

YOUTH SINGERS OF CALGARY

ANNUAL REPORT
2019 - 2020



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ABOUT YSC

MISSION

To provide an inclusive and engaged community which gives young people the opportunity to grow and express themselves through the performing arts.

VISION

To be a vibrant performing arts company delivering exceptional comprehensive performing arts education and programming that encourages personal and artistic excellence.

CORE VALUES

We are committed to:

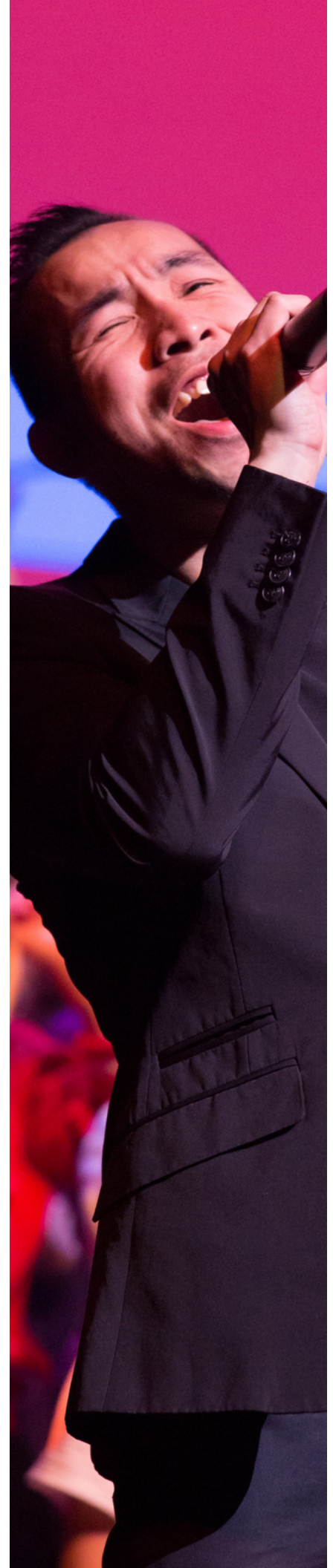
- Artistic integrity
- Excellence
- Community building
- Inclusion
- Health and Safety
- Personal development
- Self-expression
- Life-long learning

OUR IMPACT

YSC creates great performers on stage and in life. When a Youth Singer steps on stage, they give it everything they've got—their personalities, their dreams, their fears and their excitement. Their true voices come tumbling out and their love of performing, of growing and succeeding shines through.

The tools we use to produce better performers allow us to develop people who feel better about themselves and who see that the sky really is the limit on their dreams. Every day, we create community leaders empowered by the experiences and personal growth they achieve through singing, dancing and acting.

For more than 30 years, we have provided generations of young people with a chance to succeed through the performing arts. We nurture, mentor, guide and celebrate every child who comes through our doors. This year is no exception. Faced with the COVID-19 pandemic, Youth Singers added recordings and green screens to the ways we train our young people. We adapted quickly and decisively to the pandemic, keeping our members and community connected through music.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD



The 2019-2020 season brought many challenges and opportunities to the Youth Singers of Calgary, and the organization faced them with creativity, teamwork and a strong commitment to meeting the Mission and Vision we strive to achieve.

We launched the Crescendo Capital Campaign, had a busy Christmas season and were able to host an amazing Hearts Out celebration a week before the global pandemic forced us to all stay home. While our concern for the health and safety of our community meant we were not able to proceed with the JUNIOR HI tour, YSC quickly learned how to continue programming and performances virtually, through Monday Music Moments, The HUB and the "Out of the Darkness" Virtual Video.

Thank you to the incredible YSC teams—our Artistic, Administration and Volunteer teams worked to achieve our goals and keep us ready and able to service our community and the broader Calgary community. Bravo!

