



Arts Capital
Annual Report
2022



Arts Capital at Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians and recognise all other First Nations peoples and families with connection to the ACT. We honour and pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

Sovereignty was never ceded.



Cover image extract from 'Magnificent Futures',
digital artwork, Paul Summerfield, 2022

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About Us

Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres are two heritage-listed facilities situated on Ngunnawal Country. Together, these arts and cultural hubs form a multidisciplinary arts precinct that is home to the capital's largest collective of artists.

Arts Capital Ltd. mobilises cultural, human and financial resources in the service of a strong and unique arts ecosystem. With decades-long history of artistic and cultural community engagement with tangible creative impact, our passionate and multi-faceted experience empowers us in navigating and facilitating the formation of contemporary creative landscapes.

Working with dedicated partners, individuals and organisations we invest in courageous creatives — peoples, projects, programs and productions — that enable bold and transformative encounters to happen.

Arts Capital Ltd. (formerly Gorman House Arts Centre Inc.) is a not-for-profit company and registered charity with the ACNC. The management team and our Board are responsible for the management and operations of Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres in the service of the Canberra community and arts sector more broadly. These two public facilities are owned by the ACT Government and located in Australia's capital.



Purpose + Vision

Our Purpose

To cultivate inspiring places that enable creative works and encounters to happen.



Our Vision

01

Creative Places

Two sustainably vibrant arts centres — supportive and stimulating places for artists and arts organisations committed to creative innovation.

03

Art for our Time

Facilitated critical dialogue across different disciplines and perspectives.

05

Promotion + Advocacy

Clear representation of the residents’ objectives.

02

Shared Cultural Experiences

Diverse peoples sharing a rich tapestry of cultural experiences.

04

Responsible Stewardship

Efficiently and responsibly managed facilities and resources.

06

Civic Engagement

Integral contributions to the cultural life of our region through meaningful, two-way partnerships.

Message from the Chair



Semblances of light and recovering strength allowed Arts Capital Ltd. to re-emerge in 2022. Following two years of pandemic restrictions and lockdowns, it was wonderful to see an influx of energetic, confident performances and productions return to Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres.

Looking back on 2022, I'm amazed at what the Arts Capital team accomplished: facilitation of 98 multi-arts events and performances, 28 of which were new works and/or creative developments, successful Key Arts Organisation multi-year funding secured, a new brand direction and website, continued work on the Gorman Centenary renovations in collaboration with artsACT and the soon to be released Strategic Plan (2023-2027).

On behalf of the Board, I would like to welcome Carly Davenport Acker, Arts Capital's new CEO and Director of Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres. Carly joined the team in late July 2022 and immediately focused her attention on one-on-one meetings with each team member and with residents to ensure she understood the arts centre's diverse stakeholders. With her cultural community development track-record and global outlook, we are lucky to have Carly join us, to assist in guiding the organisation and our community - through the challenging and exciting times ahead.

In 2022, the long-awaited Gorman Arts Centre renovations were galvanised with \$5 million committed to the project by the Federal Government, building upon the ACT Government's \$7.9 million contribution. It will be rewarding to see how continued consultation informs the final planning stages and therefore the lived, making experience of Canberra's future, creative generations.

The Board would like to thank the Arts Capital team for their agency, adaptability, and dedication. We acknowledge Joseph Falsone's long-standing vision and legacy as CEO (pre-March 2022). Special thanks to Adelin Chin, who stepped into the role of Interim CEO alongside staff and management team, including Lachlan Johnson, Elizabeth Curry, Rochelle Whyte, and Mauro Aviles.

The Board also expresses gratitude to the incredibly resilient and dynamic Ainslie and Gorman community for continuing to strive towards creative exploration and excellence. We are constantly in awe of your works and foresight, which pushes and tests the boundaries of creative expression.

We are proud to promote that our resident's works reach beyond our community and local arts sector - influencing and inspiring the creative sector nationally and internationally. Our core business aims to nurture creative safehouses that strengthen, develop, and incubate a wild array of diverse and expressive new works for years to come.

