

# 2021/22 ANNUAL REPORT



AERIOSA DANCE SOCIETY / PHOTO BY JULIA CARR



## THE ROUNDHOUSE COMMUNITY ARTS AND RECREATION SOCIETY

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Rachael Meckling window painting / photo courtesy of the Roundhouse

## PROJECT

All of us who work, play or socialize at the Roundhouse will be active participants in an evolving project to find new and creative ways to integrate the arts, community, culture and sport.

## OASIS

The Roundhouse is located in the center of one of the largest urban experiments in history, transforming a few hundred acres of mostly vacant lots into one of North America's most dense and diverse urban sites. The Roundhouse will be an oasis in the center of this dynamic mix, enabling people to use their creativity and energy (at whatever level) to rejuvenate themselves and to be better equipped to face the blizzard of challenges and opportunities around them.

## CONNECTION

The Roundhouse exists to identify and serve the needs of widely divergent communities. To do this, the Roundhouse must reach out to the places and situations where those communities feel comfortable. These relationships will grow into Roundhouse programs through sponsorships, partnerships and our own productions.



## COVER IMAGE

Aeriosa Dance Society in the dance studio. In fall 2021, Aeriosa Dance Society began offering introduction to aerial dance classes for adventurous community members.

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# ROUNDHOUSE

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**SIMMA BAKARE** (Mar 2022),  
**ADRIAN MITESC**

President  
Roundhouse Community Arts and  
Recreation Society

The Roundhouse started the 2021/2022 year by cautiously emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic. As we opened our doors, we were grateful to see so many of the community faces we missed over the previous months. We opened with masking mandates and vaccination checks and spent countless hours debating mandatory vaccination policies. In the fall, we ran a survey of our members and were touched by the many ways members talked about the importance of the Roundhouse to them and their families. While early registrations were lower than expected, we saw members increasingly become more comfortable with returning to in-person activities. By the end of the year, registrations reached pre-pandemic levels, with special events regularly reaching capacity and several partnerships seeing record numbers of attendees. After the challenges brought on by COVID-19, this was an amazing way to start the 25th anniversary of the Roundhouse.

Like many other organizations, we also saw a substantive amount of change in the 2021/2022 year. We had several staff members leave to be closer to home or focus on their families and, in turn, we welcomed a number of new staff to the centre. We also saw considerable change in our board with Adrian Mitescu stepping down as President in March and 1st VP Simma Bakare stepping in as President. In addition, several directors stepped down for various reasons and we gratefully welcomed three new directors. We also saw a number of improvements in to the centre including both large initiatives such as the first set of barn doors in the Exhibition Hall being replaced and a new HVAC system, and smaller ones like new karate mats.

We're happy to report that by June 2022, operations at the Roundhouse had returned to the pre-pandemic 'normal'. Staffing and registrations had returned to pre-pandemic levels and the board even capped off the year with our first in-person meeting since early 2020. We look forward to continuing to grow in the 2022-2023 year and to building new relationships and partnerships within our community and beyond – and to reconfirming the Roundhouse as a centre of the Yaletown and arts community.



## SUPERVISOR'S REPORT



**KATHRYN SWEETAPPLE**

Supervisor  
Recreation Services

We're back! The 2021/2022 year allowed the Roundhouse to get back to what we were designed to do... offer quality recreation programs to our amazing community, and provide a venue for the Arts and Culture events to reignite and engage after being sidelined for 2 years!

The Roundhouse staff and Board of Directors worked very hard to ensure the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre returned as strong as it was before the pandemic hit and are continuing to strengthen our programs and events every season.

We started slow with programming through the Summer and Fall of 2021 and by Winter 2022 saw the return of most of our activities. Participants of all ages were eager to return and take part in the variety of programming we offered and our audiences returned to our Performance Theatre and Exhibition Hall in droves to witness and experience the Arts and Culture events that the Roundhouse is known for. Despite relaxed measures, Roundhouse staff remained diligent to ensure our patrons felt safe and welcomed.