Catherine Barclay, CHAIR

CHAIR

Catherine Barclay

VICE-CHAIR

Ernie Abbott

PAST CHAIR

Eugene Beaulieu

TREASURER

Sabrina Pannu

SECRETARY

Audrey Tesarski

DIRECTORS

Renee Fagnou

Eric Daku

Rod Garossino

Shawna Burke-Martin

J.P. Hermano

Jason Bergeron

Tanya Sharma-Moore

Shane Simmons

Laura Hambley Lovett

Catherine Clynch

2020

Board of Directors

MESSAGE FROM FOUNDER & CEO

When the unpredictable strikes, one can only rely on the depth of strength on which the organization is built. This was a season Youth Singers of Calgary (YSC) was truly tested.

Thankfully, we are an organization that had foundational pillars in place such as:

- A clear mission, vision and core values that drives the annual mandate
- The best laid plans by the creative leads and teams for an awesome season
- Budget—cautious, yet room for new ideas and initiatives within operation
- Depth of personnel—an exceptional and qualified passionate team of a variety of artistic specialists, technicians and administrators enthusiastic to embrace an exciting season for 15 Divisions
- Ownership of the Performing Arts Youth Centre (PAYC)—a down payment of 50% of the purchase price was made with the balance in a mortgage held by the Calgary Foundation & Canadian Avatar Investments
- Strength of leadership in governance with the Board of Directors (BOD) and senior staff moving throughout all levels of the operation with staff and volunteers as leads for divisions and departments



After careful consideration when the COVID-19 crisis hit us (and the world) in March, the BOD together with senior leadership decided to carry on operating through the pandemic. We lost our revenue streams (gaming, renters, performances, fundraising). The BOD and Senior Staff adapted Strategic Plan, Policies, Budget, Studios and Technology for COVID-19.

The YSC Artistic Director and the creative team pivoted their thinking and planning to launch a hybrid of live stream/in person options for all programs which was a steep learning curve for the artistic staff. Due to careful financial management, hundreds of volunteer hours, a successful HEARTS OUT, and Government grants and wage subsidies, we paid all the bills and staff to the end of June, 2020.

We will stay strong, working united towards a common goal of recovery and rebuilding YSC so we can continue to make a positive difference in the lives of youth and in the community. Thank you to each and every one of the staff, volunteers and supporters! We couldn't have done it without you!

Shirley Penner, FOUNDER & CEO

2019-2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Youth Singers of Calgary faced challenges and disappointments this season. Despite this, the strong start to the year combined with resilience, creativity, and a commitment to connecting with the community gave us many highlights to celebrate.

4

successful week-long Musical Theatre Camps in Summer 2019



Crescendo Capital Campaign to purchase PAYC launched in October 2019

50

captivating performances by YSC divisions from September to March



YSC divisions performed 'works in progress' for a large audience of friends and family at the Fall Showcase in October 2019.

33

special needs youth in our STAR (Special Talents in Arts & Recreation) program

YSC staff provided professional development and resources at the Calgary Teachers Convention in February 2020



200+

performers from 6 divisions took to the Jubilee stage for "Holiday Road" December 2019



45+

youth enrolled & supported by the YYC (Yes You Can!) Bursary Fund

55

performers (plus an entourage of staff and travelers) performed internationally on the YSC European Tour July 15th - Aug 1st 2019, visiting Italy, Croatia, Spain, & Slovenia



The 2019 HUB, where members, alumni, families and friends sang favourite pieces directed by YSC's choral conductors

6

Summer Sessions

2

Christmas Sessions

"Holiday Road," YSC's Mainstage Production in December 2019, was sponsored once again by ATCO and saw record Christmas show attendance & ticket sales



3 school residencies enriched music programs across Calgary



"Monday Music Moments", a free, live-streamed music education program for young children ran in Spring 2020

