



2022 ANNUAL REPORT





CONNECTION

AND

PRESENCE

SKETCH'S 2022

CURATORIAL THEME



This year the creative prompt was

CONNECTION AND PRESENCE

The last few years saw SKETCH out in the community, creating Public Art installations across the city, and expanding our reach online. But we had been unable to host community in our studio space, and this year's mission was to understand how to reconnect, while not throwing away the important lessons we had learned in the pandemic.

After multiple lockdowns, people were also a little unsure of how to spend time together and gather.

One of our most successful programs while still in lockdown was online dance, giving an alternative to the couch and a chance to reconnect with our bodies and each other. Later in the year, we began

to invite community back into SKETCH's studios and it quickly exploded with activity! We worked alongside young people to celebrate our 25th Anniversary, which brought together SKETCH staff and alumni from each decade of our history to creatively reflect 25 years of artistic activism.

Coming out of lockdown and celebrating our 25th anniversary solidified for us what we have known all along: **Creativity is necessary to reimagine a future outside of marginalization and create new paths.** SKETCH champions the creative contributions of young people forced into marginalization due to impacts of racism, ableism, transphobia, sexism, toxic gender ideals and capitalism, as well as those navigating poverty and houselessness. We firmly believe in the benefits that come from investing in creative communities, and the power of developing people's creativity so that they can interrupt current conditions and reimagine their own futures.

**“ART IS BOTH A BAROMETER
AND A PROCESS FOR
SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION.”**

— Shannon Litzenberger

Quote from 'State of emergence: Why we need artists right now', Philanthropy Journal

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

CHARLENE QUINCEY,
PRESIDENT & CHAIR

And just like that – here we are in 2023 reflecting on SKETCH's 26th year!

2022 was truly a year of celebration for SKETCH. Emerging from strict COVID protocols we were finally able to celebrate in person! First up, was SKETCH's block party! Folks gathered at Artscape Youngplace near Trinity-Bellwoods Park to celebrate and reconnect for SKETCH's 25th anniversary. The celebration was free and included live music performances, food, vending, art activities and more! Later in November, at the Withrow Common Gallery at the CNE grounds, SKETCH held a 25th Anniversary fundraiser. The evening included food, drink, performances from SKETCH alumni, speeches and an activation of the exhibit Threads of Resistance - one of many public arts events presented by SKETCH across the city of Toronto.

As SKETCH continues to evolve under the new leadership of Paulina O'Kieffe-Anthony, Julian Diego and Nevine Sedki, there is a renewed focus on self-sufficiency and mentorship. SKETCH programming continues to be hybrid with some programs on Zoom, onsite in the art studios, some are outdoors, and some in-person at partner sites.

Despite the world's challenges, **we look to the future with continued hope.** I would like to thank each and every SKETCH staff member, our dedicated board and all of SKETCH's supporters, and donors for your continued belief in and support of SKETCH.

Charlene Quincey
President & Chair



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

PAULINA O'KIEFFE-ANTHONY

2022 was truly a year of celebration, art and re-connection with the community at SKETCH. From block parties to big arts projects, SKETCH showcased its 25 years of impact on a large scale that spanned the city. It has been an honor celebrating 25 years of SKETCH alongside so many artists, past and present, in such big and creative ways and **we look forward to continuing to build our legacy for the next generation of arts leaders and producers.**

After years of COVID lockdowns, nothing excited me more than to finally be able to re-open our doors to young creatives, community leaders, and SKETCH community partners as we slowly and safely re-introduced in person programming and the rental of our spaces. Being able to have folks connect with us in person absolutely re-energized the space and our summer Block Party set the tone for reconnecting with the community in big ways, as we took over the block for a day of food, music and arts vending.

As much as we re-introduced art making within our space, we also continued to engage the broader

community with art making in public spaces as three of our public arts projects continued to engage the public in pockets across the city and a successful partnership with the CNE offered the opportunity to SKETCH artists to engage thousands of patrons with facilitated workshops and a public arts piece.