Getting back to pre-pandemic levels has not been easy. We've faced challenges getting things back to normal. Space, staffing and restrictions were three of our top issues. With the relaxing of restrictions, we saw the demand increase for our programs and events space. Our community and the entire city wanted to gather, socialize and recreate together. However, as with many organizations across the Province, we faced staffing short-ages (specifically in event staffing) and the demand for space increased as programs and events wanted to get restarted. The staff have juggle all of these challenges seamlessly and although we are still facing staffing issues, every one of the staff at the Roundhouse have pulled together to ensure that we can operate as we always have.

On that note, I would like to take this opportunity to say how proud I am to lead a staff team (both Society staff and Park Board ), who are so dedicated to what the Roundhouse stands for within our community and a staff team that continues to contribute in so many ways to ensuring what we do is successful.

Thank you as always to the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Society Board of Directors who continue to provide their ongoing and unwavering support to assist our staff in providing the highest quality of service to our community. As volunteers their contribution and continued commitment to the staff, instructors, programs and community is integral to the success of the Roundhouse.

## BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

### FACILITIES

Joseph Heald, Chair

#### Board Members

Julie An, Andrea Han

#### Staff Members

Jeremy Baxter, Annie Cavanagh,  
Kathryn Sweetapple, Jeremy Quan

#### Community Members

Aleksandra Puaca

Most of the Committee's work this year was to monitor the progress of previously scheduled facility projects that had been postponed due to COVID-19, with regular updates from our Supervisor and Technical Director.

In early July 2021, the installation of new security cameras and software that began in March 2021 was completed. Whereas, the new air conditioning equipment that was supposed to be installed in March was postponed until additional roof support could be built for the new units.

In August and September, a new main electrical panel was installed in the electrical room, the fire alarm panel was replaced, and new smoke detectors and pull stations were installed. Also in August, the replacement of the barn doors finally got underway when one set of doors was replaced. We learned in October that another budget would be required for the replacement of barn doors scheduled for 2022 because the previous budget only covered the set of doors replaced in August. And in January, we learned that the budget for further barn door replacement would be delayed until the 2023-26 Capital Plan.

In March 2022, Kathryn Sweetapple received the long-awaited revised guidelines from the Planning Department for Small Community Garden Project Proposals. These guidelines were reviewed and discussed by the Committee members in our April email Facilities Committee meeting. Since a lot of information is required to assemble a proposal, Kathryn believes that this is likely to be a 2023 project.

In May, Jeremy Baxter became the new Production Manager/Technical Director for the Roundhouse, which means he also automatically became a new member of the Facilities Committee. And at the June Board Meeting, Aleksandra Puaca volunteered to become a new member of the Board of Directors, so we immediately invited her to also join the Facilities Committee. We warmly welcome both of them to the Facilities Committee.

In June, we held our first in-person meeting at the Roundhouse in the past two years. We primarily discussed various possibilities for the proposed community garden at the Roundhouse according to the new Small Garden Guidelines. Kathryn and Jeremy Quan had identified an approximately 24-foot by 12-foot area in the courtyard adjacent to Pacific Boulevard, currently home to a bike rack, as the only likely space on the Roundhouse property where several raised beds could be installed. The Committee members agreed that the site could work out very well. Kathryn and Jeremy will work together to assemble all the information required for a proposal.



## PROGRAMMING

Sukhi Ghuman, Natalie  
Hawryshkewich, Chairs

Board Members  
Marie Krbavac, Nazanin  
Shambayati

Staff Members  
Steven Adams, DB Boyko, Sarah  
Cavanaugh, Sally Chan, Melissa  
Gendron, Jeremy Quan, Silvia  
Rubino, Jennifer Sine, Kathryn  
Sweetapple, Diana VanderVeen

The Roundhouse Programming Committee was excited to report on programs, performances, and special events that had been paused as a result of the pandemic. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we returned to a full roster of activities at the Centre.

While there were still a number of restrictions on programs at the start of the year, staff, instructors, volunteers, and patrons did their part to keep them running and safe for everyone. With the increase in programs we were able to bring back the Roundhouse Program Guide starting with Winter 2022, the first brochure in two years! As the year progressed we were able to bring back all pre-COVID-19 programming, as well as some new offerings for the community.

Uptake on special events—including Halloween, Breakfast with Santa, and Easter—was immediate as each reached full capacity. Thank you to all staff and volunteers who worked tirelessly to make these events extra special for our community.