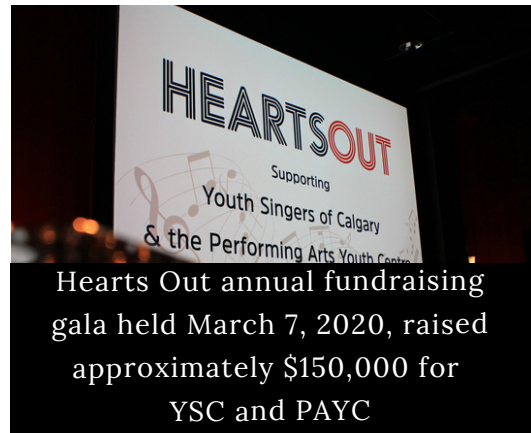


The 2019 Christmas season included nearly 40 performances across Calgary and area



YSC paused to revisit and recommit to diversity and inclusion in our processes and programming in the wake of the Black Lives Matter movement, leading to concrete change and ongoing work in our purchasing, repertoire and governance

5 weeks of virtual rehearsals, successfully pivoting program delivery



Hearts Out annual fundraising gala held March 7, 2020, raised approximately \$150,000 for YSC and PAYC



8 virtual choir pieces, featuring most divisions, produced and shared in Spring 2020 showcasing the many accomplishments of the season, 37K+ views and counting

HUB at Home in May and June 2020 provided weekly free online sing-a-longs to ease isolation and build connections



To celebrate the 2019-20 season, YSC's core divisions produced "Out of the Darkness," presented virtually to families, friends and the general public.

50+ Calgary area doctors came together to sing & ease stress in the "Calgary Physicians Choir" launched & supported by YSC.

1.2K+ views and counting

MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Congratulations to our singers, staff and volunteers on an incredible and resilient 2019-2020 year. It was a year filled with creative planning, successful performances, and critical discussions and decisions. Our Christmas Show, “Holiday Road” was an incredible achievement and we were on our way to producing an original production – “Prisma” when COVID-19 rocked our world. It became clear very quickly that we were going to have to put the show on the shelf and find a way for our singers to have the best possible end of their season. As an Artistic Staff, we pulled together to create new plans, to listen to each other and to learn from each other and the larger arts community. Never in our wildest dreams did we think that we would be planning for a new season where in-person singing was not possible. Together, as a team, we have persevered and ventured into new structures, strategies and stages. Our strength at Youth Singers comes from our teamwork, our creativity and our spirit, and that could not have been more evident in how we rose to the challenges of this extraordinary year.

Tricia Penner, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

PRODUCTION & PROGRAM

The 2019-2020 season promised a full calendar, exciting repertoire to be learned, and the expectation of a vibrant, artistically diverse, and interesting season of growth for our performers and staff.

Our summer included singers on tour in Croatia, Italy, and Spain, touring a show that wrapped up our 2018-2019 season; 4 weeks of our Showbiz Kids summer camp; and The HUB, bringing together singers from across the community to gather and make music.

The fall semester began with strong membership; two exciting mainstage shows to learn; and the excitement of Jumpstart camp, first rehearsals, and preparations for the Christmas season. We launched the Crescendo Capital Campaign at our Fall Showcase in October, presented “Holiday Road” at the Jubilee Auditorium in December, performed nearly 40 times throughout the Christmas season, and kicked off the second semester with the Bravo talent night and heightened preparations for “Prisma,” our spring show.

On March 13, our season changed, and we pivoted to meet the needs of our community as we navigated the first months of the pandemic together.

We immediately shifted rehearsals and classes for all divisions except KIDS & MUSIC onto Zoom, running 10 virtual rehearsals each week through the spring. With heavy hearts, we postponed and then cancelled “Prisma,” as well as all remaining performances and presentations for the season, and began brainstorming to find ways to celebrate our performers, honour their work, and most importantly, maintain our community.

We took a pause in June to reflect on the global conversation surrounding the Black Lives Matter movement and made a deliberate commitment to concrete action in our programming, repertoire, and pedagogy. As we draw on the influence of Black, Indigenous, and other people of colour in our music and dance traditions, we have a responsibility to understand and contextualize our place in that narrative, and we are working with several individuals and consultants to strengthen and build upon our justice-oriented foundation.

