



2020 Annual Report



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The Rozsa Foundation honours and acknowledges the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Niitsitapi or Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations).

The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III. The Rozsa Foundation works on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River. The traditional Blackfoot name of this place is "Moh'kins'tsis", which we now call the City of Calgary.

As settlers, we're grateful for the opportunity to work here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land – for thousands of years.

2020 was a year of **DISRUPTION**

To support the arts sector, we needed to listen, adapt, and

PIVOT

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

68
new grants
awarded

94
Arts Leadership
program
graduates

\$750,000
of COVID-19
support through
collaborative
grantmaking

Our Vision, Mission, and Values

OUR VISION

The Rozsa Foundation is a catalyst for transformational impact, invigorating a thriving arts sector.

OUR MISSION

The Rozsa Foundation strengthens our community by developing, supporting, and celebrating arts organizations and leaders.

OUR VALUES

Continuing the legacy of Drs. Ted and Lola Rozsa, the Rozsa Foundation values:

- · Integrity and leading by example
- Personal interaction, relationship building, and working collaboratively
- · Exploration, risk-taking, and curiosity
- Having tangible impact in our community
- Encouraging excellence in arts management and artistic expression
- · Diversity, inclusion, and equity
- Examining and enhancing the relationship between business and the arts

Strategic Goals

GRANTING

We invest in initiatives that support a dynamic arts community through innovation, partnership, and inclusion.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

We develop arts leaders, fostering organizational resilience.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

We support boards, equipping them for the work they do to guide and strengthen arts organizations.

ROZSA AWARDS

We celebrate arts managers and board chairs who embody the Foundation's values and have demonstrated excellence in organizational leadership.



2020: perfect vision. Hardly an accurate description of this past pandemic year. However, we did start to view the world differently and certainly saw widespread change. The Rozsa Foundation's 30th anniversary year was marked by experimentation, responsiveness, and significant community impact.

The first challenge for staff was learning how to work well together from different home offices. Simultaneously, they transferred their on-line communication skills to our suite of Arts Leadership programs. We had long mused about offering those programs virtually to remove geographic barriers, and seamlessly, that became our new reality. Sadly, our hallmark Rozsa Awards had to be cancelled, sacrificed to social distancing, but the recipient of the Rozsa Foundation Emerging Arts Administrator Award was named in a virtual ceremony.

We were extremely agile and responsive to sector needs in our granting program. Barely a month after the COVID lockdown, the Board approved two new grant streams, the Programming Cancellation Grant and the Online Programming Grant. The latter was designed to stimulate digital experimentation to address mental wellness, at-home education or boost social cohesion. Thanks to our strong collegial relationships, both the Calgary Foundation and Calgary Arts Development partnered on these efforts, and we combined to invest an additional \$750,000 into the community, which made a real difference to the survival of local arts companies and artists.

The Foundation also took some initial steps to better understand the need for equity in all aspects of our work. An IBPOC Arts Leaders Residency was developed with experienced consultants in the field. Grant and Leadership applications and programs were modified to address systemic discrimination in the sector and to offer inclusive program content. The Board and staff also participated in two days of AROC (Anti-Racism Organizational Change) training, learning we have more work to do.

All of this required an enormous effort from the staff, yet they were still able to convene and participate in national, provincial, and local conversations with funders and researchers, helping the sector stay abreast of available supports. In addition, Foundation communication featured a constantly updated list of on-line arts activity available for public viewing.

As Board Chair, I am extremely proud and grateful for the contributions the Foundation made this year, and I think our Founders would be as well. We gave the community many gifts which is the best well to celebrate a milestone year. We also gave ourselves the gift of a new Board member, Mr. Ian Minnifee, at the close of the year. As we look to a new, and hopefully healthier year, we remain true to our vision to be a catalyst for transformational impact, invigorating a thriving arts sector.

M.L. Rossa de Cojuet

Mary Rozsa de Coquet, Board Chair



As we began 2020, we looked forward to building on the momentum of 2019, which saw exciting growth in all areas of our work. By the middle of March, we were working from home, and rethinking how we needed to support arts organizations and artists who had suddenly seen most of their revenue cut off by COVID-19 restrictions. In late-May, the murder of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement brought a renewed focus on the need for equity and anti-racism work throughout society, including in the arts in Alberta.

