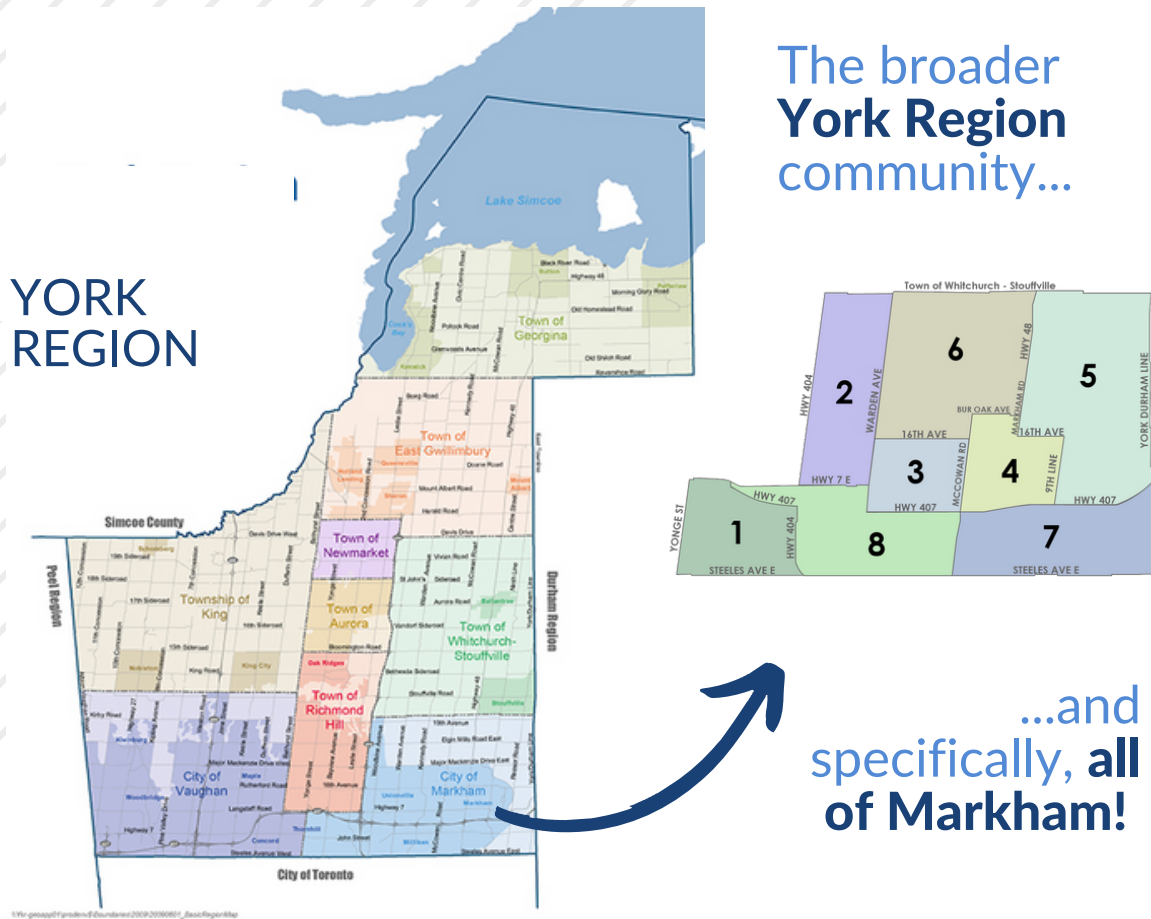


MARKHAM  
**arts**  
COUNCIL

2020 Annual Report  
**Our Accomplishments**



# WHO WE SERVE & OUR GOALS



The broader  
**York Region**  
community...

...and  
specifically, **all**  
of **Markham!**

## CREATIVITY

Fostering and nurturing creativity by providing emerging and established artists with opportunities to grow and learn. Providing the support, advice and encouragement artists need to pursue their passions.

## COLLABORATION

Providing space for artists from varying disciplines and cultural backgrounds to work together on collaborative projects and initiatives.

## COMMUNITY

Building a stronger, more unified arts community that encompasses literature, experimental art, visual arts, new media, music, dance, performance and dramatic arts. Advocating for the arts in the City of Markham.