We bid farewell to Youth programmer Sally Chan and Older Adult programmer Diana Vanderveen, and welcome Special Events coordinator Stephen Adams, Youth programmer Melissa Gendron, and Older Adult programmer Kaleb Corbin. Thank you to Sally and Diana for your incredible contribution to the Roundhouse and welcome Steve, Melissa, and Kaleb.

If you want to connect with the Roundhouse community and engage with exciting events, we encourage you to join as a volunteer. Find out more and apply today at [roundhouse.ca/get-involved/volunteer](https://roundhouse.ca/get-involved/volunteer)



Climate Change Filmmaking Project / photo courtesy of the Roundhouse

## BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

### FINANCE

James Painter, Chair

Board Members

Adrian Mitescu, Andrea Han

Staff Members

Kathryn Sweetapple, Maria

Castillo

The Finance Committee is proud to report the Roundhouse Arts and Recreation Society continues to be in good financial health. The 2021/2022 fiscal year is an exciting year for the Society in that COVID-19 restrictions have been removed allowing the Society to resume offering the programs important to our members and generate a small surplus.

While it won't be immediate, the resumption of regular programming allows us to begin the slow process of rebuilding our reserves that were depleted during the COVID-19 pandemic and undertaking capital equipment replacements that were deferred.

Through continued prudent fiscal management the Society is positioning itself to weather future storms and continue offering arts and recreation programming to its members and community.

### HUMAN RESOURCES

Andrea Han, Chair

Board Members

Simma Bakare

The past year saw considerable change as the Roundhouse returned to normal operations following the COVID-19 pandemic. We are currently back at full staffing and enjoying the opportunities to reconnect in person. We sadly said goodbye to Catherine Wilson, who served a temporary backfill as our Rental Coordinator, and Annie Cavanagh, who had been our Production Manager/Technical Director for several years. However, we are happy to welcome Jeremy Baxter back to the centre as our new Production Manager/Technical Director. We're immensely proud of the work of the Roundhouse staff (both Society and Park Board employees), and look forward to working together in the upcoming year.



## RECRUITMENT AND NOMINATIONS, GOVERNANCE

Simma Bakare, Chair

As we come out of the pandemic with new perspectives, our board has followed similar form with several new community members joining. This has allowed us to embrace the community we serve with fresh eyes, still benefiting from the current members' institutional knowledge to steer the Society in the most diverse and successful ways. To help with our recruitment efforts, the Board has maintained its institutional membership to Vantage Point, a Vancouver organization that supports capacity-building in the non-profit sector. To provide our Board members with a solid foundation of non-profit governance, the Society continues to support the Directors in pursuing appropriate developmental workshops hosted by Vantage Point.

Aleksandra Puaca and Heba Altabba, and Ray Lam each joined the board in 2022. We look forward to their contributions in the years ahead. The Society welcomes applications from the community to join our active Board. If you use the Community Centre, live in the neighborhood or simply have an interest in lending your efforts to supporting a unique Centre in the heart of the city, please send a note of interest to the President's mailbox [president@roundhouse.ca](mailto:president@roundhouse.ca). We welcome and respond to all expressions of interest!

## GOVERNANCE

Simma Bakare, Chair

The Governance Committee meets on an ad hoc basis to address policy and other governance-related matters. With the challenges presented by COVID-19, we continued to provide support to the Board and Society, as needed. The Committee is grateful to the staff and volunteers for their commitment to ensuring the Roundhouse provides the best services possible to the community in a safe and supportive environment.



Family Day origami project with Yukiko Tosa / photo courtesy of the Roundhouse

**ARTS PARTNERS** | Aeriosa Dance Society, Afro Van Connect, Alternative Arts, ArtStarts, The Biting School, Butterflies in Spirit, Caravan World Rhythms, Filipino Music and Art Foundation of BC, Group of Five Photographers, Kokoro Dance, Monday Dancers, Music on Main – Modulus Festival, New Works: Dance Allsorts, P. Megan Andrews, Pride in Art – Queer Arts Festival, PuSh International Performing Arts Festival, Songbird North, Talking Stick Festival, Time Will Tell, Vancouver Arts Colloquium Society, Vancouver Outsider Arts Festival, Vancouver Comic Arts Festival, Vancouver Ikebana Association, Vancouver Improvised Arts Society, Vancouver New Music, Working Group on Indigenous Food Sovereignty