Just as these two areas of focus dominated the work of arts organizations through the rest of 2020, our work was similarly aligned, as we introduced new granting streams to meet the needs of Alberta arts organizations, adapted our Arts Leadership programs into an online format and sought to better understand the work we need to undertake to be an anti-racist organization, as well as how we can support systems change in the broader arts community.

We invested additional funds into our granting pool to support the payment of artists whose contracts had been cancelled due to COVID as well as to support the creation of digital arts content and were grateful for the collaboration and contributions of Calgary Foundation and Calgary Arts Development to further deepen the impact of these new grants. We saw record enrollments for our reshaped online Arts Leadership programs as arts managers sought training and community to help engage with the critical questions and navigate complex challenges they are facing. And in the fall, we introduced the IBPOC Arts Leaders Residency

Grant to help establish pathways for Indigenous, Black, and People of Colour leaders in all disciplines to advance their networks, experience, skills, and knowledge.

We made the difficult choice to put the Rozsa Awards on pause but were able to reflect on some of the history of the Rozsa Foundation and the successes of the arts community as we commemorated our 30th Anniversary in the fall. We were also excited to award the second Rozsa Foundation Emerging Arts Administrator Award.

Perhaps the irony of 2020 was that, despite physical distancing, we became closer than ever with many of our colleagues and partners in our work, including funders, research partners, curriculum & program advisors, arts managers, and others – working collaboratively to address current and future challenges in the arts. The digital pivot also allowed us to learn from and collaborate with those working beyond Alberta's borders in new and meaningful ways.

I'm so immensely grateful to the Rozsa Foundation staff – Geraldine, Lisa, Ayla, and Ainsley – for their incredible work throughout such a challenging year, as well as to Mary and the Board for their support and openness to the new ways of working the past year has required. We enter 2021 with a plan and priorities in place, but also are on our toes so we can be responsive, flexible, and adaptable as the future takes shape one twist at a time.

Simon Mallett

Simon Mallett, Executive Director



Our History

Founded in 1990, the Rozsa Foundation is a philanthropic organization known for effective support and advocacy for the arts in Alberta. The Foundation builds on the legacy of Drs. Ted and Lola Rozsa, who were celebrated champions of the arts in the City of Calgary. Now second and third generation family members oversee the work of the Foundation which includes regular funding of grant applications along with investments in arts leadership programs, research, advocacy, and special projects that move the arts sector forward.

In 2003, the Rozsa Foundation wished to honor the philanthropy of Drs. Ted and Lola Rozsa who had combined their love of the arts with an insistence upon good business practice. This brought about the establishment of the Rozsa Award, designed to recognize, promote, and celebrate excellence in arts management in order to make the field more attractive for future leaders. Leveraging funds Dr. Ted Rozsa received as part of the 2002 Edmund C. Bovey Award, the Rozsa Award for Excellence in Arts Management has seen over one million dollars in prize money and benefits distributed to Award recipients and

their arts organizations. In 2019, the Foundation added the Award for Excellence in Board Leadership to the Rozsa Awards lineup.

Starting in 2012, the Foundation introduced the Rozsa Arts Management Program in partnership with the University of Calgary's Haskayne School of Business. The Foundation's Arts Leadership Programs have since grown to include this and two other programs, offering professional development for arts managers (Rozsa Admin Fundamentals Training and Rozsa Executive Arts Leadership programs) at different stages in their careers. The Foundation has also commissioned applied research which links arts with business, wellness, and education, supporting proposed changes in public policy in those areas, and advocates for increased arts funding and other conditions that strengthen artists, arts organizations, and the arts sector as a whole in Alberta.

The Rozsa Foundation is constantly exploring new opportunities where support for the arts will impact communities locally, provincially, and nationally.