The season ended with a virtual celebration and the artistic staff already looking toward the next season, taking another leap of faith into a year unlike any we have ever experienced. What we accomplished can be found in the list of the season’s highlights, and we thank each performer, leader, teacher, and parent represented in our online programming and virtual choir projects.

The spring of 2020 was not measured in achievements but in moments, and we are so proud of the moments that made up our response to the pandemic. From stretching our technical capabilities to the willingness of our staff and singers to take artistic risks and create in a whole new way, this season would not exist without each person’s contribution.

2020 marks a moment in history, and the impact of this year—both globally and within the organization—will live on long after the calendar has flipped. Youth Singers rose to the occasion and we will emerge as stronger artists and people, knowing that our music and community are vibrant and tenacious, in whatever circumstance we find ourselves.



OUR PROGRAMS



PERFORMING ARTS FOR ALL AGES

YSC is a vibrant performing arts company and education program of choral singing, dancing, and theatre arts for children, teens, and adults. We offer year-round programming, musical theatre camps, and classes for those with cognitive delays.

CREATIVE TEAM

Tricia Penner	ARTISTIC & CREATIVE DIRECTOR, AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
Alida Lowe	DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM, PRODUCTION, AND TOURING
Chris Thompson	ASSISTANT PRODUCER & ARTISTIC CONSULTANT
Jocelyn Jones	SCRIPT WRITER & ARTISTIC CONSULTANT

KIDS & MUSIC (PRE-K - GR 2)

PROGRAM DIRECTOR & INSTRUCTOR
Naomi Williams

INSTRUCTOR
Victoria Luttrell

SENIOR CHOREOGRAPHER
Lisa Ryan

ACCOMPANIST
Marie Hasegawa

Rising enrollment led to the launch of more Saturday classes, with additional staff. Christmas concerts were well attended, and connections forged pre-pandemic allowed for individual “music moment” check-ins once rehearsals went online. The season finale virtual video of “Sing” features the youngest singers in a virtual choir format.

KIDAZZLE (GR 3)

DIRECTOR
Deanna Henderson-McDade

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Megan Emmett

RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHERS
Lauren Thompson & Kirsten Williams

Thirteen different personalities blended in a beautiful and unique vocal tone. They performed a mini musical, “On with the Snow”, and enjoyed a gig at the Calgary International Airport. KIDAZZLE featured classical pieces to work on tone, phrasing and dynamics, while performing fun and upbeat music and moves in sparkly costumes.



KIDZXPRESS (GR 4 - 6)

DIRECTOR

Deanna Henderson-McDade

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Megan Emmett

RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHERS

Lauren Thompson & Kirsten Williams

ACCOMPANIST

Rebecca Reese

KIDZXPRESS experienced a very strong season with a confident, committed and connected group. Singers enjoyed performing in Holiday Road and mastered the “quick changes” backstage. Amazing friendships old and new created a great bond between all singers! Singers responded well to “Words of the Day” which helped set expectations and accomplish incredible learning. Performances always bring out a special light in singers faces!

JUNIOR HI (GR 7 - 9)

DIRECTOR

Kathryn Parrotta

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Dean Lauderdale

RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHER

Jessica Eckstadt

ASSISTANT CHOREOGRAPHER

Alicia Ward

CHOREOGRAPHY COACH

Nathan Snyders-Blok

ACCOMPANIST

Kathy Seibel

JUNIOR HI saw near-record enrollment this year. Singers experienced real growth in confidence and demonstrated professional attitudes and resilience responding to everything they faced. Momentum was strong in all areas of the program. JUNIOR HI had an exceptional performance set ready to tour, and achieved beyond all expectations.