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# MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

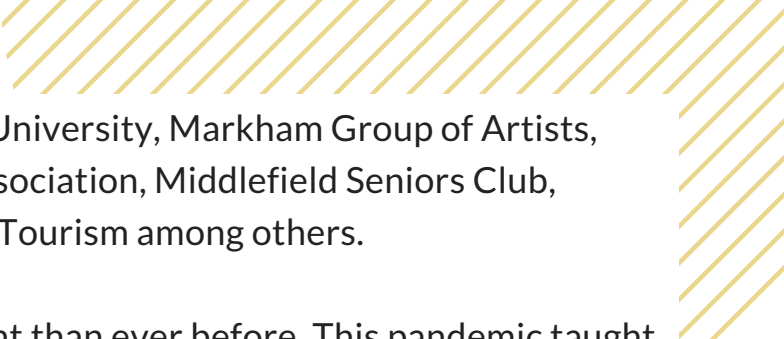


As I bid adieu as the Chair of Markham Arts Council, it is a time of self-reflection for me before I finish my term at MAC; the past six years have been nothing short of fulfilling. When I joined the board in 2015, I was not sure what my impact would be on the organization. I went in with the intention to not only “make a difference” but to become a better community member by giving in any and every way I could, all while further advancing the mission of a wonderful organization. One of the first challenges was fund development and I co- Chaired three successful fundraising galas in the past six years.

Markham Arts Council (MAC) has been blessed with a strong, diverse and professional Board of Directors with skills in governance, communications, fundraising, accounting, strategic planning, and creative entrepreneurship from music, performing, literary to visual arts. They also connect MAC to ethnically diverse communities. We communicated and connected with the grassroots of our arts community, which entailed meeting with individual artists and community members and actively promoting them in our refreshed digital media channels. We developed a well designed navigable website that showcases all our programs. Our participating artists are regularly promoted on our digital platforms.

Many firsts were established - inaugural An Affair With The Arts fundraising Gala, ACHC our signature festival of Arts, Culture & Heritage Celebrations, Volunteer Appreciation event, Community Wall and interactive mural at The Aaniin Community Centre , professional development and info sessions for the members and much needed Arts programs for our local Seniors community. MAC has come to a new understanding and effective relationship that places it in a stronger position than ever before.

We worked on reframing governance, community engagement, advocacy and capacity building to increase effectiveness of our programs and mission delivery.



New partnerships were formed with York University, Markham Group of Artists, Markham African Caribbean Canadians Association, Middlefield Seniors Club, Aaniin Hub Partners and Central Counties Tourism among others.

In 2020 “Carpe diem” became more relevant than ever before. This pandemic taught us how to be more resilient. And that while planning is great in theory, the unexpected cannot be controlled. So we need to savour the time we have now. Despite a short pause last spring, we took you on a virtual journey through healing with arts as a community. We celebrated Arts with dancing, painting, poetry, music and readings.

MAC stayed true to its commitment of being inclusive and diverse and showcased emerging and established artists in The Artist Unplugged series. To keep arts alive and promote awareness of York Region's key tourism spots, virtual Heritage Walks were released during the pandemic. Drive-In Movies were shown as a community giveback initiative to keep the community engaged and upbeat. Two new staff, proficient in digital communication and virtual programming were hired. MAC completed its Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and developed a two year 2020-21 Business Plan where we put community, partnership and virtual engagement at the center.

The rich resources of creativity have been nurtured by the careful work of the Arts Council in collaboration with the City of Markham and other key partners. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Markham’s City Council, MAC Board of Directors and Satellite Committees, local artists, partners, volunteers, staff and all the stakeholders who have made my journey successful.

Speaking personally, this is my last Annual General Meeting after three years as Board Chair, and three as Vice Chair. I will be turning leadership over to the next Chair with full confidence that he will carry on with the vision of a vibrant art scene in the City while enhancing the much needed arts economy. This service has been a gratifying chapter in my volunteer life and I am proud of our accomplishments and wish MAC and the City’s burgeoning arts community every success.

Our lives as a community are enriched by the Arts, the future needs them.