## ARTS, CULTURE AND ENGAGEMENT

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### RESIDENCIES

All Bodies Dance

All Bodies Ready Dance for Youth

Arts & Health: Healthy Aging  
Through the Arts

BC Youth Week

Burnaby North Secondary Access  
Program

Creative Remix

Plant a Seed Bead Residency with  
Adele L<sup>a</sup>b<sup>o</sup>Δ<sup>o</sup>q<sup>o</sup> Arseneau

Re-storying Your Future - Youth  
Climate Change Residency

Roundhouse Ageless Dancers

Roundhouse Community Dancers

Roundhouse Youth Theatre Action  
Group

Together and Apart – making a  
difference with art.

### WINDOW

World Listening Week

### RESIDENCY HIGHLIGHTS

In celebration of courageous acts of art-making during the pandemic, the Vancouver Park Board Decolonization, Arts and Culture Team in partnership with the Roundhouse presented **Together and Apart – making a difference with art**: with exhibitions, screenings, workshops and live performances from Sept 16 to 26, 2021

Together and Apart highlighted artists who reached out to isolated families, youth and seniors in remarkable, creative ways, to work together and inspire one another during this extraordinary time. The reciprocity of giving and receiving through art was a 10-day celebration that invited the public to: peer into artists studios, dance in the park, take a felting or zine workshop, participate in Indigenous sharing circles, and check out artists at work in neighbourhood parks and fieldhouses.

The Exhibition Opening included the world premiere of **Doing It For Love: Five Stories from Creative Communities in a Global Pandemic**. Filmed and edited by artist Israel Seoane, this short documentary commissioned and produced by the Park Board, this 5-part short documentary series reflects on the creativity, resilience and richness of artists and community working together in difficult times.

**Re-storying Your Future - Youth Climate Change Residency** was 3 month production exploration in which participants learned climate stories don't have to be all doom and gloom, they can uplift and re-center marginalized and underrepresented voices. They developed a script and created their own narratives on climate change in a 48 hour film shoot. **How Climate Change Affects Love** examined what concessions a newlywed couple must make towards affirming their love and mitigating climate change. This new work premiered at the Roundhouse during BC Youth Week May 2022.

The production was developed by Vancouver Park Board: Decolonization, Arts and Culture in partnership with Echo Park Film Centre North and Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House - Frames Film Program, Moberly Arts Centre and the Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre.

## COMMUNITY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**SALLY CHAN, SILVIA RUBINO,  
MELISSA GENDRON**

Community Youth Workers

The Roundhouse youth embarked on a year full of pivoting and transition in 2021/2022, albeit with great excitement, with summer 2021 being a kick off to a somewhat “back to normal” with more opportunities to connect in-person again. The youth were in good hands under the leadership of Sally Chan from July and August 2021, and then with a familiar face, Silvia Rubino, from September 2021 to May 2022, and with Melissa Gendron, who started as Community Youth Worker in June 2022.

**July & August 2021** Roundhouse continued to offer a variety of well-loved indoor gym sports, with the addition of new outdoor recreation programs at David Lam Park including Youth Summer Outdoor Fun, Youth Outdoor Grass Volleyball, and Youth Outdoor Fitness Bootcamp.

In addition to physical recreation, the Centre partnered with the Vancouver School Board in supporting the Rec n’ Read program over the summer. This 4-week program is for referred Grade 1 students who would benefit from extra literacy support. It was paired with fun, recreational play in the afternoon led by Roundhouse youth leaders. This was a valuable employment opportunity for our Roundhouse youth, and an opportunity for personal growth and career development.

**September 2021 to May 2022** Youth open-gym and recreational activities (ages 10-19) such as, basketball and volleyball, continued to be very popular, providing a positive, safe, and fun place for youth to gather and hang out after school, on Friday nights, and Saturday afternoons, with numbers typically ranging up to 100-120 youth. The Roundhouse gym, games room, and foyer have been a place of belonging and community for youth.