SENIOR HI (GR 10 - 12)

DIRECTORS

Jean Louis Bleau & Jane Moran

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR & ACCOMPANIST

Kathy Seibel

RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHER

Donald Jones

ASSISTANT CHOREOGRAPHER

Serena Mazil

SENIOR HI singers were open and excited to explore music and sound in creative, contemporary ways, growing their understanding of choral repertoire, and challenging themselves in dance. Highlights included Jumpstart Weekend and a fantastic Christmas performing season, as well as lasting friendships.

ACT3 (YOUNG ADULT)

DIRECTOR
Jason Erhardt

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR & ACCOMPANIST
David Holoboff

RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHER
Jeffrey Diodati

LEAD CREATOR
Katherine Burrowes

ACT3 took on more advanced material, stepping up their vocal and dance abilities. Singers rose to the challenge while balancing work, school and ACT3 priorities, and demonstrated leadership in YSC once again supporting Hearts Out and growing artistic and social connections with SENIOR HI.

SHINE & ONCUE (ENSEMBLES)

SHINE CO-MANAGER & PRODUCER
Donald Jones

SHINE VOCAL DIRECTOR
Kathryn Parrotta

SHINE CO-MANAGERS
Kirsten Williams & Shannon Miele

SHINE GUEST CHOREOGRAPHER
Katherine Burrowes

ONCUE DIRECTOR
Dean Lauderdale

ONCUE MANAGER
Alida Lowe

The YSC semi-professional divisions, ONCUE and SHINE, continued to represent YSC and shared their amazing talent as they performed at various community events including corporate, Family Day, Canada Day, Pride, Summer Festivals, and Hearts Out. ONCUE's flash mob was a new achievement!

ENCORE (ALUMNI & FRIENDS)

DIRECTOR
Jason Erhardt

ACCOMPANIST
Brent Krawchuk

RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHER
Alicia Ward

ENCORE MANAGER
Megan Emmett

YSC alumni and friends enjoyed record high enrollment and a full Christmas performing season, including two performances at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel and a joint concert with ONCUE at the Central Library.



SECOND CHANTS (ADULT RECREATION)

DIRECTOR
Kathy Seibel

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Lloyd Anderson

RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHER
Alicia Ward

ACCOMPANIST
Brent Krawchuk

GUEST CHOREOGRAPHER
Shannon Miele

ASSISTANT CHOREOGRAPHER &
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Dez Jones

Recreational singers continue to impress, performing this year at the Knox Carol Festival and the YSC Fall Showcase, while supporting Youth Singers by volunteering in major positions and backstage at the Jubilee shows.

STAR (SPECIAL TALENTS IN ARTS AND RECREATION)

CO-DIRECTORS & INSTRUCTORS
Dave Morton & Jen Morton

ASSISTANT INSTRUCTORS
Ashley Miller & Jesse DeHaan

STAR reached record enrolment of 33 special needs singers. They performed at Pledge Day, which is broadcast on the radio, and to a full-house at their Christmas presentation at PAYC. Singers and families reported that a highlight of the year was their performance at Hearts Out.

SHOWBIZ KIDS (CAMPS & SCHOOL RESIDENCIES)

DIRECTOR & INSTRUCTOR
Dean Lauderdale

INSTRUCTORS
Heather Laubenstein, Serena Mazil &
Kirsten Williams

RESIDENT CHOREOGRAPHER
Alicia Ward

The Youth Singers school residency pilot program grew to three schools in 2019-2020 and were resounding successes. Weeklong and day camps continued to be well received, and supported recruitment efforts as well as being very fun.

THEATRE ARTS

THEATRE ARTS LEAD
Jeffrey Diodati

THEATRE ARTS ASSOCIATE
Heather Laubenstein

The Theatre Arts team produced and supported the cast of "Holiday Road" to deliver unforgettable and heart-warming performances, supporting singers in all the core divisions in learning to bring character and intention to their performances. For Spring, Theatre Arts recruited special skills for "Prisma" including visual artists, parkour and gymnastics, and writers to perform their own work—increasing the performance and potential of Theatre Arts to bring our singers' talents to the stage beyond singing, dancing, and acting.