The year culminated in a very special way as SKETCH produced Threads of Resistance, an immersive and interactive exhibit that transported visitors across the last 25 years of SKETCH through art, artist talks and opportunities for community gathering and co-learning.

Despite a slow reopening, 2022 was so full. My sincerest thanks to all the artists, community partners, staff, donors, funders, investors and patrons for working with SKETCH to celebrate this monumental moment. We are excited to move forward into the future with re invigorated spirit, energy and a renewed connection to our community.

We hope you will continue to join us on our journey as we continue to work towards **creating more inclusive and vibrant communities.**

Sincerely,

Paulina O'Kieffe-Anthony

Paulina O'Kieffe-Anthony
Executive Director



**“THE ROLE OF THE ARTIST IS
TO MAKE THE REVOLUTION
IRRESISTIBLE.”**

— Toni Cade Bambara

SKETCH REOPENED ITS DOORS

400

young people
engaged

194

new artists
came to SKETCH

2,466

unique
engagements



SKETCH artist facilitating a jewelry making workshop at the CNE

82%
of participants
are not in
school or training

WHO CAME TO SKETCH

SKETCH Working Arts is a community arts organization in Toronto, Canada that engages Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous and other racialized young people who are navigating poverty, living houseless, or on the margins to:

- Experience the transformative power of the arts;
- Build leadership and economic self-sufficiency; and
- Cultivate environmental and social change through the arts.

54%
of participants
experienced
housing challenges
in the last year

91%
of participants
identify
as an artist

**"I feel safe and supported in
SKETCH spaces because they are
diverse and inclusive."**

- SKETCH Participant

OUR IMPACT IN 2022

255

young people
engaged in
performance
and showcase
opportunities

245

hours spent in
mentorship
with artists.

\$239,740

generated for
young people.

2,115

nutritious meals
served

1,210

grocery, art,
wellness and harm
reduction kits
distributed

PROGRAMMING WAS OFFERED THROUGH THREE PILLARS:

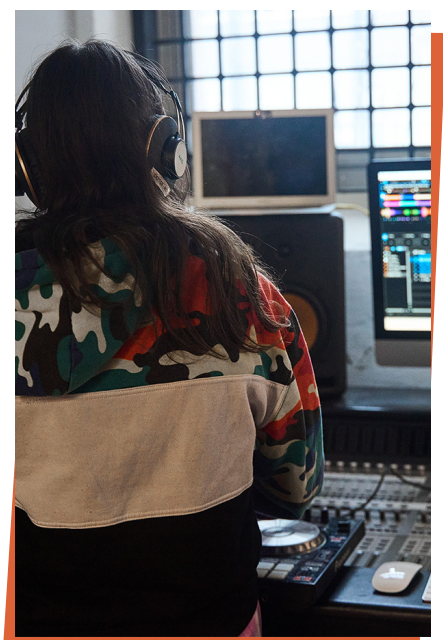
ARTS WELLNESS



ARTS PRODUCTION



ARTS LEADERSHIP



"We can use art to interrupt otherwise current conditions and create new paths."

- Bo, SKETCH Participant



ARTS WELLNESS

Arts Wellness pairs artists with wraparound supports like food, harm reduction supplies, and referrals to other social service organizations specializing in housing, employment, and counselling. It also includes low-barrier workshops that focus on the connection between art, community connectedness, wellbeing and mental health.

80% of young people said their sense of community, purpose, and belonging has increased through art making at SKETCH.

"My mood improves, my eating habits improve, and my creative process improves when I am at SKETCH."

- SKETCH Participant

Programs and offerings under Arts Wellness in 2022 included: Resource Distribution (including food, art kits, harm reduction supplies and technology), Onsite Meals, Wellness Referrals, Art in the Park, Weave & Mend Garden Project through PollinateTO, and Tax Clinics.



ARTS WELLNESS SPOTLIGHT: ART IN THE PARK

Taking place outside of SKETCH's home in Artscape Youngplace, Art in the Park is focused on providing self and community care through art making. Young people are welcome to explore their creativity through a series of low-barrier activities including crafts, improvisational acoustic jamming, and beatboxing (in partnership with Unity Charity). Meals, art kits, and harm reduction supplies are also available for all participants.