This is my final Annual Report Message as Chair of Arts Capital Limited, as I step down at the 2023 Annual General Meeting after 5 years in the role. It has been a joy and a privilege to support the Arts Capital team and the vibrant and diverse arts scene at Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres. I thank the Board members with whom I have served for their wisdom, commitment, collegiality and energy and I wish my successor and Board members the very best in the exciting years ahead.

Mark Van Veen

Chair, Arts Capital
Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres

Message from the CEO



What a year to start at Arts Capital! I came into the role at a time of enormous transition at Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres, as well as the sector in general. Arriving just weeks before the Key Arts Organisational funding application was due, our submission was borne out of deep listening and learning from the team, Board and residents, contextualising past achievements and setting clear goals to guide our future direction.

Despite the hectic start, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with our diverse creative community. Within the almost 100-year-old walls of these two centres, artists, practitioners, makers and producers incubate and experiment. They breathe form and story into a wealth of ideas and experiences; encourage professional development and mentorship; curate dynamic opportunities for engagement and exchange, and carve pathways that inspire other artists, participants and audiences – locally and afar. It's an honour to be a part of Canberra's oldest arts centre, home to the city's largest artist collective. I'm excited to assist the organisation to grow its identity as the creative hub for the nation's Arts Capital.

Throughout the year, we continued discussions with artsACT regarding the Centenary Renovations of Gorman Arts Centre. Thirty-seven consultation meetings with residents were facilitated with proposed plans being made visible in late 2022. We were delighted to see planning take shape towards these urgent and long overdue renovations.

As a result of the pending renovations at Gorman, Arts Capital began to track a decline in sublicenses, which in turn, noticeably impacted our financial viability in 2022. The undefined and changing nature of the renovations has made it increasingly difficult for Arts Capital to provide spaces to new residents. Simultaneously the organisation absorbed significant increases in operational costs, as inflation hit all areas of our operation.

A big win for the A+G arts community was the amount we were able to pay artists as wages and ticket share, \$225,356, a 311.15% increase on 2021. This was in addition to the \$98,912 worth of in-kind support Arts Capital provided to artists and \$20,059 of in-kind support for residents, on top of heavily discounted venue hire. In 2022, total government funding received was \$971,047 with self-generated income at \$912,248.

We were proud to be part of the ACT Government's Creative Recovery and Resilience Program, supporting five artists as they explored new works and trialled new methods in their practice. We also supported four artists through our In House program, with dedicated access to venues and producer's time, tailored to the requirements of each artist. The In House program will continue throughout 2023, with applications open to artists who wish to develop their skills in a supportive, multi-disciplinary community.

In 2023, we look forward to releasing Arts Capital's Strategic Plan. The Plan will guide the organisation in strengthening our services for resident artists and organisations, focus our support for resident activities and continue our work in developing new and emerging artists. The Strategic Plan leads the way for our Disability Inclusion Action Plan and for the development of Arts Capital's First Nations First Strategy and Reconciliation Action Plan.

I would like to thank outgoing Board members Mark Van Veen (Chair) and John MacCulloch (Company Secretary) for their many years of service and commitment, having led the transition from Gorman House Arts Centre Inc. to Arts Capital Limited and through the multitude of pressures from COVID19. They leave a legacy of robust governance at Arts Capital.

I look forward to working with the incredibly talented A+G community and broader artistic community throughout 2023 and into the future.

Carly Davenport Acker

CEO, Arts Capital
Director, Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres

Creating Value

In 2022, for every \$1 of Key Arts Organisation funding, Arts Capital generated an additional \$1.70 of income.