**– Deepti Aurora, Board Chair**



## MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2020. A year unlike no other. Quite deceptive really. When we rung in the New Year, worked on our resolutions, and dreamed about our goals and ambitions, not one could fathom the extent of change we'd have to deal with or our ability to accept those very changes. It wasn't like anything we'd witnessed before. And it surely wasn't easy.

The world was in the midst of a storm. Rough seas and high water. And there we were – in our yachts, boats, canoes, kayaks, some hanging onto planks of wood. We were unprepared and petrified. While death tolls continued to rise, things became uncertain for those who continued to survive. Events were cancelled, businesses shut down, life as we knew it ceased to exist. Times were dubbed challenging and unprecedented.

And yet these were also times of opportunity and innovation. MAC seized the opportunity and innovated. With our feet planted firmly on the ground, we pivoted and adopted new ways of doing things. Free programs were offered online to participants from far and wide. Geography was no longer a barrier. Virtual visual art workshops, healing dance, Drive-In movie theatres, Artist Unplugged episodes, Heritage Walks documentaries – MAC made every effort to help the local community heal from the deep scars that this onslaught was causing.

And to a large degree, we managed to make a difference. Heartwarming letters about how the community looked forward to our programs and initiatives began pouring in, motivating us to continue to offer better and more. Reopening dates changed, timelines changed. But MAC forged on, spreading hope and enriching lives through the arts.

2020 has showcased the true importance of arts in our lives. Stuck at home, day after day, we've all relied on Netflix, Spotify, YouTube, Virtual Libraries, and Virtual Museums to help us get through our rigmarole. MAC is proud to be an integral part of supporting both artists and the creation of such amazing works of art during a time that will be categorized in history as the 21st-century renaissance.

– **Shruti Ganapathy, Executive Director**

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# WHO WE ARE

Markham Arts Council (MAC) is a registered, non-profit, charitable organization. Established in 2004, MAC was formed to serve the community by providing arts and cultural education by supporting the development of all forms of arts and culture in Markham, thereby enhancing the community's well-being. MAC supports local under-served artists and helps arts organizations network, share their resources, and grow.

Markham Arts Council envisions a vibrant and inclusive arts and culture scene in Markham.

## OUR VALUES



MAC is inclusive and diverse, reaching out to all of Markham's communities and encouraging artists of all ages, gender, colour, ethnicity and abilities.



MAC endeavours to promote and support high-quality and creative art opportunities and events.



MAC is accountable and transparent in its day-to-day operations, governance and management.



MAC is a resourceful, committed and persevering problem solver, adept at finding creative solutions for sustaining the organization and providing opportunities for artists.



MAC is collaborative with and is well connected to its artists, audiences, partners, funders and other stakeholders.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Deepti Aurora**  
Chair



**Renu Mehta**  
Vice Chair



**Stephen Chait**  
2nd Vice Chair



**Mathu Vinayagam**  
Treasurer



**Judi McIntyre**  
Secretary



**Connie Fong**  
Director



**Daniel Felushko**  
Director



**Elina Ten**  
Director



**Ingrid Lambie**  
Director



**Mithan Kansal**  
Director



**Soraya Mangal**  
Director



**Todd Silverman**  
Director

## ADVISORY



**Councillor Amanda  
Yeung Collucci**



**Councillor Karen Rea**



# IMPACT IN NUMBERS

**270,000+**

people reached  
online and in-  
person

**6**

grants in action:  
NHSP, Ontario  
Seniors Grant,  
Central Counties  
Tourism, Rising  
Youth  
Community  
Service Grant  
and Celebrate  
Markham

**16**

years in  
operation serving  
the York Region  
community

**6**

brand new  
programs

Art for Seniors:  
Golden Steps and  
Golden Strokes  
workshops

Drive-in movie  
screenings

Artist Unplugged  
performance  
series

Virtual Walks  
with Art

Heritage Walks  
Documentaries

**200+**

artists featured  
who benefited  
from exposure,  
outreach, and  
professional  
experience

**50+**

events, festivals,  
programs,  
episodes, etc.,  
many of which  
sold out

**30+**

sponsors,  
funders and  
partnerships at  
regional,  
provincial, and  
national levels

**20**

**20**



# 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW



MAC made a timely pivot to online programming at the onset of COVID-19 in March 2020. Since April 2020, all of MAC's programming have been offered virtually via Zoom, Facebook and YouTube channels.



