre curtain system. As our building is now 20 years old, we can anticipate increased demands on our capital improvement fund to keep this busy place operational.

ArtSpring was very pleased to receive a legacy bequest from the estate of Gladys Page. Please consider following her example and leaving a legacy donation to ArtSpring in your will. Your financial advisor can give you information on the tax benefits of doing so. Also for those of you who would prefer to make a regular monthly donation via credit card, we are now able to do this as well.

With the ongoing generosity of our dedicated members, supporters, donors and sponsors IACS and ArtSpring will continue to provide the events, showcases, displays and performances that mean so much to our community at large.

Carole Eyles, Treasurer

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's Report as circulated.

Motion: To appoint the firm of McLean, Lizotte, Wheadon & Co. as represented by Mr. Frédéric Lizotte as the IACS auditor for 2018/19

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PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Cicela Mansson (ex-officio), Deb Toole (Board President), Robin Ferry (Board Vice President), Murray Reiss, Jenny Barrio, and Karen Arney (Chair).

The Annual Volunteer Appreciation Reception

The VAR was held on April 19, 2018, from 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. in the gallery at ArtSpring. The reception date coincided with Tara Cheyenne's evening performance in the Theatre. Volunteers and their guests were offered a discounted \$5 ticket price to the show.

The 2018 Honoured Volunteers were Jenny Barrio and Esta (Astha) Bollinger. A special thanks was extended to Dick Tipping.

Red Book Update

A Red Book update was undertaken by Murray Reiss. It was determined as we moved through the process that a complete overhaul of the Red Book needed to be undertaken. It was decided at the September 10 Board Meeting that a review of the policies sections of the Red Book is to be done by the 2019 board, perhaps by a committee chaired by Past President.

Board Retreat

There was no board retreat in 2018. However, the date of May 6 was chosen for all-day Board retreat in 2019. A successful application was submitted to CAPACOA Presenters Capacity Building Program for a grant to cover the \$1240.00 expenses of hiring a facilitator for the retreat.

Lifetime Honorary Membership award

None were awarded in 2018, however we recommend that the 2018-19 Planning Committee consider possible recipients for 2019 to be presented at the 2019 Volunteer Appreciation Event.

Karen Arney, Chair

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Christina Penhale (chair), Jekka Krayenhoff, John Stewart (community committee member), Debbi Toole, Cicela Månsson (ex officio)

The IACS Development Committee is committed to supporting and honouring our donors, our members and generally being ambassadors of IACS to the community at large. To that end we create opportunities that support and recognize our Donors and our Membership. In addition, we provide general support for other fundraising activities as requested such as assistance with the Annual Appeal. Regarding this year's Appeal, we increased the outreach by a significant amount sending out over 1300 letters and the results so far are very positive.

Our Donor Appreciation Event on July 25th at the Salt Spring Vineyards and Winery was a complete success. With such a beautiful place to relax and spend a few hours with friends and supporters, 60 people in attendance were further treated to the sounds of live guitar music, a plentiful display of hors d'oeuvres generously donated by Country Grocer and of course, some

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very special wine.

We completed the traditional Membership Renewal Drive during the month of October. Membership numbers have almost doubled in the last year, 2017-2018 season, at 306 members and are looking very promising for this year. We are continuing to encourage more ArtSpring theatre goers to see the value of becoming a member of the ArtSpring family by adding some intriguing incentives over the past year including a members only event. This was the first year of our quarterly Newsletter for Members Only, it was very successful and well received. Thank you to all our members for another fantastic year.

Christina Penhale, Chair

NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The IACS Nomination Committee became a Standing Committee in 2017 and the result has been very positive. The extra time has allowed us to better evaluate the board activities and this year we've had a truly vibrant, committed and collegial board.

The process of recruiting potential members begins in the spring of each year with evaluations of the existing board, a review of how many seats will mostly be vacant and what skills we'll be looking for to create yet again a strong, engaged and balanced board. Interviews are held in the summer for those who are interested in finding out more about what board membership entails. Final decisions are made by matching the needs of the organization with the skills, availability and enthusiasm of the interested community member.