47 young people engaged.

197 unique engagements.

"[SKETCH] has made my outlook on life and my future clearer."

- SKETCH Participant

"[SKETCH] has made me more relaxed and understand that art can be self-care."

- SKETCH Participant





Artist performing at SKETCH's 25th Anniversary Block Party

ARTS PRODUCTION

Programming under **Arts Production** includes skill building workshops and residencies in visual arts, movement, music, branding, creative entrepreneurialism, merchandising, and arts facilitation. Artists were also connected to 1:1 mentorship to support them in executing professional opportunities in the creative industries!

Programs and opportunities under Arts Production in 2022 included: Right to Dance, It's All Queer Pride, Culinary Workshops, Visual Art Workshops, Winter Art Hangout, Music Recording, Sonic Mentorship, Guitar & Piano Lessons, Beats Breaks & Beyond, Deep Listening, MOMxWYFE Music Professional Development, Live Jam, Manifest Vending Residency, DesignTO Residency, The Artist Project, CNE Facilitation and Design Residency, and Mural Residencies.

96% of young people said that SKETCH helped them bring their artistic visions to life.

"Coming to SKETCH has given me a reliable source of artistic mentorship. I know that if I have a project I am working towards, I can count on SKETCH for solid feedback."

- SKETCH Participant



Pogi the Artist live painting at a launch event for BDP Quadrangle

ARTS PRODUCTION SPOTLIGHT: OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

In 2022, SKETCH strengthened its Opportunities Program to connect young people to paid commissions through our partners in the arts and culture sector (such as Shopify and the City of Toronto). In addition to accessing paid income, participants are paired with tailored mentorship and skill building to support them in pursuing these projects and strengthening their portfolios for future opportunities.

\$207,854 generated for young people through commissions, sales, and production residencies

85% of young people said that SKETCH connected them to paid opportunities or employment

"Residencies that taught me how to create proposals have opened the door to many more opportunities."

- SKETCH Participant



ARTS PRODUCTION SPOTLIGHT: MAKING WITH PLACE PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

In 2022, SKETCH continued its partnership with ArtworxTO: Toronto's Year of Public Art to to animate, amplify and archive creative histories and voices of people and place, on the margins. SKETCH artists worked in small curatorial teams through community-arts design and engagement processes to produce three projects with artistic activations spanning the entire city.



MY PUBLIC LIVING ROOM

The Good Guise (a collective on SKETCH's Shared Platform) and photographer Logan Marrast reimaged a phone booth as a mental health check-in that centres care, support, and healing for racialized men. After its original launch, The 'Lokey Care Booth' was relocated to The Maria A. Shchuka Library.



RECONSTRUCTIONS OF HOME

A multi-sited exhibition under the Gardiner Expressway using stories, sound, and augmented reality to honour the legacies and creative contributions of those with lived experience of homelessness under The Bentway.



QUEERING PLACE

Artists planted and migrated a city-wide earth art installation to nurture gathering spaces for 2-Spirit, Queer and Trans young people. The project, plants and medicines centred queer perspectives and Indigenous teachings of these territories.

"[Through Queering Place] my identity has shifted deeper into relationships with place and land. I feel more responsible to act in ways that support and regenerate natural ecosystems that are sustaining us.... I have a desire to share this experience with people in my life by finding moments and ways to bring people into conscious connection to ecosystems, plant and animal life, [and] waterways."

- Queering Place Resident

ARTS LEADERSHIP

79

young leaders

\$31,886

made through
leadership
opportunities at
SKETCH

\$2,091,298

In funding
for impactful
programming to
shared platform
initiatives



Programming under **Arts Leadership** provides industry relevant training and mentorship to champion young people as they strengthen their professional capacities towards employment in the arts, non-profit and creative industries.