TOURING

The 2019-2020 season began with the culmination of the 2018-2019 season and the Croatia, Italy, Spain tour. While this took place in this fiscal year, it's a part of the previous artistic season, and was fully recapped in the last annual report. This tour was a life changing experience for all performers & entourage. Thank you to Culture Path for organizing another incredible international tour.

The 2019-2020 season saw the preparations for the 2020 JUNIOR HI tour to California, plans for ONCUE to participate in Total Vocal with Deke Sharon at Carnegie Hall, and a preliminary plan for the 2021 Bahamas and Disney World tour.

However, the touring program was the first of YSC's activities to be hit by the pandemic. JUNIOR HI's California tour was cancelled on March 10, a decision that was ultimately cast in stone for us several days later when Disneyland closed its gates and international travel was restricted. We spent many hours working with our travel partners and ultimately were able to refund the majority of our participants' tour fees.

Many thanks to the JUNIOR HI artistic staff and Tour Assistants for their work in planning this tour. We would also like to recognize our JUNIOR HI tour singers and parents—we know that this year was difficult for everyone, and this disappointment was particularly sharp, especially as it came with such short notice. Thank you for your grace and patience as we navigated this entirely unprecedented situation, and we look forward to touring with you when we can travel next!

ONCUE's trip to New York was cancelled less than 2 weeks prior to departure. The same workshop and concert has been rescheduled in its entirety for April 2022. We hope that we will be able to travel, sing, and gather at that time, and we look forward to taking this trip together then.

By the end of April, we had made the decision to pre-emptively cancel the 2021 tour before we got further into planning. We hope to resume our touring program in the spring of 2022 with a JUNIOR HI tour.



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Youth Singers' volunteer program engages parents and families in supporting their singer's experience, through leadership on councils, to production and rehearsal support, to gaming, fundraising and special events.

Council highlights included getting to know all of the families and seeing the singers every week, and continuing the work of building strong teams. Hospitality volunteers kept everyone fed and fueled to create and shine.

Bingos were busy and led by a committed team of volunteers. Youth Singers had a casino in February, which was well run and went smoothly with volunteer support.

The Sets department stole the show in "Holiday Road", with gorgeous professional scenes. Wardrobe and Props departments outfitted singers beautifully on stage, and accomplished an overhaul of inventory and storage at PAYC. Processes were streamlined in Music Library and Logistics, and Heritage and Archives uncovered many YSC memories and treasures.

Hearts Out owes its success to the volunteers who planned and executed an unforgettable night, and to the Silent Auction Committee who inspired businesses to donate and event attendees to bid!

Thank you to our incredible leaders and hard-working committees and departments—your time, talents and dedication are what make Youth Singers achievements possible.



VOLUNTEER STAFF MANAGEMENT TEAM

PRODUCTION/PERFORMANCE

YSC Program Director (Production & Tour)
YSC Technical Production/Equipment Mgr
Production Manager
Past Production Manager
Hospitality / Food Services
Music Library Manager
Gig Support
Set Design Co-Manager
Set Design Co-Manager
Wardrobe Co-Manager
Wardrobe Co-Manager
Props Co-Manager

Alida Lowe
Colin Lowe
Stacey Mooney
Catherine Barclay
Corinne Ball
Jan Rubak
Bryan Clarke
Heath Kai
Wayne Gosche
Kathrin Snyders-Blok
Bonnie Inglis
Kristin Miller

DIVISION COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Director of People and Education
YSC Manager, Volunteer Services
KIDZXPRESS President
KIDZXPRESS Volunteer Coordinator
JUNIOR HI President
JUNIOR HI Volunteer Coordinator
SENIOR HI President
ACT3 President
ACT3 Vice-President
SECOND CHANTS President
ENCORE President
Heritage & Archives Co-Manager
Heritage & Archives Co-Manager