\$225,356
Cash income generated for artists
+311.15% from 2021
+305.46% from 2019

\$20,060
In-kind support given to resident programs
+15.16% from 2021
+36.21% from 2019

\$98,912
In-kind support given to artists
+47.55% from 2021
+46.40% from 2019

92,210
Arts and Cultural Programs visitors
+68.12% from 2021
—2.69% from 2019

In 2022, we were home to 33 resident artists and 13 arts organisations and 105 of their paid staff.

Since 2018 we created



15
ongoing part-time/
full-time roles for
arts workers



1,139
employment
opportunities for
casual arts workers

Since 2018 we supported



172
new works



2,051
artists



391
public events



28
visiting interstate/
international artists

**Please see Financial Profit or Loss Statement and Summary of Trends towards the end of the Annual Report for more detailed information.*



2022 Retrospective

2022 was a year of powerful change behind the scenes. Arts Capital staff, residents and artists celebrated being able to get back on track after the lockdowns of previous years. There were challenges as many events were presented in a reactive or last-minute manner, but for Arts Capital staff there was joy to be found in once again being able to facilitate events.

The 2021 Annual Report identified three main focuses for the next six years: the Centenary Renewal Planning Project, the development of a new strategic plan, and a refreshed contemporary brand direction.

Centenary Renewal Planning Project – 2022 summary

2022 saw Arts Capital working with the ACT Government and Philip Leeson Architects on the Centenary Renovation Project. Initial concept sketches were prepared to guide discussions with the ACT Treasury in securing the \$7.9 million election commitment for renovations. In addition, Federal Labour Government committed \$5 million towards the renovation project. The final \$12.9 million will be managed by project owners artsACT.

While the ACT Government was in conversation with ACT Treasury, Arts Capital focused on ensuring resident input was able to drive the design conversations.

We held a total of 37 meetings with 7 resident organisations and 15 resident artists. Fifteen of these meetings were dedicated to discussing the lead design concepts, with the feedback gathered in these meetings used to revise the design thinking to better align with resident priorities.

These meetings also highlighted the impact of the uncertainty around the renovation project on our resident community. This was compounded for the resident organisations and our staff, who were at the same time, also preparing submissions for multi-year funding.

On 14 July, the Arts Capital Board sent a letter to Caroline Fulton, Executive Branch Manager of artsACT, advocating on behalf of our resident community and the need for clarity and assurance.

Following receipt of this letter, Arts Capital facilitated an additional 23 one-on-one meetings. Across August, representatives of artsACT presented the initial designs directly to residents and the project team consulted even more closely with resident stakeholders regarding the proposed changes to accommodate their feedback. This collaborative approach wrapped up in mid-October, and provided clearer guidance for the design project's next levels, with artsACT committing to present plans to the residents early in 2023 followed by an opportunity for written feedback.

Development of the Strategic Plan for 2023-2027

Publication of the Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 was scheduled for 2022 completion.

The Arts Capital team and Board worked together on a draft Strategic Plan which was submitted for Key Arts Organisation (KAO) multi-year funding in September 2022.

With multi-year funding results falling short of our drafted strategic goals and plans, we re-investigated our operational capacity, strategic purpose and viable options within the limitations of the funding we received.

The Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 is now scheduled for publication in 2023, leading the way for the development of other plans which will be beneficial to the Ainslie and Gorman community.

These plans will align with Gorman Arts Centre's Centenary Renovation Design project and centenary celebrations. Despite the disruption associated with capital works, the plans create a strong bridge for the resident community to journey on, as we move into 2024 and beyond.

New Brand Direction + Website

As part of our work with award-winning Naarm-based designer Ellis Jones, the Ainslie and Gorman brand received a new identity and website.

The new logo is modular, reflecting the convergence of Ainslie and Gorman as twin centres in which a multitude of disciplines operate. Centred around the phrase 'Persistent Alchemy', the new logo is expressive and playful, and references the shape of the two facilities.

We launched the new A+G website in June 2022. It showcases our resident community, events, artist opportunities and heritage spaces. Importantly, it houses our Resident Portal, a user-friendly one-stop-shop which has greater readability and greater customisation to meet the needs of our large community.