78% of young people said that **SKETCH** helped them start their own ideas and projects in their own community

Programs and opportunities under Arts Leadership in 2022 included: SKETCH's Shared Platform, NextUp! Leaders Lab, Spotlight Scholarship for Black Artists, A Rough SKETCH, Threads of Resistance, and Conspiring Towards Collaboration Facilitation Training.

"I credit SKETCH as being the catalyst for me being comfortable calling myself an artist and really allowing myself to jump in with both feet in pursuing my artistry."

- SKETCH Participant



ARTS LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT: NEXTUP! LEADERS LAB

NextUp! Leaders Lab is a professional development program focused on providing mentorship, education and networking to Black and Indigenous arts leaders who have established their own arts initiatives, or are ready to step-in to senior-level positions in the arts and culture sector. After a successful pilot in 2021, we engaged two more cohorts of young leaders in 2022.

Next Up! has four learning pillars: Empowerment, Education, Mentorship, and Networking.

27 cohort members

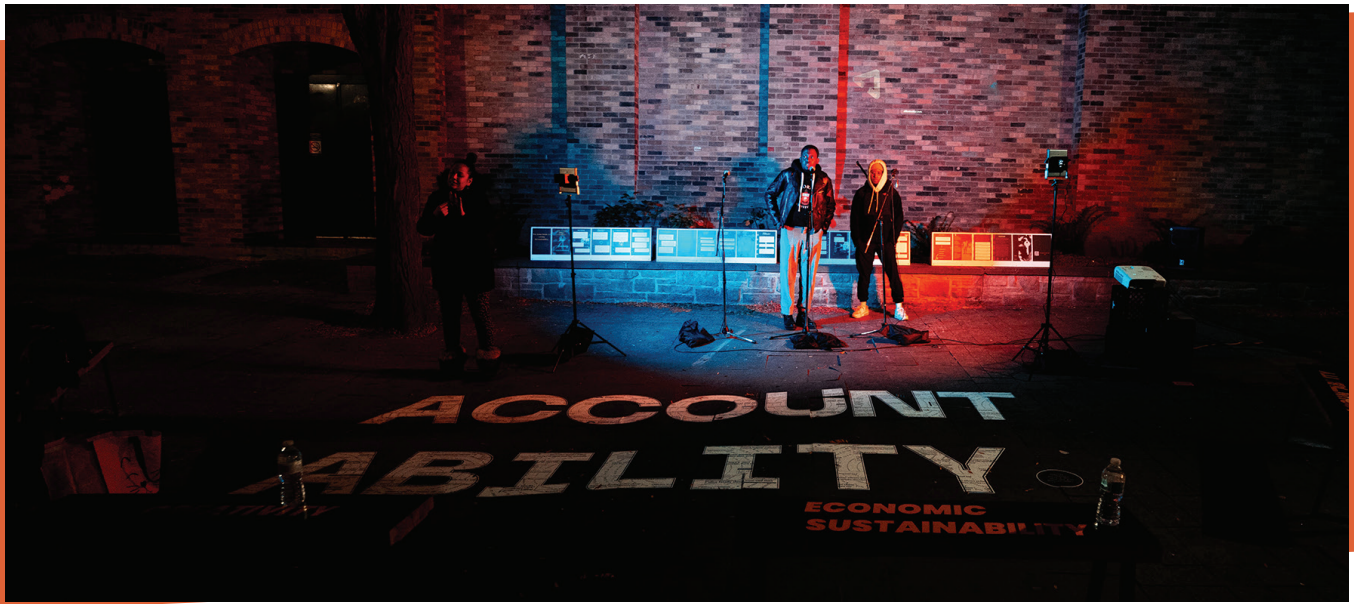
13 industry mentors and facilitators

“NextUp! is such a specific program. It’s... about uplifting and empowering folks who are part of arts organizations and moving them ahead in their careers. I’m like, I made it to this. This isn’t a Garage Band, this is very much an orchestra.”

- NextUp! Cohort Member

“Our contracts and power session brought up such important conversations about charging our worth, and negotiating as an independent contractor. I feel much more confident when negotiating, and I have a better idea of what to charge.”