Megan Emmett
Esther Holmes, Interim
Tamara Sampson
Linda Peters
Kara Johnson
Cass Warren
Tracey Abbott
Victoria Hutton
Danica Strocen
Rob Eckstadt
Rae Lemke Sprung
Lisa Randsomsky
Milena Webber

GAMING

YSC Finance Director
YSC Director, Fund Development
Bingo Captain Grey Eagle Bingo
Bingo Co-Captain Bingo Barn
Bingo Co-Captain Bingo Barn
Casino Chair

Keith Heilman
Cathy Inglis
Marge Rusnak
Tracey Abbott
Joelle Callaghan
Jennifer Bridle

PAYC

YSC Financial Admin. & Office Manager
YSC Facility Rentals/Bookings Manager
Logistics Manager
Facility Support
Wardrobe Support

Keith Heilman
Bryan Clarke
Jesse Charlton
Lorne Lillo
Vaughan Lillo

FUNDRAISING/SPECIAL EVENTS

YSC Operations & Fund Development Mgr.
YSC Special Event Liaison
HEARTS OUT Co-Chair
HEARTS OUT Co-Chair
HEARTS OUT Gala Event Co-ordinator
HEARTS OUT Gala Event Co-ordinator
HEARTS OUT Auction & Prizes Lead

Cathy Inglis
Jocelyn Smith
Eugene Beaulieu
Eric Daku
Wendy James Smith
Christy Thompson
Stacey Schaub Szabo



YOUTH SINGERS STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Shirley Penner (FT)	CEO & Founder
Keith Heilman (FT)	Director; Finance / Office Manager / Facilities Liaison
Cathy Inglis (FT)	Director; Operations, Development, Alumni
Alida Lowe (FT)	Director; Program, Production & Touring / Creative Team
Megan Emmett (FT)	Director; People & Education
Jocelyn Smith (FT)	EA / Registrar / Marketing & Special Events Liaison
Bryan Clarke (PT)	Manager; PAYC Bookings
Janice Schneider (PT)	Fund Development Associate
Esther Holmes (PT)	Interim Manager; Volunteer Services
Colin Lowe (PT)	Manager; Technical Production & Equipment
Chris Thompson (PT)	Team Lead; Marketing & Communications / Creative Team
Lauren Thompson (PT)	Social Media Coordinator / Marketing Team
Rae Lemke-Sprung (PT)	Capital Campaign Marketing

PROGRAM STAFF (SUPPLEMENT TO DIVISIONAL STAFF LISTED ABOVE)

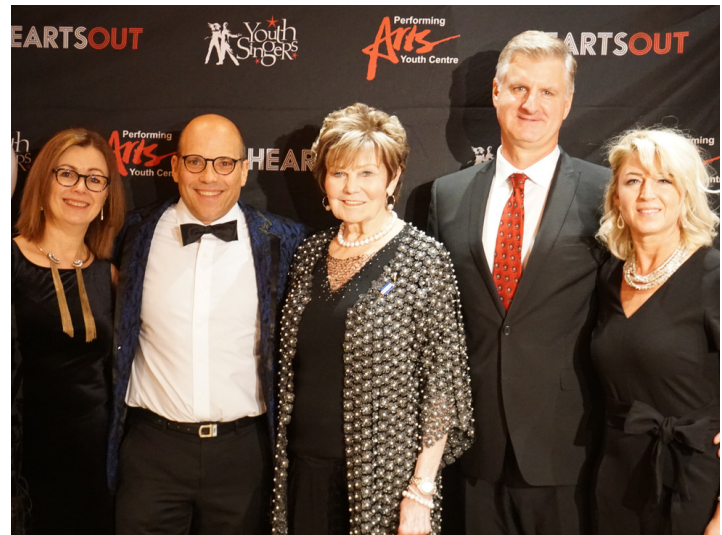
Malcolm Edwards	Sessional Director / Instructor
Kim Janse	CBE Educational Liaison High School Credit Program
Katherine McConnell	CCSD Educational Liaison High School Credit Program
Reid McLean Wiest	Arranger
Kristian Alexandrov	Arranger / Sequences
Joe Slabe	Arranger
John Hildebrand	Technical Director / Recording Engineer / Sound Designer
Kris Mish	Lighting Designer
Jillian Burrowes	Music Coordinator KIDS & MUSIC
Helen Liu	Summer Camp Administrator