The development phase of the identity was informed by a series of co-design working groups, visitor surveys and key stakeholder workshops in 2021.

Post-COVID19 Recovery

As COVID19 restrictions eased, we returned to more public-facing events and collaborative opportunities across the centres. Despite the challenges of venue capacity restrictions, COVID19 cases amongst staff and ongoing uncertainty surrounding emergent strains of COVID19, we welcomed reopening to the public and being able to host and support performances, many of which had been postponed in 2021.

The number of performances and events held in 2022 increased to 98 (58% more than 2021) and this was largely due to the number of previously postponed events. However audiences were reluctant to commit to public events, with ticket-buying hesitation making it fiscally challenging to produce performances and events.

After two years of continuously pivoting events to different formats and locations according to the latest COVID19 restrictions, 2022 saw us honing a new set of skills and adapting our resources to deliver our support in an ever-changing environment.

As part of the ACT Government's Creative Recovery and Resilience Program in 2022, Arts Capital welcomed five artists to take up financially supported artist residencies onsite at Gorman Arts Centre or from their homes.



The Creative Recovery and Resilience Program residencies brought together established queer Bundjalung writer, poet and multimedia artist Samia Goudie; emerging Wiradjuri cultural leader and visual artist Jackson Taylor-Grant; and young Gamilaroi Yularoi artist Sarah Loynes, whose work centres on facilitating and expressing the importance of community and cultural relationships in woven form. These Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists were joined by established multidisciplinary artist, poet, performer and producer, Jacqui Malins; and emerging visual artist and teacher Yamile Tafur. Both delved deeper into the development of their cultural arts practices.

The *Creative Recovery and Resilience Program* residencies focused on artistic practice development in which we provided:

- space and income to allow artists to experiment with their medium and encourage the deep development of ideas,
- opportunities for public engagement,
- connections between the artists,
- support from our experienced Programs team, and lastly,
- opportunities for ongoing collaboration.



Post-COVID19 Recovery



Sustaining a Creative Community

While we were very much still in recovery after COVID19, Arts Capital's core program continued to increase the number of events and support provided to residents. This culminated in 28 new works and/or creative developments onsite at Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres.

Spanning visual art exhibitions, dance workshops, music camps, improvised theatre, spoken word performances, experimental music and immersive experiences, these programs demonstrated the breadth of skills and creative practices within the Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres community.

Supporting small- and large-scale works

Ainslie Salon Series

Arts Capital explored the potential of an intimate live music program throughout 2022 with *Ainslie Salon*, a series of curated contemporary music performances between February and November. It was funded by *Amp It Up!*, an initiative from the ACT Government to assist small to medium live music venues with the costs of artist fees, production and marketing.

Offering a program which covered a multitude of genres, Arts Capital created opportunities for numerous early- to mid-career artists based in the ACT region to perform their work with production support. Curated by Arts Capital Creative Producer Sia Ahmad, local artists were paired with national and international artists to foster networks outside the region.

A particular highlight was the *On Location* program in September, where the audience's journey began in the Ainslie Reception Hall with an exhibition of sonic sculptures by Brian McNamara. The audience then walked to the concert space through an area set up for Gorman Studio resident Nicci Haynes to create live projections in response to the musical performances each night.



“The opportunity Ainslie Salon presented to us was incredibly special and the experience we had performing at Ainslie and Gorman was something I’ll treasure for the rest of my career.”

– Angus Andrew, Liars

“...It’s great to see Ainslie and Gorman supporting these artists at this point in time and also providing a much-needed live venue for musicians who wouldn’t be able to sell out The Street Theatre or The Canberra Theatre...”

– Ainslie Salon attendee

Surface Street Art Festival

In March, Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres were proud venue partners of *Surface Street Art Festival*, which celebrated urban art through a dynamic program curated by acclaimed graffiti artist PHIBS and presented by the ACT Government. Over 35 local and interstate artists transformed local walls and structures with street art, graffiti, portraits, stencils, Indigenous art, geometric and abstract art. Gorman Arts Centre served as an artist base and was a hub for a range of public events, workshops, and panel sessions.