Celebrating 30 years of the Rozsa Foundation

2020 marked 30 years since the inception of the Rozsa Foundation. A 30th Anniversary page was created on the website to house content pertaining to the anniversary, including photos from past events and programs, a letter from the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, articles about various pieces of the Foundation's history and purpose, and thirty 30-second videos from members of the community sending congratulations. The response to this content and the anniversary was warm and appreciative. All of the 30th anniversary materials can still be viewed at rozsafoundation.org.



Happy Birthday @RozsaFoundation! 30 years of making our city a more beautiful and joyful place to be is definitely worth celebrating



A Generosity of Spirit - The Rozsa Foundation celebrates 30 ye... If you work in the arts sector you are likely familiar with the crucial role the Rozsa Foundation plays in the Calgary and ... \mathscr{S} blog.artscommons.ca



Thank you to the @RozsaFoundation for being a reliable, calm, responsive and positive resource for all arts administrators in the city while we navigate through these challenging times #24HoursofGratitude #GivingTuesdayCA @GivingTuesdayCa #YouthSingers #myYSC





albertacraftcouncil Happy 30th Anniversary! Cheers to many more!



Endless gratitude to @RozsaFoundation for their continued support of @yycARTS & the artistic ecosystem that makes Calgary such a vibrant community.



Rozsa Foundation @RozsaFoundation · Apr 15

Rozsa Foundation offers grants to Calgary arts groups struggling amid pandemic | CBC News cbc.ca/news/canada/ca...



We're so fortunate to have orgs like @RozsaFoundation in #yyc to support the arts.

In good times they help us innovate, learn & reach more people, but in times like these they're helping protect livelihoods & keep a whole industry going.

Thank you Mary, Simon & your whole team!



Brian Gordon Dunsmore ▶ Rozsa Foundation

November 25 - 3

Huge Congratulations to The Rozsa Foundation and the Rozsa family on this significant anniversary. You have brought such important work forward, and enriched so many lives.

Very best wishes. Brian Dunsmore



Congratulations @RozsaFoundation on your 30th Anniversary celebration. @chinookblast @YourAlberta @LeelaAheer @AlbertaCulture @cityofcalgary @EskerFoundation @AFA1991 @banffcentre @cspaceprojects @CanadaCouncil @artsedmonton @ExploreEdmonton @TourismCalgary @yycARTS @yycLCL



trepanierbaer The Rozsa Foundation has made an immense contribution to the health of our community - it's immeasurable! Thank you 🙏



Happy Birthday @RozsaFoundation. Our city, our province, and our country are all stronger thanks to your investment in the arts. #Rozsa30 #yycarts

Granting Program in 2020

by Simon Mallett and Ayla Stephen

Through our Granting Program, the Rozsa Foundation supports Alberta-based arts charities to undertake organizational initiatives that harness the power of exploration, experimentation, and innovation.

The COVID-19 pandemic led to significant increases in our granting activity in 2020. In lieu of our Spring deadline, we introduced two new COVID-specific granting programs, the Online Programming Grant and the COVID-19 Programming Cancellation Grant. Then, in the Fall, in response to ongoing social justice movements and the need to create pathways for Indigenous, Black, and racialized leaders in all disciplines to advance their networks, experience, skills, and knowledge, we introduced the IBPOC Arts Leaders Residency Grant.

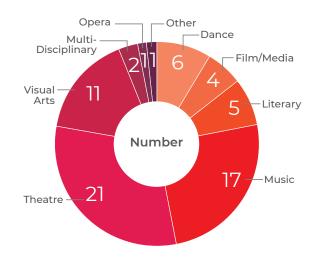
Our COVID grant streams accepted submissions on an ongoing basis from April to June, with most organizations receiving results within just 72 hours. The Online Programming Grant supported organizations and artists in developing online content, and the Program Cancellation Grant helped organizations recoup artists fees paid out for canceled programming. Additional funds beyond those initially budgeted for grants in 2020 were designated by the board to provide much-

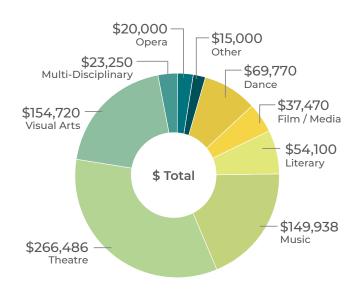
needed funding capacity for these initiatives at a critical time.