- NextUp! Cohort Member



The Good Guise 'Loving Accountability' activation

ARTS LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT: SHARED PLATFORM

SKETCH hosts unincorporated arts and culture initiatives that prioritize young people with lived experience on the margins, to be leaders in their communities through our Shared Mentorship Platform. These initiatives address systemic barriers and increase access in marginalized communities to equitable opportunities in arts and culture. We offer charitable governance, fiscal and legal responsibility, as well as mentorship, coaching and support in project development, administration and management.

“Being a director-level staff of a small initiative can be very isolating, so having access to mentorship provides the support and soundboarding needed to thrive in this role.”

- Shared Platform Leader

16 initiatives on the platform

48 young leaders receiving 1:1 support

240,385 young people reached through workshops and events

\$2,091,298 in funding for impactful programming to Shared Platform initiatives

There are 16 Initiatives receiving mentorship through SKETCH's Shared Platform: Rainbow's Pride in Scarborough, It's All Queer Pride, DigiZine, ODE, Elevate Equity, Maamwizdaa, Auntie's Place, NOOR, Street Voices, Lifted by Purpose, JustOverMusic: MusicLinks, CUE, ArtReach, Get REAL Movement, Project: Humanity, and Good Guise.



SHARED PLATFORM HIGHLIGHT: **LIFTED BY PURPOSE**

Lifted by Purpose is an innovative, trauma-informed creative enterprise that addresses mental health to increase the chances of young people and communities living productive and healthy lives. They offer unique mental health and wellness workshops, 1:1 and group counselling, arts programming, and trauma-informed trainings across communities and sectors.

In 2022, Lifted by Purpose:

- Facilitated 3 workshops for 78 TDSB staff in music mindfulness and coping skills
- Trained 40 frontline community workers in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)
- Engaged 21 staff at Toronto Community Housing in Grief and Loss workshops



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

MOBOLUWAJIDIDE "BO" JOSEPH

My name is Moboluwaajidide ("Bo") and I am a participant at SKETCH. I've been writing poetry ever since I was a kid. I was interested in the arts, but never felt like I had the right skills to be taken seriously. Growing up, I always felt out of place looking at the models of traditional masculinity I saw around me. My identity felt wrapped up in expectations.

In 2017, shortly after moving to Canada as a young adult, I heard about The Good Guise: a program at SKETCH that uses the arts as a way for racialized men to have challenging conversations about male accountability and masculinity. Coming to SKETCH for the first time felt like walking into a community, somewhere I was personally welcomed.

My experiences at SKETCH have reinforced the power of the arts to interrupt the organized ways through which we view the world.

My friend the other day asked "why, if the world is ending, are we making art? Shouldn't we be doing something more practical?" And I guess my response is that "something more practical" is what we've been doing, and the world is still ending. Instead, art interrupts. It's more than just playing the violin as the ship sinks, but making sense of things in different ways.

I wouldn't be able to make sense of the world around me if I didn't have art or poetry. It's allowed me to process my experiences and is important for my mental health.

SKETCH has become a place where I can connect with others to make art that interrupts existing conditions that marginalize unhoused Indigenous, Black, Queer, Trans, and other historically oppressed groups, enabling us to reimagine our own futures.

MOBOLUWAJIDIDE JOSEPH

"Bo" | SKETCH Participant, Poet and Arts Leader



CELEBRATING

25

YEARS OF

SKETCH



SKETCH BLOCK PARTY

In June, SKETCH was excited to host its first in-person event for our 25th Anniversary! The celebration featured live music, performances, food, vending, and art activities for the SKETCH community and general public.

**25 youth vendors and performers showcased
\$6,400 Made by vendors from pieces sold**



SKETCH NIGHT MARKET

A holiday market featuring one-of-a-kind artworks, live music, food, and DJs. The general public was invited to shop for unique items for the holidays, and support local artists, crafters, and makers.