**“THE ROUNDHOUSE GYM, GAMES  
ROOM, AND FOYER HAVE BEEN  
A PLACE OF BELONGING AND  
COMMUNITY FOR YOUTH.”**

The Roundhouse Pre-teen Club (ages 9-13) returned as a favourite hangout for a group of 10 students who gather Thursdays after school to create art projects, try science experiments, play board games, and other fun activities. The pre-teen club leader facilitates a safe space for the students to make new friends, develop self-esteem and social skills, and feel more connected to the community.

Youth Friday Nights offered many different fun activities from 6 to 8pm, such as sewing, button making, Valentines grams, DIY projects, ice skating, and spring break BBQ bash. Moreover, a new Roundhouse Instagram page (@roundhouseccyouth) keeps youth informed on programs and events.





Youth Council (grades 9-12) had a strong and inspiring return. The youth council leaders facilitated two successful donation drives: Halloween cake pops and a holiday candle sale, and were able to donate \$300 to the Indigenous Residential School Survivors Society. There was also the first annual gingerbread-making contest and movie night. Youth Council continued its positive community initiatives with “Celebrating Black Artists” and making buttons for Anti-Bullying and Pink Shirt Day. With spring came many new youth initiatives, such as monthly clean-ups around the community centre, which started from the hope to raise awareness for Earth Day. For Youth Week, a “Skills & Grills” BBQ and open mic event allowed many in the community to reconnect. Lastly, the youth leadership created a Mental Health Awareness board for the community to share post-it notes of encouragement. The Roundhouse hired two youth staff for Roundhouse’s first Youth Summer Camp, funded by the Canadian Summer Grant.

**June 2022** The Roundhouse had the opportunity to collaborate with the King George Community School Worker to hire and equip a program manager and three youth leaders to lead a Rec & Read Program at Lord Roberts Elementary. All of the senior youth leaders were from King George Secondary as well as participants of youth programs at the Roundhouse such as drop-in volleyball, youth council, and birthday parties. The team also consisted of a few volunteer junior Youth Leaders. The Youth Leaders were enthusiastic and grateful to be a part of the VSB and Roundhouse team, and for the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and work ethic. June also consisted of recruiting, training, and leading two new Youth Leaders as we prepared for seven weeks of Roundhouse’s first Youth Outdoor Summer Camp. We look forward to sharing more about a great summer for the youth at Roundhouse.

## PROGRAMMING



Creative Remix summer camp on the Turntable Plaza / photo courtesy of the Roundhouse

### CHILDREN

Jennifer Sine  
Recreation Programmer

This past year at the Roundhouse has been a transition as we have navigated our way through COVID-19 and into a new normalcy. Through it all, Board, staff, instructors, and patrons have worked hard to ensure everyone has felt safe returning and participating in programs at the centre.

When we started planning for summer 2021, there were still restrictions in place limiting the number of activities with summer camps. As we moved from July to August, day camps were able to go on more out trips. Despite not operating at full capacity, but did our best to run as many camps and programs as possible.

Through the fall, we were able to bring back more programs and increase numbers. Many people were excited to see events like Halloween and Breakfast with Santa again. Through winter and spring, we shifted from having a number of Provincial Health Orders in place to being fully operational. Parents were particularly happy when we were able to bring back Elsie Roy programming.

We are excited to offer more programs each season that interest the needs of the community, and look forward to what 2022-2023 has in store.



## PROGRAMMING



Yoga in the dance studio / photo courtesy of the Roundhouse

### ADULT

Jeremy Quan,  
Recreation Programmers

This last year has finally seen the easing of restrictions that limited the Roundhouse Community Centre and its program offerings. With that, the return of instructors who were absent from the centre for the majority of the COVID-19 pandemic have returned, with enthusiastic participants in tow. Excitement buzzed through the centre as class sizes increased, and restrictive and sometimes confusing rules were reduced.

The Adult portfolio welcomed new classes, instructors, and expansion of programs already offered. These programs include cedar weaving, singing lessons, self-defence classes, and the addition of another intermediate volleyball class, which immediately filled with registrations. We also saw the departure of woodworking instructors after long tenures in our studio; Urban Woodworker, a longstanding contractor in our studio, stepped up to the opportunity to fill the gaps. We are excited to see what they can offer for those keen to participate in the Woodworking Studio.