Between the two intakes for our existing grant streams along with these COVID-specific supports, sixty-eight grants were approved in 2020 in the amount of \$790,735. This figure includes a contribution of \$200,000 from the Calgary Foundation to provide additional supports to charities. \$151,271 was also awarded through our COVID granting streams by Calgary Arts Development to support not-forprofits, individual artists and arts collectives who wouldn't have otherwise been eligible for Rozsa Foundation grants. In total, the Rozsa Foundation's Granting Programs were responsible for the investment of \$942,006 into the arts community in 2020, coming at a time when it was so very badly needed.

The overall success rate of applications for all Rozsa Foundation granting was 53%, which marks the fifth consecutive year with an application success rate of fifty percent or above. Additionally, the vast majority of successful applicants received the full amount of their requests. Geographically, 56 of the 68 grants were to Calgary-based organizations, with four grants provided to provincial organizations based in Edmonton,

NEW GRANTS BY DISCIPLINE





two to Rockyview County, and one each in Lethbridge, Canmore, Rosebud, St. Paul, Foothills, and Banff.

Honouring the legacies of Drs. Ted and Lola Rozsa, the Foundation has long been focused on providing grants to implement key business practices, such as strategic and fund development planning, and the programming initiatives we fund typically focus on fostering stronger business models by accessing new audiences, partnerships, or revenue streams. We are proud to provide funding in areas that other funders do not, and that practice continued through our COVID granting. We were among the first funders in Canada to provide support specifically to allow for the creation and dissemination of online programming aimed at strengthening organizational business models and monetizing online content, while also building social cohesion at a time when it was so badly needed.

Our responsiveness to the significant contextual changes in the arts this year has been a major strength and has been immensely appreciated by the arts community. Our ability to offer targeted cost relief combined with strategic support for online programs, while still providing the ability to request funds for key business processes has met so many organizations where they are as they navigate the complex challenges at play. In addition, the IBPOC Arts Leaders Residency addressed a critical gap in

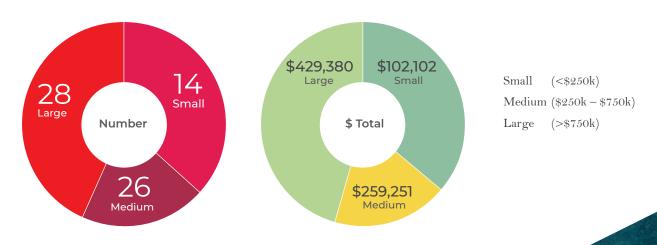
the funding landscape and provides muchneeded opportunities for the community, while strengthening the bridges between our granting and arts leadership programs.

Although we were unable to meet many of our grantees in person in 2020, we did our best to maintain the personal interaction that is such a valued element of the Rozsa Foundation's granting program. While we worked hard to expedite the process for our COVID-related granting, we were still available for organizations to meet with in order to provide guidance as they crafted their submissions and learn about the new challenges facing arts organizations so that our grants and other programs could continue to be adaptive.

In a year of many challenges, one of the bright spots of 2020 has been the degree to which we've strengthened our relationships to, and worked collaboratively with, other municipal, provincial and federal arts funders. We continue to meet regularly to identify gaps, address emerging issues and advocate for increased investment in Alberta-based arts organizations and artists.

Through our Granting Program, the Rozsa Foundation remains committed to looking toward the future and working with arts organizations to pursue innovative possibilities while emboldening strong management and leadership models.

NEW GRANTS BY ORGANIZATIONAL BUDGET





COVID-19 PROGRAMMING CANCELLATION GRANTS

In 2020, the Foundation created Programming Cancellation Grants in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These grants helped cover the cost of artist fees paid out to artists whose contracts unfortunately had to be terminated due to cancellations – either to artists who had not yet been paid or to restore funds already used to pay artists.