**66 youth vendors and performers showcased
\$15,000 Made by vendors from pieces sold**



THREADS OF RESISTANCE EXHIBIT

In November, SKETCH launched *Threads of Resistance* - a collaborative three-week exhibition celebrating artistic activism through multimedia original works that expressed journeys of resistance and unravelled stories from SKETCH's 25 year history.

12 artists showcased



THE INSTITUTE

SKETCH programming works to confront the systems that limit QT & BIPOC young people from leading and transforming the arts, creative industries & communities across Canada. One of the ways in which SKETCH sought to continue this work was in the design and development of The Institute, a project which focused on systems change through research, leadership coaching, co-created learning spaces and developing new pathways to education.



**CORPORATE
AND**

**COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**



NOURISH

As our space opened up, we were able to relaunch Nourish: our employee engagement program that invites groups into SKETCH's industrial kitchen to prepare over 100 nutritious meals that are served to participants over the next week. Thanks to groups like Apple, MKTG, FORREC, Ecclesiastical, University of Toronto, and Traction on Demand for fueling the creativity of young people at SKETCH!



CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

SKETCH's impact spanned the city in 2022, as we were invited to animate some of our partner's spaces throughout the year. Notably, 6 SKETCH artists were commissioned to facilitate creative workshops for children attending Kid's World at the CNE in August. Participants strengthened their facilitation skills to lead workshops in jewellery making, portrait drawing, and clay.