Robin Ferry, Vice-President of the Board

NOMINATION OF DIRECTORS

Standing for Election for a Two-year Term: Lynn Blanche, Scott Howe, Suzanne Rouger, Daniel Squizzato

BIOGRAPHIES OF NOMINEES STANDING FOR ELECTION

Lynn Blanche:

My partner, Gary Lehman, and I arrived on Salt Spring September 11, 2007 to begin the 'adventure' of building our new log home. We were happy to leave the 'hustle and bustle' of Toronto behind and come to live in such a quiet, peaceful place-a place that also has a golf course, a movie theatre and ArtSpring.

Early on, we learned that this island has a plethora of volunteer opportunities. I have enjoyed the diversity of available experiences-from working at the Visitor Centre, playing Scrabble with the residents in ECU to 'pouncing' at Treasure Fair. However, my favourite volunteer job is working on the desk at the library on Friday mornings.

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For me, one of the joys of living here is singing in the choir-*Viva Chorale*. Not only do we sing in concerts but fulfill our mandate of being a 'choir for the community' by singing at community events and care homes at Christmas and for Canada Day. I find these experiences of 'giving back' to the community very rewarding.

I have had the opportunity to be choir manager and a board member of *Viva Chorale* and also the treasurer for CFUW.

I believe that ArtSpring is a Salt Spring 'treasure'- a place to celebrate and enjoy the Arts and a place for the community to gather. I welcome the opportunity to contribute as a member of the ArtSpring Board.

Scott Howe

This is déjà vu for me as I was IACS board member a decade ago and served as treasurer for part of that period. I am excited to have the opportunity to take on a more active role with this wonderful organization again.

I have lived on Salt Spring since 2000 and raised my two sons, Sebastian and Nicholas, here. I am the Senior Wealth Advisor at the Salt Spring branch of Island Savings, where I have worked for the past 15 years.

Aside from ArtSpring, during my time on Salt Spring I have served on the boards of a number of local organizations, including PARC, the library, the hospital foundation, School District PAC and Rotary. These experiences have helped me become more connected to the island and are examples of my belief in the importance of community service.

In my spare time, I sing with Viva Chorale! and play soccer (albeit poorly) with the local 'Old Boys' soccer team.

Suzanne Rouger

I studied theater at the University of California at Irvine, and received a Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Theater in 1987. In 1990 I earned teaching credentials from the State of California to teach grades K-12. Over the past 30 years I have worked in the performing arts in a variety of capacities. I have worked in film, in television and on stage. I have produced, directed, written, acted, and designed lighting, costumes and sets. I have also taught acting and theater classes to all ages from elementary school children to adults.

In 2008 I moved to Salt Spring Island. Since being here I have participated in theater with several different groups on the island. I have directed a number of plays including, *Steel Magnolias* for The Academy presents, *Rumors*, *Jenny's House of Joy*, and *Harold and Maude* for Salt Spring Community Theater, and *Peter on the Brink* and *Grand Illusion* for Just for Fun.

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Most recently I performed in Exit Stage Left's production of *The Taming of the Shrew*. I am also currently serving as co-chair of Salt Spring Community Theater.

I am thrilled that you would consider me for a position on the Board of ArtSpring. Our community benefits from the variety of visual and performing arts that this venue promotes and supports. Art is the hallmark of vital culture. Having the opportunity to serve ArtSpring in its role to encourage and provide a home for artists of all abilities and of all stripes from amateur to seasoned professional would be my honor and my pleasure.

Daniel Squizzato

Daniel was born in Toronto, and holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing and Communications Studies (York University, Toronto), and a Bachelor of Journalism (University of King's College, Halifax). He has worked as an editor for the Toronto Star and Metro News, and as a freelance contributor for organizations including Maclean's magazine, the Canadian Olympic Committee and the CBC.

Upon moving to Salt Spring in 2014, he acquired a Bachelor of Education (Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo) and has worked as a teacher in School District 64 (Gulf Islands) since 2016. He has also performed on the ArtSpring stage as a vocalist (Salt Spring Singers) and actor (*Spring Awakening*, *Spamalot*, *Mamma Priscilla: The Sequin*). He lives in Fulford with his Salt Spring-born wife.