ALBERTA WIND ENSEMBLE

In March of 2020, Alberta Winds quickly joined the ranks of organizations who were forced to cancel its concerts to abide with guidelines and restrictions. With the help of the Rozsa Foundation's Program Cancellation Grant, Alberta Winds was able to cover the expenses it had already paid for its May programming, protecting the organization from slipping into debt. Alberta Winds is extremely grateful to the Rozsa Foundation for its support of small, struggling arts organizations throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. We likely would not have survived were it not for the support of the Rozsa Foundation.

Simon Macleod, Board President

HEALTH ARTS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA (HASA)

When the COVID pandemic hit Alberta, our operations ceased immediately. Our audiences, elders living in care, were the most impacted, but our artists were also devastated and without work. Without revenue for the planned concerts, we were unable to pay our artists. The funding we received from the Rozsa Foundation was the only grant we received that enabled us to pay artists for cancelled work: our true immediate need. It is hard to put into words how much this meant to us and our artists at that time - we were truly reeling. By meeting our most urgent need in the

early days of the pandemic, we were able to focus our energies and limited resources on applying for other funding and making a pivot to a digital platform that continues to serve our audiences and employ our artists today. We would like to thank the Rozsa Foundation for identifying the urgency of and specific nature of our needs in 2020, we are incredibly grateful.

Meran Currie-Roberts, Executive Director

NEW WEST THEATRE

In the Spring of 2020, New West Theatre received support via the Rozsa Foundation's COVID Programming Cancellation Grant. This support proved immeasurably valuable for our organization, as it was the first Pandemic-related support we had received. For our board and staff, the impact of this support far exceeded the dollar amount. When we were lost in the sea of the initial pandemic uncertainty, the Rozsa Foundation's support provided a boost when we needed it most, by letting us know that we were not weathering this storm alone. This realization helped us get though an unprecedented time where our future was incredibly unclear. Thank you to the Rozsa Foundation for being a leader through this very difficult time, and for continuing to provide invaluable support to our industry.

Kelly Reay, Artistic Director

ONLINE PROGRAMMING GRANTS

The Online Programming Grants supported arts organizations in creating innovative programming or activities to be shared digitally with an audience. Moving online presented arts organizations with an opportunity to use technology to deepen connection to community, reach new audiences, meet critical pandemic-created social needs, and implement a digital approach to programming that could continue in some way beyond the pandemic.

INSIDE OUT THEATRE

This funding played a really important and specific role in our ability to thrive through this summer, particularly by being the first piece of COVID-specific funding available. Receiving this funding gave us the means to develop the program and keep our community engaged, and sustained us for that initial period. On that strength we received funding from the Calgary Foundation, which supports the programming through late summer/early fall, and that momentum helped us gain more funding support from The United Way that will fund the programs through the rest of the calendar year. It's quite clear that this first grant's impact is greater than the original grant amount.

Col Cseke, Artistic Director

GLENBOW MUSEUM

Glenbow From Home generated 42 virtual programs, including 22 aimed at adults and 20 for youth, resulting in over 56,000 video views and social media engagements in the hundreds of thousands. While this was all offered free of charge, it has provided extensive experience and set them up to remain engaged both in the immediate future, as well as through their planned renovations, where digital content will play a major role for the Glenbow.

Kim Kadatz, Vice President, Advancement

CALGARY YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE

In July/August of 2020, CYPT undertook the creation and performance of FOMO (Or What Shakespeare Did During the Plague), a "quarantimes" play about what it means to try to understand the world around you when you're locked inside. Alongside a professional director, professional sound designer, and professional stage manager, our cast of 11 youth performers worked to create a brand new Zoom play inspired by the prompt "what did Shakespeare do during the plague?" The play used sonnets, scenes, dance, and camera-based theatrics to connect the narratives of 11 teenagers who are trying to understand the world of COVID-19, dating, Black Lives Matters, mental illness, and self improvement in the month before they graduate.

The production wove classical and contemporary motifs together into a play that serves as a time capsule for the spring of 2020. Thanks to the support the Rozsa Foundation and Calgary Foundation, we were able to hire professional artists to support and work alongside the youth creators and actors, and also to ensure that technology and production support was available to each participant regardless of their at-home resources. This was a meaningful opportunity for youth to lend their voice to the canon of pandemic-art, and we are thrilled to have been a part of it.