We all look forward to what the future holds, and the opportunity of further expanding our programming efforts to those in our community.

## PROGRAMMING

### OLDER ADULT

Krissy Golin,  
Interim Older Adult Programmer

Kaleb Corbin  
Program Assistant III – Older  
Adult/Seniors Worker

Diana VanderVeen  
Program Assistant III – Older  
Adult/Seniors Worker

This year our annual Seniors Week ran from Tuesday, June 7 to Friday, June 10. The theme of this year's exhibition was **Older and Creating a Life We Love**. We wanted to showcase the enriched lives of the Seniors who participate in the programs at the Roundhouse through art and recreation.

In the Exhibition Hall, we featured the work of several older adult programs, including Chinese Calligraphy (instruction by Pansy Poon), Watercolour Painting (Sonia Mocnik), Sketching and Drawing (Édouard Beaudry), and Pottery (Cheryl Stapleton). There were videos of performances by the Monday Dancers and Virtual Sound and Song, and a display of a large recycled acrylic painting tree created by Valerie Ferrar. Testimonials from Walk and Social led by Sage Waserman, pickleball participants, and line dancing led by Phillis Lim were also displayed.

During the week, we offered 11 free programs for seniors in the Exhibition Hall. Programs included Spanish for Beginners (Gloria Alonso), Line Dancing (Phillis Lim), Acrylic Paint Pouring (Valerie Ferrar), Morning Tai Chi/Yuen Gi dance, Watercolour Painting (Sonia Mocnik), a chess social drop-in, how to use your iPhone/iPad (Halley Tang), Grooves Moves (Alannah Lori), Chair Yoga (Lynda Sing), Hawaiian dance (Yoshi Yamamoto), and abstract connection/abstract portraits (Édouard Beaudry). There was a writing workshop for 2SLGBTQIA+ seniors, and a live dance performance by the Roundhouse Ageless Dancers. We ended the week with our Annual Seniors Week Tea Dance which included a ballroom dance class led by Barney Lee. The week was a great success and we look forward to seeing next year's exhibition.

There has been quite a bit of change in the Older Adults/Seniors portfolio over the past year. Diana VanderVeen retired and Krissy Golin stepped in to cover for Diana. Kaleb Corbin joined the Roundhouse team in late May 2022 as the new Program Assistant III – Older Adult/Seniors Worker. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Diana and Krissy for helping with Kaleb's transition into his new role here at Roundhouse as well as their hard work over this past year.

## PROGRAMMING

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Stephen Adams,  
Special Events Coordinator

The Special Events Coordinator position had been vacant since 2019, so the Roundhouse was very pleased to welcomed Stephen Adams to the role in November 2021. We returned to hosting events at Roundhouse with the added challenge of dynamic public safety concerns, .

With December comes the always-popular Winter Holidays at the Roundhouse comprising Breakfast with Santa and Concord Christmas. Lower capacity, vaccine passports and masks aside, everyone enjoyed the pancake and sausage breakfast, live music from Phat Santa Swing, complimentary photos, cookie decorating, letters to Santa, and a winter wonderland photo wall. With another wave of global and local health concerns, we had to re-think we bring people together for this year's Family Day weekend in February 2022. Community members enjoyed an outdoor Yaletown treasure hunt and art walk with participation prizes. Local artist and storyteller Yukiko Tosa ran limited-capacity origami workshops in the Roundhouse foyer.

April saw the Eggs-tacular Easter Egg Hunt back in full force, with live bunnies, families hunting for the golden egg, crafts, and lots of chocolate. This was one of the first events without extended government pandemic restrictions. In May, we held the annual Engine 374 Anniversary which also marked the Roundhouse 25th Anniversary, opening its doors to the public on May 3, 1997. Our historic steam engine appeared on the Turntable Plaza—the steam whistle sounded, the brass band played, speeches were made, and much cake was eaten. Finally, I Heart Yaletown brought the local community and businesses together in June with a free BBQ managed by Urban Fare and live entertainment from Folk Singer Rachel Cambrin, supported by Yaletown Business Improvement Association.

The Special Events portfolio supports the Vancouver Park Board ACE team with partnerships such as Diwali Festival and Winter Solstice Festival, and residencies with the Roundhouse Youth Theatre Action Group and Vancouver School Board's Alternative Arts program.





