Welcome to the second issue of *City and Culture*, the City of Regina’s arts and culture community program update. This newsletter provides information on recent programs and events hosted by the City of Regina and its partners, and highlights local initiatives that contribute to achieving the goals of Regina’s Cultural Plan: Embrace cultural diversity, Strengthen the artistic and cultural community and Commemorate and celebrate the City’s cultural heritage.

**Glockenspiel Refurbishment and Installation**

The City of Regina Glockenspiel was officially reinstalled on October 23, 2020 and is once again playing songs for the residents, visitors and businesses of downtown Regina. Since its removal in 2010, the heritage instrument has enjoyed multiple upgrades including a newly mounted clock, refurbished bells and a new digital control system. Songs play daily at 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturdays (Sundays are off). Short musical selections curated by local musicians and the Glockenspiel Program Advisory Committee will be updated twice a year to reflect seasonal changes as well as a diverse spectrum of musical tastes and interests. The success of the Glockenspiel project was made possible with the support of local stakeholders including the Regina German Club, Regina Multicultural Council, Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan, Heritage Regina and the Regina Downtown Business Improvement District. An official Glockenspiel re-opening event is tentatively scheduled for spring 2021!
Since being approved by Council in 2019, the Civic Art and Cultural Collections Policy (CACCP) has provided a much-needed framework for accessioning and maintaining the City’s Civic Arts Collection (CAC) of over 350 pieces. A common standard with other municipalities is to assign a budget for collection maintenance and art, which the City has initiated through its capital program. The Cultural Development Unit has been busy caring for the City’s most cherished pieces throughout the pandemic. Ongoing CAC projects include the restoration and refurbishment of Jack Sures’ Bandicoots! and the accessioning of Victor Cicansky’s Gazebo. Other 2020 collection inductees include Colonialism Skateboards’ Reconciliation Skateboards displayed at mâmawêyatitân centre and a painting by renowned Regina artist Roger Ing, which was graciously donated to the City’s collection by Regina resident Sheila Malloy. Visit Regina.ca to learn more about the City’s Civic Art Collection.

City of Regina Collections Update

2020 City of Regina Writing Award

Congratulations to Iryn Tushabe, winner of the 2020 City of Regina Writing Award for her debut novel “Everything is Fine Here”. This is the 41st annual award given in partnership with the Saskatchewan Writers’ Guild to celebrate literary merit in creative writing.

Congratulations also to runners-up Donna Gartshore and Bernadette Wagner.
COVID-19 Community Partner Program Spotlights

The City of Regina would like to commend the work of community cultural organizations for their ongoing commitment and dedication to the arts throughout COVID-19. From virtual classes, programs, events and installations to drive-in concerts and virtual sales, the sector has exemplified a spirit of innovation, adaptability and creativity through this difficult period. On this page we highlight three programs that have pivoted in an extraordinary way and demonstrated a commitment to online programming and innovative placemaking despite COVID-19 restrictions.

Nuit Blanche Art Night

Nuit Blanche’s Art Night stepped up to the challenges provided by the pandemic by creating a unique visual experience in Regina’s warehouse landscape that allowed participants to be involved from the comfort of their cars. Nuit Blanche usually hosts an evening of interactive in-person installations throughout downtown Regina, but the socially distanced festival of 2020 allowed more than 250 carloads (1000+ attendees) to be treated to multiple large-scale light-based projections and interactive installations throughout the evening, showing that despite limitations presented by COVID-19, socially distanced cultural programs can be entertaining and in large demand!

Cathedral Village Arts Festival

In May 2020, the Cathedral Village Arts Festival (CVAF) was forced to provide virtual programming for its renowned annual arts festival. The week-long cultural event typically hosts over 350 artist vendors and 100 live performances, attracting an estimated 55,000 attendees from across the province. However, volunteers and organizers pivoted this year to execute the festival’s first multi-day online program comprised of virtual performances, workshops and online events. The virtual festival received 56,000 video views on Facebook and more than 33,500 comments and post engagements. CVAF also generated 7,800 views on YouTube and provided over 107 hours of online participation. This shows that virtual cultural programming can be innovative and impactful.

Art Gallery of Regina Moving Pictures Exhibit

Another local program that successfully pivoted due to COVID-19 was the Art Gallery of Regina’s Moving Pictures Exhibit which addressed the urgent need for programming that doesn’t involve in-person gatherings within a gallery. Using augmented reality technology and the free app Artivive, Moving Pictures allowed viewers to enjoy film screenings on demand using only their smartphone. Empowering viewers to use their technology on hand and creating a non-threatening digital environment, Moving Pictures engaged participants in public spaces familiar to them to remove both real and perceived barriers to gallery attendance. A diverse range of films were curated and viewed, including emerging, Indigenous, established, newcomer, rural and urban artists.
Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre Update

The Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre renovations have been completed with the installation of new concrete sidewalks and entrances, repaving of the Centre’s parking lot and the addition of new roadway storm drainage. Since reopening on July 13, the Centre has been a hot spot for community programs including the free Play Escapes program for children held this summer. A full schedule of Fall programming began in September with COVID-19 safety protocols in place that include limiting the number of attendees in programs to 50 per cent capacity, enhanced cleaning and sanitizing measures, controlled exit and entrance points and directional hallway traffic.

The Centre is excited to offer Drama for 2SLGBTQIA+ Young Teens in its Winter 2021 programming. This class provides a safe space for youth 12-15 years who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, asexual, transitioning, non-binary, queer, Two-Spirit, Intersex or questioning to explore their interest in drama, improv, stand-up comedy, playwriting, set-design, and storytelling. For more information on the fall program schedule visit Regina.ca/recreation.

Buffalo People Arts Institute Hide Gathering

The Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre hosted The Buffalo People Arts Institute’s Treaty Four Gathering via Facebook from September 15 to 18. This online event and workshop brought together community members, educators, homeschoolers, students and elders to exchange knowledge about the traditional practice of buffalo hide preparation. The workshop could only be attended in person by a maximum of 10 participants but it attracted widespread viewership from residents of Treaty Four Territory.

We’d love to hear from you!

For submission requests or to subscribe/unsubscribe, email us at CityandCultureNewsletter@regina.ca. Feel free to forward City and Culture to anyone that may be interested in its content.