Jamie Dunsdon, Artistic Producer



Still from Glenbow From Home videos.

Grant Impact Story: Quickdraw Animation Society

by Peter Hemminger, Executive Director



For 12 years, the Quickdraw Animation Society has celebrated the May long weekend with an event we call the Animation Lockdown. Founded by the late David Ratzlaff, the Lockdown brings a large group of animators (anywhere from a dozen to 30) together into Quickdraw's studios, where they spend the weekend creating brand new films from scratch. The event started as a way to spur production and to encourage artists to experiment with new techniques, but it's grown into more than that. As our largest productionfocused event of the year, the Lockdown is when our community of artists and animators are at their closest, literally and figuratively. It energizes productions for the year, and leads to short, experimental work that often contain the seeds of more ambitious projects.

When COVID-19 brought in-person gatherings to a halt in March of 2020, Quickdraw was immediately faced with a question: how do we hold our Animation Lockdown in the face of a real lockdown? We knew how important the event was to our membership, and that it was even more important to keep a feeling of community

in a moment when many of our members were feeling more isolated than ever. But we also knew that running the Lockdown online wouldn't be as simple as just asking people to work on their projects from home. To work as an event, we would need to be able to connect people, to create a spirit of collaboration even when people were spread out geographically.

The Rozsa Foundation's funding gave us the capacity we needed to bring the Lockdown online. Their support let us acquire the software we needed in order to keep artists in contact, and to ensure a smooth workflow in their animation production even when we couldn't be there to support them directly. Their support also enabled us to bring a new partner into the Lockdown—by reaching out to CJSW 90.9FM and their library of local music, we were able to strengthen the Lockdown's connection to Calgary's arts community and bring a new audience to our Calgary animators.

In the end, the Lockdown was a major success for us. We'd been worried that it would be more







Top left: Noah Spencer, Shelf Life Top right: Molly Little, Yo Woes Bottom right: Mackenzie Bedford, Beacon

All images courtesy of Quickdraw Animation Society

difficult to get participants to buy into an online event, but we ended up with 19 filmmakers making 17 films over the span of a week. And the films they made were even more ambitious than the usual Lockdown fare, with the total package coming to almost 45 minutes of new animated works. We were able to bring some of the feel of the in-person event to the online world, by small gestures like hosting scheduled meals and providing prizes to encourage social participation. And most importantly, as our online showing of the films proved, our members were excited to see each other's work and celebrate their achievements.

Hosting this event also gave us insight into how our future online programming will look, with new knowledge that will inform our education, production, and exhibition efforts. Thanks to the Rozsa Foundation's support, we were able to explore those options without worrying about financial risk; we were able to act quickly, experiment, and put together a successful production event.

Arts Leadership Programs in 2020

by Geraldine Ysselstein and Ayla Stephen



Scott Carey, Nicole Mion, Patti Pon, Erin MacLean-Berko, JS Ryu, and Jenna Rodgers at a REAL wise-crowd session.

59 people completed the program in 2020

33 of those graduates participated online

"I learned so much during the RAFT program and had fun doing it! Ayla and Kodie were incredible teachers who led the class in a fun and engaging way."

Jane Finley, RAFT Online

2020 was a year of evolution for the Rozsa Foundation's Arts Leadership programs. We saw an overwhelming demand for our professional development programs despite the many challenges facing arts organizations, arts professionals, and artists. Moving programs online expanded our reach, making our programs accessible to participants from across Alberta, and beyond. The immediacy of the Black Lives Matter movement highlighted inequities in Canada's artistic communities, and empowered artists to speak out and demand change from local arts organizations.

Over the past few years, we have experimented with expanding our reach beyond Calgary. We went to Edmonton with the Rozsa Arts Management Program in 2016 and have taken our Rozsa Admin Fundamentals Training (RAFT) on the road to Edmonton and Lethbridge in the last few years. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic found us quickly moving programs online, which immediately created opportunity for arts professionals from all over Alberta, and even outside the province, to join us.