MAC completed its Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and adopted a two-year 2020-21 Business Plan to reduce the impact of the pandemic on the arts.



MAC formed new partnerships with Ontario's Department of Tourism, Central Countries Tourism, Thursday Night at Bandstand, and Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association, to name a few.



MAC became a member of the Alliance of Arts Councils of Ontario (AACO) in June 2020 and has since been an ardent advocate for Artists, Arts Organizations, and causes related to the arts.



MAC continued to mentor York University students as part of the C4 Capstone Mentorship program. Two groups were mentored by MAC for successful completion of their projects



MAC successfully completed its 2019 Federal New Horizon's Seniors Program Grant, Ontario Seniors Community Grant, and Celebrate Markham Grant in early 2020. In 2020, MAC received the Celebrate Markham Grant and partnership funding from Central Counties Tourism for two program initiatives.



**"You're doing wonderful things for the Markham arts community."**

**– J. Livingston**

# OUR PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

In 2020, our programs focused on providing the community with virtual experiences while promoting the rich cultural history and heritage of the City of Markham.

We are pleased to announce that all our programs in 2020 have been funded generously by all levels of Government and would like to take this opportunity to thank them. Special thanks to the City of Markham for their support.

## FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMING:

- Art for Seniors: Visual and Performing Arts Workshops
- Spring and Fall Art Shows
- Arts and Cultural Heritage Celebrations
- Volunteer Appreciation Event
- Heritage Walks Documentary
- Information and Professional Development Sessions
- Culture Days
- Artist Unplugged



**LEFT:** Markham Historian Lorne Smith, Heritage Walks Documentary

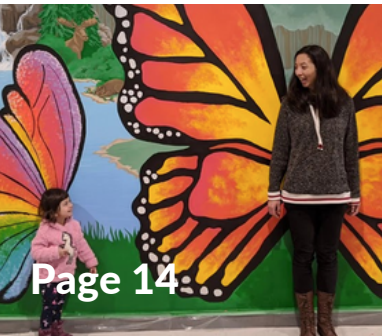
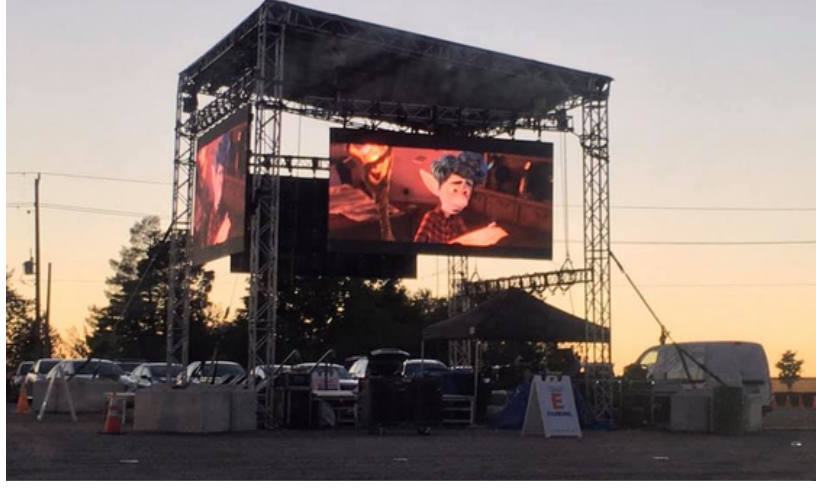


**RIGHT:** Funders' In Info Session, February 2020




**"Thank you for this marvelous workshop. I hope you will have another one soon! Really enjoyed it!"**

**– Jay B., participant**



# LOOKING AHEAD 2021



- Our **BRAND NEW** website is a **HIT!**
- MAC is back with **another season of Artist Unplugged**
- After the success of our 2020 Drive-in Theatre Community Giveback, MAC is set to host **drive-in Moonlight Movies** this summer
- **Art Therapy workshops** to support local seniors with their mental and emotional wellbeing
- **Increased our vulnerable sector outreach** and arts programming through our virtual Visual Arts Workshops
- **Connected with local schools** to offer art creation through coding workshops
- Hosted Tax Clinics **in partnership with Markham Small Business Centre and CRA** to help artists and arts organizations navigate their financial challenges
- MAC **supported local dance schools** through our ACHC 2021
- MAC now **offers Closed Captioning**  in English during our Zoom sessions to make them more accessible

**NEW Website!**  
markhamartscouncil.com



Check it out and let us know your thoughts!