HEARTS OUT

CREATING A HOME, ONE SONG AT A TIME

Youth Singers of Calgary hosted the Hearts Out Fundraising Gala on March 7, 2020 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. This outstanding event raised approximately \$150,000 which supports YSC operation and the Performing Arts Youth Centre. Silent and live auctions net revenue broke all previous records.

Thank you to our incredible Honorary Chairs Mike & Linda Shaikh, Co-Chairs Eugene Beaulieu & Eric Daku, Gala Event Co-ordinators Christy Thompson & Wendy James Smith, Silent Auction and Prize Lead Stacey Schaub-Szabo, all committee volunteers, as well as event attendees whose support made a great difference in the lives of hundreds of youth.



PERFORMING ARTS YOUTH CENTRE

A HOME FOR YSC & THE COMMUNITY

Youth Singers is grateful to have a place to call home in the Performing Arts Youth Centre (PAYC).

Prior to COVID-19, PAYC had many weekly and occasional renters, including vocal groups Revv52, Fresh Blend, Rhythm of the Rockies, and Vocal Motion; and dance groups such as Casey O'Loughin Irish Dance and Vykrutas Ukrainian Dance Society. PAYC also hosted various community and special events.

Staff and volunteers continue to find new ways to efficiently manage PAYC for rehearsal, performance and event use, including incorporating platforms into seating plans and new layouts for studios.



CRESCENDO CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Crescendo Capital Campaign launched October 27th with the goal to bring the already successful Performing Arts Youth Centre into the public trust, making it a permanent community performing arts space in Calgary. \$1.5 million of the \$3.1 million budget has been raised during the 2019-2020 season. The remaining \$1.6 will continue to be raised in order to finish paying the PAYC mortgage by December 31, 2023.

YSC received the title to the building in January 2020.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In March 2020, as the world was thrust into a global pandemic, we knew YSC was facing a new and unprecedented challenge. Leadership determined we should continue operating. The realities were daunting as we lost our revenue streams including gaming, renters, performances and fundraising.

Due to careful financial management, faithful supporters, the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, and Calgary Arts Development, we were able to pay all our bills and staff contracts to the end of the season. The fiscal year ended with a surplus of approximately \$150,000 which enabled us to operate through the summer months of 2020-2021. This proved to be critically important to completing all the changes needed start up in September despite the pandemic.

In 2019-2020, YSC gross revenue totalled \$1,650,000. Through the tremendous efforts of our volunteer force and dedicated staff over half of this revenue was raised from bingos, casino, special events, corporate donations, foundations, and government grants.

YSC expenditures totaled \$1,523,000 which includes the artistic program, staff compensation, administration, building expenses, and mortgage. See the audited financial statements for detail.

THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SUPPORTERS



EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS (\$25,000+)

Alberta Foundation for the Arts
Calgary Arts Development
Government of Alberta (CFEP) *
Government of Canada
Anonymous
Margaret Southern
Mike & Linda Shaikh

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE (\$10,000+)

ATCO
FP Canada
Shirley Penner & Don McLean
Prosser Charitable Foundation
Shaw Birdies for Kids
presented by AltaLink
Telus Friendly Future Foundation
Werklund Foundation

CREATIVE COMPOSERS (\$5,000+)

ATB Financial
Eugene Beaulieu & Catherine Barclay
Louise Fernandes
Howard & Janet McLean
Terry & Brigitte Moore
Shaw Communications Inc.

*Thank you to the Province of Alberta who, through the Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) Large Funding Stream, contributed \$600,000 towards the purchase of the Performing Arts Youth Centre.



Scan/click for a complete list of our donors