We continue to investigate what it means to be equitable in all facets of our Arts Leadership programs – the content, the faculty, the delivery, and our engagement with participants.

ROZSA ADMIN FUNDAMENTALS TRAINING (RAFT)

In March 2020, our last in-person RAFT workshop was held in Edmonton as early COVID-19 safety measures and precautions were being put in place. Following the closure of concert halls and theatres, the Foundation hired Kodie Rollan, a Calgary-based playwright, to update the dialogue in the RAFT case study, which forms the basis of the program. Kodie helped bring the characters to life, and eventually joined RAFT as a co-facilitator. After months of redevelopment, RAFT Online launched in September 2020. The demand for the program was enough to warrant an additional session, with participants joining from Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver.

tors

gful

RAFT September online cohort

should be mandatory education to any arts administrator or board member. It will provide the framework and context from where boards and administrators can engage in meaningful and effective dialogue that benefits their organization."

"The RAFT program

Rocio Graham

26 individuals graduated in April

24 from Calgary, 1 from Red Deer and 1 from High River

"RAMP opened my eyes to how deep and wide I can take my organization to not only improve our internal stability but to link to others to create a stable arts community."

Kim Firmston

ROZSA ARTS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (RAMP)

The 2019-2020 RAMP program once again welcomed mid to senior level arts professionals from all arts disciplines and roles in Calgary and surrounding areas. In addition to sessions by University of Calgary - Haskayne faculty on leadership, team building, audience and resource development, financial literacy, and board governance, "Lunch and Learns" were added. These "Lunch and Learns" featured seasoned arts professionals from the community who presented on topics including social media, funding an Action Learning Plan (ALP), and current issues in fund development. Immediately following the ALP presentations, which ended just before COVID-19 safety measures were implemented, planning began with the University of Calgary to bring the entire program online for the fall start of the 2020-2021 year.



9 graduates

ROZSA EXECUTIVE ARTS LEADERSHIP (REAL)

The REAL program brought together individuals from the arts community who were given the opportunity to share resources, engage in community building, and peer-to-peer mentorship. The program evolved this year to include leadership experts from the business as well as arts community in Calgary who grapple daily with the theories being discussed. The program is designed to take the personal or organizational experience and reframe it within the context of the arts sector so that participants see what they are doing in the bigger picture. It culminated in a presentation on 5 BOLD IDEAS by each REAL participant. This presentation had to be moved online because of the in-person restrictions due to the pandemic. Ideas explored included how to create and share art locally, regionally, and nationally that's connected back to Calgary (Bob Davis, Old Trouts & Stephanie Pahl, NMC), how can the arts sector reimagine and respond to the changing political and economic landscape (Nicole Mion, Springboard Performance), how do we use our networks to expand our reach in a way that also respects artists and arts professionals (Danielle Whyte, Downstage & Lanre Ajayi, Ethnik Festival), how can the arts sector actively (rather than passively) respond to the changing political and economic landscape (Lisa Mackay, Rozsa Foundation & Bethany Yon, Cowtown Opera Singers), and mental health in the arts with Col Cseke, Inside Out Theatre and Scott Carey, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra.



"The Rozsa Executive Arts Leadership (REAL) program was a natural step in my leadership progression in the arts and cultural sector. The combination of readings, assignments, and discussions in each session paired with real world experience from leading industry professionals expanded and tested my knowledge of the sector, and prepared me to step into a leadership role within my organization. I would recommend REAL to anyone looking to increase their knowledge of the industry, develop confidence in their leadership skills, and challenge themselves personally and professionally within the safety of a supportive and dedicated cohort of like-minded peers."

REAL graduate



Bethany Yon, Jenna Rogers, Robin van Eck, and Lanre Ajayi at a REAL wise-crowd session.



Deeter Schurig leads the 2020 REAL participants on a tour of cSPACE.