P Megan Andrews Disorientation Project / photo courtesy of the Roundhouse

## PROGRAMMING

### VOLUNTEERS

Silvia Rubino,  
Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteering has always been a very important part of the Roundhouse. Whether it be ushering events, instructing a seniors program, helping set up for children's events, or joining our Board committees, our volunteers have been truly committed to donating their time to help make the Roundhouse the unique and special place it is.

COVID-19 continued to affect the Roundhouse and volunteer opportunities in 2021/2022. However, we successfully logged approximately 1,000 volunteer hours such as ushering, special events, seniors programming, Engine 374, and children's and youth programming.

The volunteer department has been hard at work cleaning up the Better Impact volunteer software—connecting with old and new volunteers, re-building our volunteer youth opportunities, and offering training with new COVID-19 protocols. We successfully reinstated approximately 100 volunteers, with requests from new volunteers coming in every day.

We were very happy to connect with Elsie Roy grade 6 and 7s in providing more volunteer opportunities for youth. Youth volunteers helped with Halloween events, Breakfast with Santa, and Easter. We also had a great group of youth help with Afterschool Kids Club and day camps.

The West Coast Railway Association brought back 14 volunteers, some new and some returning. They re-opened the Engine 374 Pavilion and have seen a steady increase in visitors.

A huge thank you to all our volunteers and the countless hours they have donated to the roundhouse. We wouldn't be able to do it without them.

## PRODUCTION

### PRODUCTION TEAM

Annie Cavanagh,  
Production Manager/Technical  
Director

Kayce Honey,  
Events Administrator

Laura MacKay,  
Rental Coordinator

Maria Castillo,  
Accountant

Hanne Lene Dalglish,  
Communications Coordinator

Long in advance of the pandemic, bookings for our large events spaces were put on hold in anticipation of barn door reconstruction. In the summer of 2021, one of the Performance Centre bays' barn doors was re-built. It looks fantastic, and we are excited to see the project bring our heritage facility, and the iconic barn doors, a fresh (and safe) revitalised look.

With the COVID-19 restrictions continuing, and the global uncertainty of events for most of our 2021/2022 fiscal year, we were still able to host 85 days of events at the Roundhouse in 2021 and 109 days of events in the first 6 months of 2022.

Our first rental event after the COVID-19 closure was in late July 2021, a Blood Donation Clinic hosted with Blood.ca and the City of Vancouver. Being as it was a challenge over the past few years with restrictions changing, clients not having financial support from investors, and audience/staff not comfortable in crowds, it was nice to have this vital service be our first rental client. We started picking up steam in September 2021 with a number of our returning partnerships and regular rental clients returning.

During the year, concerts, markets, festivals and shows returned to almost normal volume, until early February 2022 when the Omicron variant hit and the events world stepped back, once again. The remainder of the fiscal year saw us slowly and safely return to community events and partnerships, however we could. It wasn't until late March 2022 when we felt things shift into gear, and we've been chugging along since then.

Second to COVID-19, staffing has been our biggest challenge. Over the last two years, many industry technicians have moved into other career paths, or found "essential" work in their expertise. It is a nation-wide complaint, and we know we are not the only people experiencing staffing shortages, but we are challenged with this daily.





## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Sadly, Annie, our Production Manager/Technical Director returned to Australia at the end of May 2022. Fortunately, we hired Jeremy Baxter in mid-May and look forward to him joining us in September 2022 when he wraps up his summer festival commitments. We are grateful that Annie worked remotely with the Production Team in the interim. She is deeply missed.

Jeremy returns to the Roundhouse after a 14-year hiatus. He was the TD here until 2008, when he left to freelance and explore new adventures in the Vancouver festival scene. We are very happy he has decided to return to us—his knowledge and history with us will be an asset to the venue and the team.