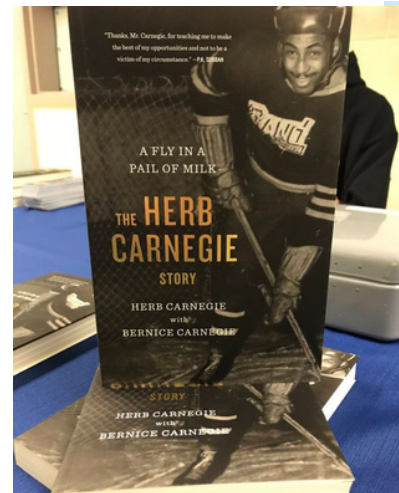
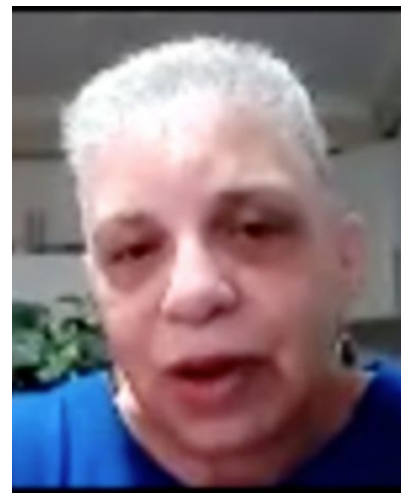
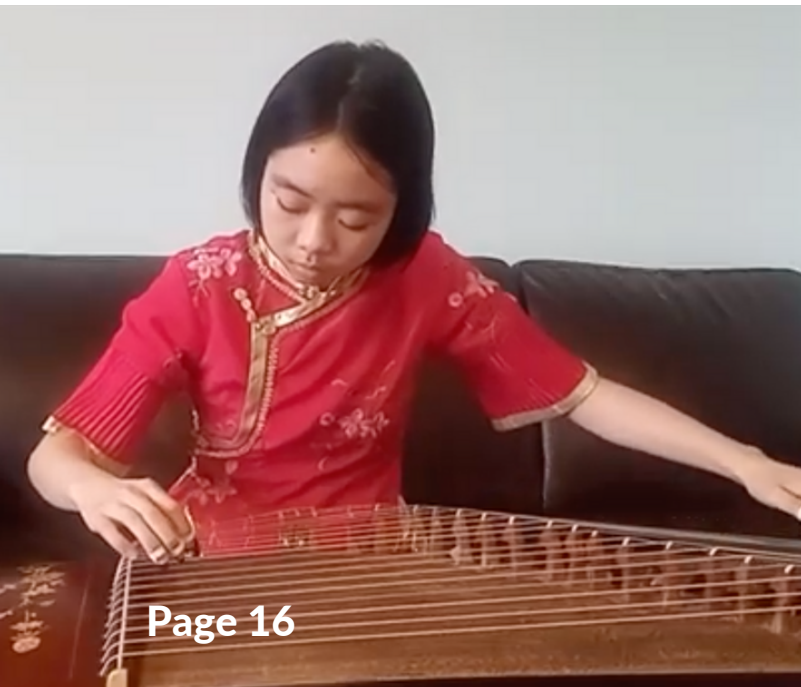