Emerging Arts Administrator Award

Erin is a "a great community builder, who is always finding ways to support other arts administrators working for smaller organizations." Erin MacLean-Berko was awarded the 2020 Rozsa Foundation Emerging Arts Administrator Award. Although the award is meant to be presented at the Mayor's Lunch for Arts Champions, the lunch had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, and the award was presented to Erin at a Zoom presentation attended by His Worship Naheed Nenshi and members of the Calgary arts and business communities.

The Rozsa Foundation Emerging Arts Administrator Award was established by the Rozsa Foundation and the City of Calgary 2012, and is a legacy project of Calgary's year as a Cultural Capital of Canada. The cash award honours an emerging arts administrator or manager in the early stages of their career whose dedication and innovation in their field has elevated the work of the artists or arts organization they work for. It is intended to recognize and encourage the role of professional arts managers and administrators who are dedicating their careers to promoting and supporting the work of Calgary's artists and not-for-profit arts organizations. In an economic climate where budgets and resources are limited, the work of these professionals needs to be as impassioned and creative as the artists and organizations they serve.

Erin MacLean-Berko is Managing Director for the Calgary Boys' Choir Society and Manager for Spiritus Chamber Choir. Simon Mallett describes Erin as "a great community builder, who is always finding ways to support other arts administrators working for smaller organizations."



Erin MacLean-Berko accepts the 2020 Rozsa Foundation Emerging Arts Administrator Award on Zoom.

Finances

The Rozsa Foundation supports Transformational Leadership in the Arts in Alberta in part by providing funds towards each of our Strategic Goals. Our Granting Program directly supports arts organizations to undertake a variety of key business processes and innovative projects. We heavily subsidize the cost of our Arts Leadership Programs, ensuring low-cost access for arts administrators, managers, and leaders to critical professional development opportunities. In a typical year, recipients of the Rozsa Awards for Excellence in Arts Management and Excellence in Board Leadership receive cash prizes along with a suite of award benefits provided by our Rozsa Award Partners. We invest in advocacy, research, special events, and a series of other initiatives that have wider-ranging impact on the arts sector. Rozsa family members also direct discretionary funds to other arts and non-arts initiatives from time to time.

The adaptation of arts organizations necessitated by COVID-19 called for corresponding changes in our financial supports in 2020. We provided significant additional funds through our Granting Program, while the cancellation of the Rozsa Awards in 2020 meant that the typical prizes and benefits were not awarded. The Rozsa

2020 SPENDING



Foundation also made a significant gift to the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra to endow their Associate Conductor Chair. The result was a year unlike any other for the Rozsa Foundation, and we will take the lessons learned from our ability to be nimble and flexible with our resources into another unpredictable year in 2021.

IN MEMORIAM



As we prepared this report looking back on 2020, we learned of the passing of Bob McPhee, our friend and colleague, on March 13, 2021. Bob was the former CEO and General Manager of the Calgary Opera for almost 20 years. During his tenure, he commissioned six new operas and produced the Canadian premieres of numerous others. He also oversaw the start of a summer opera festival and an emerging artists' program. He was a great friend of the Rozsa Foundation as the inaugural recipient of the Rozsa Award for Excellence in Arts Management, and serving on the awards jury as recently as 2019.

"With the passing of Bob McPhee, Canada has lost a remarkable arts leader. Bob possessed the rare combination of artistic ability and business acumen. Amongst many achievements, he masterminded the building of the Winspear Centre and developed Calgary as a centre of operatic growth with the creation of one of only three emerging artist programs in Canada and the commissioning of many new works. He served as a clinician, adjudicator, assessor, and participated on boards, arts advocacy and policy task forces provincially, nationally and internationally. As a mentor and coach, he inspired excellence, and developed life-long relationships with his staff, board members and peers. But most of all he was a friend and a dedicated son. He loved to laugh and lived life with a full cup. It was a privilege to have known him: he will be truly missed."

-Mary Rozsa de Coquet

Working Together

Personal interaction and working collaboratively have long been key values of the Rozsa Foundation. Our work is possible in no small part due to the critical contributions made by our generous and engaged Rozsa Award Partner organizations and our incredible Board of Directors, with whom we work closely to fulfill our vision and mission.

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