Some of our **big rental events** held July 2021 – June 2022:

- TD Vancouver International Jazz Fest *July 2021*
- New Ventures Awards (online and in person) *October 2021*
- Stage 49 holding for *Million Little Things* cast *October 2021*
- Portobello Market *November 2021*
- Bridal Fashion Showcase *March 2021*
- Top Drop Wine Festival *May 2022*

**Small room rentals** in 2021 were slow to come back due to room capacity restrictions from COVID-19. They returned in a limited capacity in September 2021. We then began hosting our returning regular clients, mostly our recovery groups. By January 2022, we were back to normal capacities, and finally saw an uptake in our small room rentals. Looking back, our general revenue from small rooms dropped 63% from the 2018-2019 year to 2021/2022 fiscal year.

Looking to the future, we are most excited to host engaging events for our community, and feel a sense of normalcy in the neighbourhood. We anticipate continued work on the barn doors as well as the gallery walls in the Exhibition Hall—we can't wait to see these projects completed.

Thank you to our technicians, front of house, and front desk staff who work tirelessly to support our programs, partnerships, rentals, and residencies. Without them, we couldn't do these events.

## COMMUNICATIONS



Everything changes and nothing stands still. —*Heraclitus*

These words from millenia ago still hold true today, reminding us that our ever-changing world will always move on from where it was a moment ago.

It's been a minute since March 2020, and our world has changed in uncountable ways, and yet we still need to connect in some way—to seek comfort and solace in the company of others, to be challenged, energised, uplifted, heard, moved, entertained, healed. As we finish with the first half of 2022, vaccination rates mean that our community can safely gather again. Programming staff are busy increasing our programs to meet that demand, and we're starting to see our rental requests increase as the ability to host in-person events becomes a viable option.

Excitingly, in January 2022, we published the first full-length program guide since the Winter 2020 season, a glimpse at our future normal. In general, Communications has been fielding topical questions online such as room capacities, PHO requirements, and when are favourite programs going to return. In this regard, our website is the main source for current COVID-19 information, and is updated regularly. Analytics indicate that website usage steadily increased as we returned to our previous levels of programming.

We very much look forward to the coming year and welcoming the Roundhouse community back to our space safely, with the knowledge that our resilient team is ready to face any challenges that come our way.

It's always healthy to consider outside feedback. These online reviews from the past year are a good indication of how the general public sees us.

"This a great legacy building preserved and retrofitted for community use. Great job." —*Ray*

"Love this place. My boys love to play basketball here and they offer so many others sports, arts and fitness activities. Located in a friendly neighbourhood . Location is just perfect. While my boys play, I can go for a run or walk with my pet by the water." —*Nitika*

"Really neat looking place. A very nice locomotive train engine [that] they have on display." —*Scott*

"Clean & safe place for everyone." —*Vaheed*

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## PARK BOARD

### Park Board Liaison

Dave Demers

### Director of Recreation

Steve Kellock

### Recreation Manager

Susan Mele

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## SOCIETY

### Acting President, First Vice-President

Simma Bakare

### Treasurer

James Painter

### Secretary

Marie Krbavac

### Second Vice-President

Joseph Heald

### Directors-at-Large

Andrea Han

Natalie Hawryshkewich

Ray Lam

Nazanin Shambayati

*Stepped down during the year:*

Julie An

Andrew Dilts

Sukhi Ghuman

Adrian Mitescu

### Advisory Council

Adam Hunter, Chair

Elizabeth Snow

Leslie Adams

Ingrid Alderson

Brent Belsher

Robert Dewey

Craig Giles

Sarah Muff

Setty Pendakur

Andrew Dilts

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## STAFF

### Supervisor

Kathryn Sweetapple

### Coordinator, ACE

Marie Lopes

### Arts Programmers

DB Boyko

Sarah Cavanaugh

Hilary Davis [acting]

### Special Events Coordinator

Stephen Adams

### Community Youth Workers

Sally Chan, Melissa Gendron

### Recreation Programmers

Jenn Sine

Jeremy Quan

### Program Assistants – Senior's

Krissy Golin, Kaleb Corbin

### Volunteer Coordinator

Silvia Rubino

### Technical Director / Production Manager

Annie Cavanagh

### Production Administrator

Maria Rita Castillo

### Production Coordinator

Kayce Honey

### Rental Coordinator

Catherine Wilson

### Communications Coordinator

Hanne Lene Dalgleish



**Interested in joining the  
Roundhouse Society board  
of directors or committees?**

Contact Andrea Han at  
[president@roundhouse.ca](mailto:president@roundhouse.ca)