**ACHC 2021**



# VIRTUAL SPRING ARTS SHOW

A Virtual Art Showcase of creations by  
members of the Markham Group of Artists



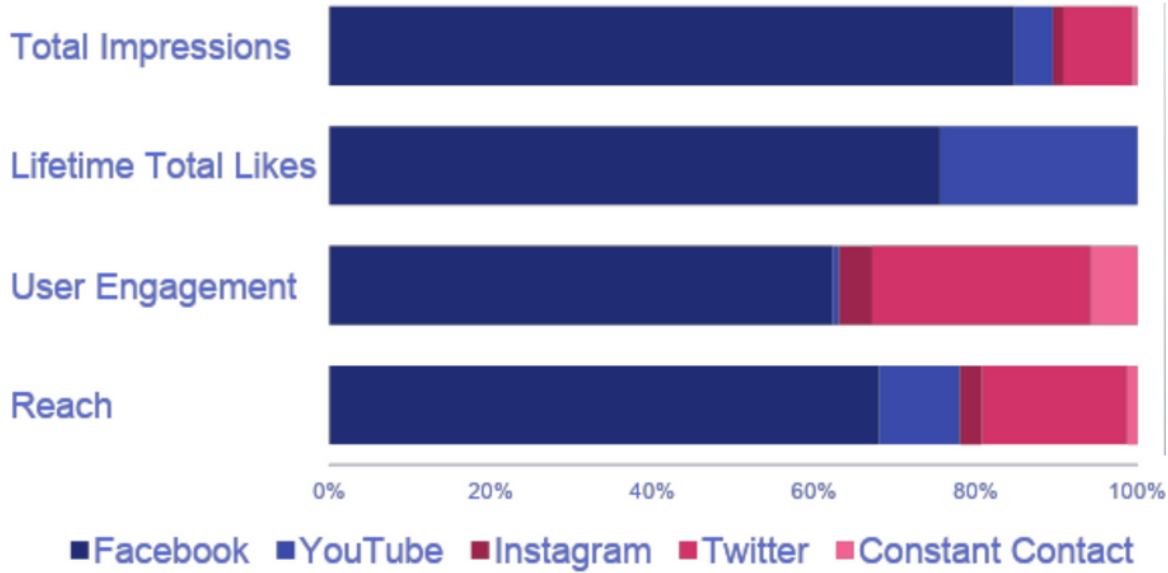


# CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR MAC MEMBERS

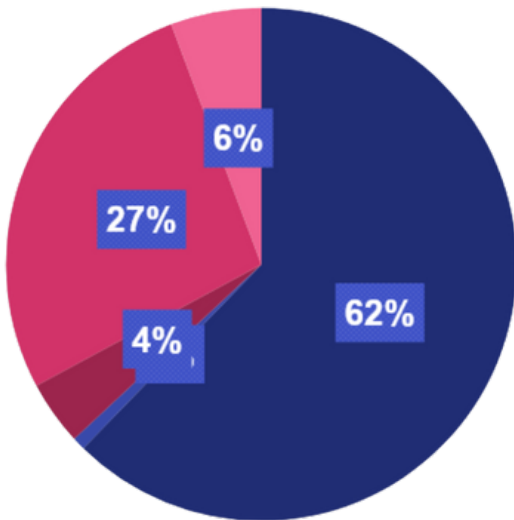
MAC continues to support its members through a number of ongoing initiatives:

- **Promotion of members through marketing** initiatives including MAC website, social media channels, and newsletters, among others
- **Regular updates of ongoing programming** through bi-weekly newsletters, social media channels, and the MAC website
- **Support to our satellite committees** – Markham Teen Arts Council, Markham at the Movies
- Opportunities for **educational and professional development**
- Collaborative and **outreach initiatives**
- **Advocacy and support** for local artists and arts causes