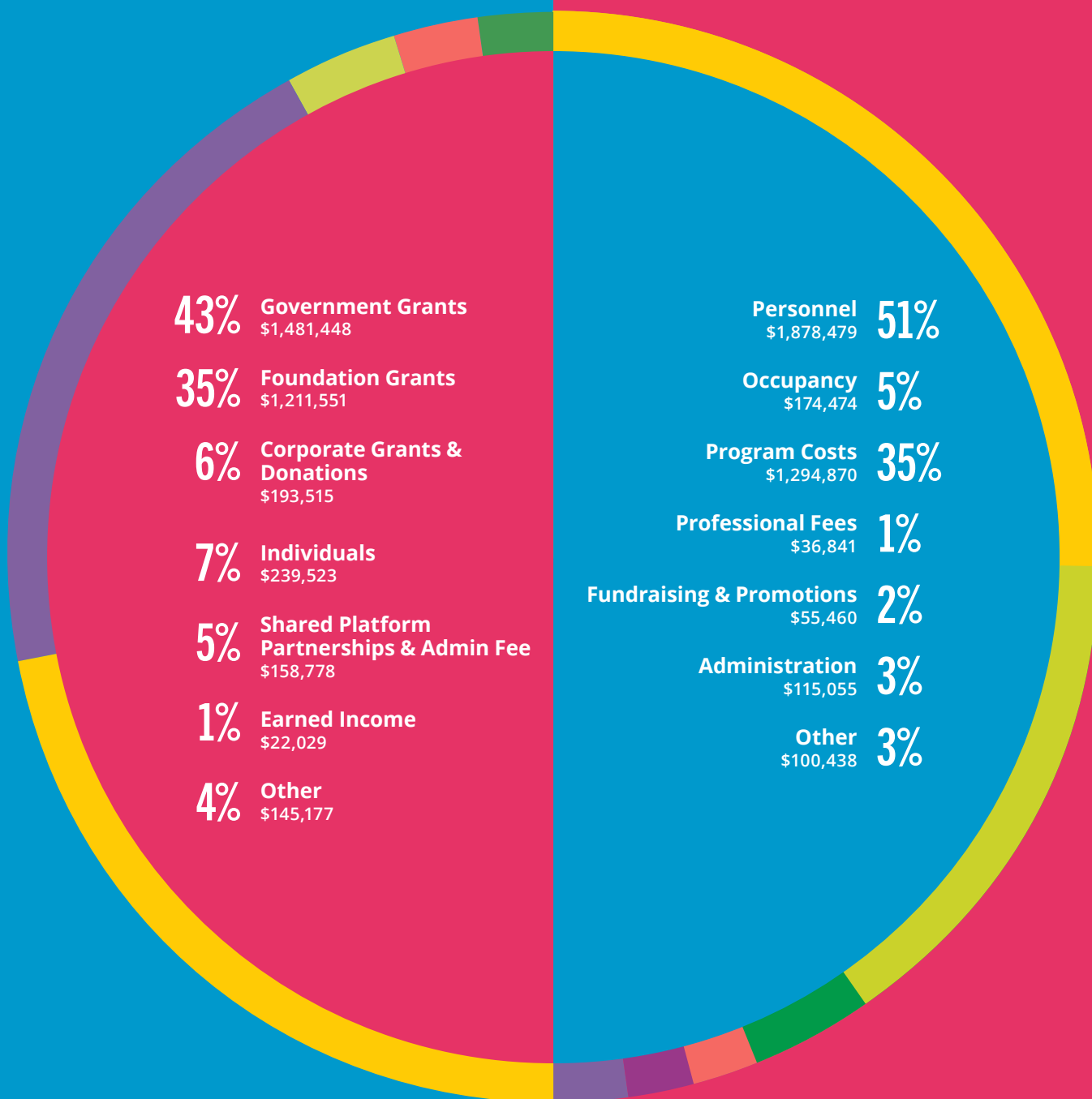
REVENUE AND EXPENSES

TOTAL REVENUE

\$3,452,021

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$3,655,618

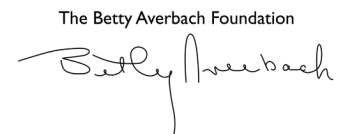


Audited Financial Statements available upon request.

2022 FUNDERS

SKETCH's impact is made possible by the generous support of our funders! Thank you for championing young people and the transformative power of the arts!





Acknowledgements: Design by Talis Creative, Photography by Jahmal Nugent

SKETCH COMMUNITY 2022

SKETCH is made up of a large community of staff, artists, volunteers, donors, investors, funders and community partners. We couldn't do the work we do without the amazing contributions of everyone in our community. Thank you so much for all your support in 2022!

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Social Service & Community Development
Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness
Central Toronto Youth Services
Church of the Holy Trinity
College Montrose Children's Place
Daily Bread Food Bank
Four Villages
Jessie's Centre
Not Far From the Tree
Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre
Pieces to Pathways
Planned Parenthood
Second Harvest
Sistering
St. Michael's Hospital
Tapestry Community Capital
TRIP! (Toronto Raver Info Project)
Unity Charity
Uplift Kitchen
West Neighbourhood House
Yonge Street Mission

ARTS

ArtReach
ArtworxTO: Toronto's Year of Public Art 2021-2022
Canadian National Exhibition Association
DesignTO
Diverse City Dance Company
Fort York, Garrison Common
International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees

Mass Culture
MOMxWFE
Neighbourhood Arts Network
Nia Centre for the Arts
Rainbow's Pride in Scarborough
Right to Dance
The Bentway
The Good Guise
Withrow Common Gallery

CORPORATE

762 Craft Brew
Achievers
Alterna Savings
Apple
ARIDO
ASSOCIUM
Australian Boot Company
BDP Quadrangle
Canada Life
CBC
Closson Chase Vineyards
County Bounty
Drake Hotel
Ecclesiastical
Entro Communications
FORREC
Frontier Design Inc.
Fundraising Lab
Glad Day Bookshop
Holman

Imperial Oil
Knak
Level5 Strategy
LightInForm Design
LinkedIn
MasterClass
Minto
MKTG
Neighbourhood Coffee
ODAIA
Publicis Groupe
RBC
Research Development Consulting
TD Bank Group
Traction on Demand

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Kingfisher Foundation
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McLean Smits Family Foundation
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Moleskine Foundation
Ottawa Community Foundation
RBC Foundation
S.M. Blair Family Foundation
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Slaight Family Foundation

TELUS Friendly Future Foundation
The Home Depot Foundation
The Rotary Club of Toronto
Toronto Arts Foundation
Toronto Foundation
United Way Greater Toronto
Williams Wilson Sherport Foundation

ACADEMIC

Centennial College
OCAD
Toronto Metropolitan University
Trinity College School
University of Toronto
York University

GOVERNMENT

Canada Council for the Arts
Canadian Heritage
City of Toronto
Ontario Arts Council
Toronto Arts Council
Toronto Urban Health Fund

SKETCH DONORS 2022

From \$5 to \$25,000, SKETCH's vibrant community of donors make a big difference to SKETCH and the 400 young people we engage every year. Thank you for uplifting social change through the arts!