D!FA Presents Insight

As part of our commitment to supporting new work and fostering high quality creative endeavours at an emerging level, Arts Capital was proud to support the debut event of local arts production group *D!FACULT(D!FA)*. Presented in August, *Insight* showcased a range of local talent through an immersive curated experience of original visual art, live music and dance, with feature performances by hip hop artists Partyateleven, Maleezy and ANi.

Arts Capital supported *D!FA* through discounted venue hire, in-kind production, and producer support, and contributed to local artist fees through the Commonwealth Government’s Live Music Australia Fund and MusicACT.





Fostering connections

Next Wave Partnership

Arts Capital worked closely with Melbourne-based organisation *Next Wave* to initiate an ongoing partnership that provides venue and additional producer support for ACT-based artists to participate in their nationally regarded *Kickstart* program. Throughout 2022, Arts Capital provided musician Delali Zevon-Aniakwah with access to the Ralph Wilson Theatre and an Ainslie Pod studio, allowing her to develop new sounds and performance concepts.

“Centering artists where they live and work, we are shifting our structures to foster slow development, blend intergenerational support and mentorship, and see artists experiment from the vantage point of their existing location, contexts, and communities”

– Jamie Lewis, Next Wave

Floriade Little Day Out

Springtime saw Arts Capital deliver a family-friendly day of arts activities with the invitation to visit Gorman Arts Centre’s own Floriade community garden. The event featured activities delivered by Gamilaroi Yularoi artist Sarah Loynes, who facilitated an open feather-flower workshop shared through Gamilaroi Yularoi winangay gaay (story) and maramali (making with hands). Creative duo Kitty Malam and Gretel Sharp collaborated to deliver ‘Our Nest’, an interactive installation in which kids and families were invited to help build and inhabit a giant bird’s nest made from recycled materials.

The event invited play and discussion on cultural crafts and how products can be reused to become something new.

Floriade Little Day Out was supported by the 2022 Floriade Community Grant.

Poetry On The Move

In September, Gorman Art Centre was a venue host for the University of Canberra’s *Poetry On The Move*, a weekend festival celebrating everything poetry, from readings by international, national and local poets, to workshops and panels. The 2022 theme, *Lyrical Manoeuvres*, was a reflection of all the ways poetry had helped many to manoeuvre through the world(s) around them, particularly in the face of the COVID19 pandemic and the emergence from periods of lockdown.



Opportunities to learn and create

Mt Ainslie Music Club

Following on from a popular series of sessions at Ainslie Arts Centre in 2021, *Mt Ainslie Music Club* (MAMC) continued to receive support from Arts Capital to engage with the local community through improvisation. Led by facilitating musician Tom Fell, MAMC uses improvised pieces, games and exercises to encourage participatory music-making within an inclusive space, open to participants of all experiences and backgrounds.

The opportunity to learn and create new music spurred the group to present their first concert program, showcasing the working methodologies they had created together.

In House

Arts Capital proudly rolled out *In House*, a Cultural Access Program designed to lower access barriers to Ainslie and Gorman facilities for artists, arts workers, and community groups who are culturally and linguistically diverse or are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. Tailored to individual and creative requirements, *In House* provides short-term access to artist studios, workshop spaces and/or rehearsal spaces at significantly subsidised rates.