# COMMUNICATIONS



## User Engagement



**300+** YouTube subscribers

**500 hours**

of monthly online watch time



# 2020 FINANCIALS

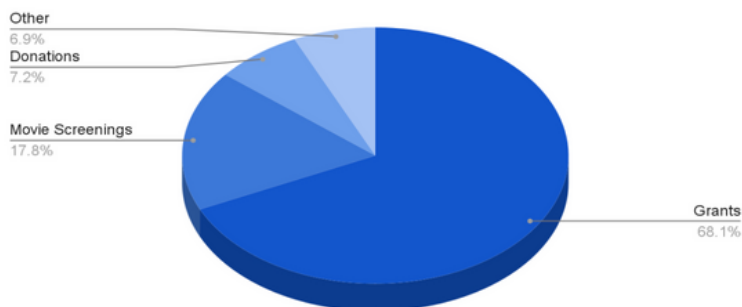
## Statement of Financial Position

	2020	2019
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash (Note 3)	\$ 106,912	\$ 138,594
Term deposits (Note 4)	31,614	31,287
Accounts receivable	-	8,100
Harmonized sales tax recoverable	1,708	510
Prepaid expenses	1,900	1,763
	<u>142,134</u>	<u>180,254</u>
<b>Capital assets (Note 5)</b>	<u>395</u>	<u>564</u>
	<b>\$ 142,529</b>	<b>\$ 180,818</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 3,496	\$ 12,597
Current portion of long term debt (Note 6)	6,600	6,600
Deferred grants (Note 7)	10,000	29,000
Amounts held in trust for Markham At The Movies (MATM)	15,037	15,037
	<u>35,133</u>	<u>63,234</u>
<b>Long term debt (Note 6)</b>	<u>6,600</u>	<u>13,200</u>
	<u>41,733</u>	<u>76,434</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
General fund	70,796	74,384
Restricted fund (Note 8)	30,000	30,000
	<u>100,796</u>	<u>104,384</u>
	<b>\$ 142,529</b>	<b>\$ 180,818</b>

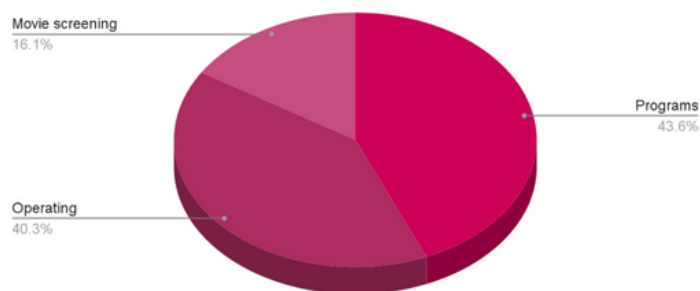
## Statement of Revenues and Expenses

	2020	2019
<b>Revenues</b>		
Grants (Note 9)	\$ 49,500	\$ 49,000
Movie screenings	12,923	33,398
Donations	5,270	1,000
Others	3,333	4,902
Memberships	1,610	280
Interest income	327	502
Gala - an affair with the arts	-	45,733
	<u>72,963</u>	<u>134,815</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Salaries and wages	25,993	7,463
Program related expenses	21,188	32,261
Movie screening expenses	13,342	32,309
Rental	3,850	3,500
Professional fees	3,480	3,480
Insurance	1,763	1,640
Advertising and promotion	1,508	1,783
Uncollectible Gala funds	1,500	-
Office and general	1,310	3,340
Telephone	726	829
Sub-contracts	678	683
Interest and bank charges	594	491
Donations	450	200
Amortization	169	242
Gala - an affair with the arts	-	18,593
	<u>76,551</u>	<u>106,814</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses</b>	<b>\$ (3,588)</b>	<b>\$ 28,001</b>

### Revenues



### Expenses



\*Extracted from Audited Financial Statements as of December 31, 2020.

Audit was done by CHAN TEJANI LLP - MARKHAM

# THANK YOU SATELLITE COMMITTEES!

## Markham at the Movies



Diane Hallquist, Chair  
Nusin Brown, Secretary  
Jane Burchell, Treasurer  
Jean Stewart  
Marcelle Dercola  
Pat Durst, Past Chair  
Flora MacDonald  
Susan Bury  
Carol Williams-Wong  
Kathy McCarty  
Sherri Banks

## Markham Teen Arts Council



Kimberly Yang, Co-Chair  
Sharon Sun, Co-Chair

Jenny Wu, Carolyn Zhu,  
Natalie Yu, Eno Ma, Lucy Qi  
Victoria Da Rosa, Sophie Luo,  
Catherine Zhang, Bonnie  
Wen, Amy Wan, Kevin  
Maximos, Samson Chow,  
Jasma Zhou, Katie Lin,  
Ashley Leung

# Thank you funders, partners, and supporters!



## OUR SATELLITE COMMITTEES



## STAFF:

**Shruti Ganapathy, Executive Director**

**Caroline Watling, Program Coordinator**

**Yuling Zhang, Intern,**

**York University Arts Media and Design program**

McKay Art Centre, 197 Main St, Unionville, ON L3R 2G8

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