Aaron Levy	Brent Brockerville	Ciara Parr	Emmanuelle Drewitt
Adam Renkema	Brian Bimm	Claire Hopkinson	Eva Ardiel
Agnes McGinnis	Brian DeBakker	Claire Nicholls	Evelyne Ntibazonkiza
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Executive Director

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Nevine Sedki
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Rudy Ruttimann
Founding Director, Institute

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Operations Manager (Jan-May)

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Communications & Content Specialist

Dale Roy
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Resource Development and Marketing Administrator

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FINANCE

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Sonya Reynolds
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Quinatzin Aguilar Gutierrez
Culinary Arts Specialist

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Media Arts Specialist

Jane Doe Smith
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Michael Fraser, Grant Writer
Emergent Fundraising

Christine Knight, Grant Writer
Emergent Fundraising

PLACEMENTS

Reona Solomon
Keneisha Charles
Keanna Holder

ARTISTS

Amelia Merhar	Hawi Adenew	Martin Gomes	Samay Arcentales-Cajas
Atieno Miguna	Isaiah Cada	Micha Edwards	Sarah Cunningham
Ay	Jah Grey	Middle	Saretta Khan
Ayan Hassan	James Rollo	Moboluwajidide Joseph (Bo)	Savannah Lavalee
Balu Kanagalingam	Janice Chen	Natalia Forgas	Shanika Lewis-Waddell
Ben Wood	Javier Davila	Bernstein	Shenise McCormick
Charmie Deller	Jenny Chen	Naty Tremblay	Star Nahwegahbo
Chris Yao	Jonathan Michaylow	Nimal Agalawatte	Susie Mensah
Cilla	Joy Morrison	Nish Israni	Tahsine Davdani
DairySam	Kalila Badali	Olympia Trypis	Theia Ramsammy
Daniel Secord	Karen Young	Paola Rodriguez	Thursday
Dave Clark	Kazer Balonzo	Pearl Ojinka	Tiffany Dao
Deon George	Keanna Holder	Pogi the Artist	Tina Ratface
Elias Main	Keke	Pree Rehal	Trey Robinson
Emkay	Kutthroat Kleo	Prisilla Hui	Twitch
Emmet Outlaw	La-Vane Kelly	Realje	Ty Sloane
Erick Lopez	Latoucha Thomas	Rebecca Singh	Vero Diaz
Feliks Tripp	Leila Moumouni-	Renaissance	Winston Boreland
Gabi Charron-Merritt	Tchouassi	River King	Xeynamay
Glamma Kimayo	Les Harper	Rose Morrisette	Yaz Hassen
Grizz	Lisa Petrunia	Rowell Soller	Zephyr Mckenna
Harley McDowell	Lokey Shots	Ryan Weaver	

VOLUNTEERS

Alia Weston	Espinosa	Sven Dedic	Nicole Kallmeyer
Em Kolodko	Jessica Luoong	Treasurer, Director	Director
Bela Sonnotto		Sharon Tindyebwa	Sarah Gaikwad
Feliks Tripp	2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS	Secretary, Director	Director
Thursday (Ria Ayer)	Charlene Quincey	Rona Abramovitch	Spencer Phillips
Pierce	Chair, Director	Director	
Sherika Anthony	Ana Yuristy	Esther Akinrinlola	
Andrea Lameiro	Vice-Chair, Director	Director	



SKETCH Working Arts
180 Shaw Street, Suite 201
Toronto, ON M6J 2W5
info@sketch.ca

Charitable Registration Number:
85912 8332 RR0001