Our 2022 *In House* residents were:

- **Hangama Obaidullah** is a multi-discipline artist specialising in painting, drawing, photography and writing. Hangama's artwork draws on her Afghan heritage, her homeland and its history. She has exhibited her work locally, nationally and internationally and she has worked actively as a refugee advocate.
- **Shawnah Cady**, also known as **MadB**, is an indigenous and non-binary performer and artist working from creative arts and writing to drag. Initially working with Arts Capital to present *BlakItUp* at Ainslie Arts Centre in 2022, Shawnah is taking time during *In House* to work on their first solo drag performance.
- **Vaidehi Subramanyan** is a bharatanatyam dancer. Her art is traditional, focusing on the movements, lines and grace present in Kalakshetra style of bharatanatyam. She originally approached Arts Capital to rent a venue to expand her practice and now utilises spaces at Gorman Arts Centre for rehearsals and practice development.
- **Yamile Tafur Rios** is a Canberra-based visual artist and educator from Colombia. Her work has been shown in solo and group exhibitions from 2013 to 2019 and she has received funding for her projects from the Colombian Ministry of Culture among others. Yamile began as a resident in the *Creative Resilience and Recovery Program* and later moved into the *In House* program to further develop her work.

Supporting our Residents

Arts Capital continued to work with resident artists and arts organisations on the development of new works and programs, and the delivery of public-facing events. Here are a few resident highlights from 2022.

Ausdance ACT Workshop Series

Ausdance ACT were provided in-kind venue hire support from Arts Capital to host a series of professional practice workshops at Gorman Arts Centre throughout 2022, creating opportunities to learn and share with performers and choreographers, working across various performance forms, on a semi-regular basis. These workshops were a successful point of engagement with the wider dance community in the region and re-emphasised our location as a meeting point for creativity.

Canberra Youth Theatre programs

As in previous years, Arts Capital provided Canberra Youth Theatre (CYT) with discounted access to our venues to support the development of early-career theatre artists through their *Emerge Company* and *Resident Artists* programs. CYT used venues and classrooms throughout the year to bring their *Emerge* cohort together on a regular basis. Those participating in the *Resident Artists* program were part of intensive production rehearsals within our venues before performance seasons offsite.

Girls Rock! Camp

Girls Rock! Canberra, a youth program for marginalised gender identities in music, held two Rock Camps in 2022 - their postponed 2021 camp during the April school holidays and their 2022 camp in the October school holidays. On both occasions, Arts Capital provided discounted access to the Ainslie Main Hall and numerous classrooms within Ainslie Arts Centre so the organisation could take over the building and set up a warm and inviting space for all the campers and crew. As in other years, the camps proved to be a great example in setting up space for communities to gather and feel safe to explore and show their creative expressions.

Tributary Projects

Following their arrival in 2021 to Gorman Arts Centre B Block Gallery, Arts Capital were proud to continue supporting artist collective Tributary Projects with in-kind access to B Block to further strengthen their organisation. This enabled a full year of dynamic exhibition programs, public talks, workshops and openings.

Throughout 2022, Tributary Projects ran 14 exhibitions, each with at least one associated public program and opening night event. Twelve of these were showcased in B Block Gallery, and two pop-up exhibitions were managed off site. A total of 73 artists were involved in the program across the year, which particularly fostered creative development and exhibition opportunities for emerging visual artists, curators and arts workers.

We also had some notable visiting artists in the Gorman Arts Centre's loft:

- **Andy Butler** (writer / curator / artist)
- **Claire Burrell-McDonald** (soprano) with *Luminescence Chamber Singers**
- **Delali Zevon-Aniakwah** (vocalist / producer / composer) via *Next Wave***
- **Dylan Martorell** (music-based artist) via *Slow Art Collective***
- **Gabrielle Carey** (writer)
- **Isobelle Carmody** (writer), Aurealis Awardee for best children's fiction
- **Penelope Trappes** (musician) via *Ainslie Salon****
- **Tyler Jackson** (artist / curator) exhibiting at the Canberra Contemporary Art Space.

*Luminescence Chamber Singers are a resident organisation of the Ainslie Arts Centre.

**Slow Art Collective and Next Wave are Melbourne-based program partners.

***Ainslie Salon is an Arts Capital program.

Residents

2022 saw artsACT's *Creative Recovery and Resilience Program* and Arts Capital's *In House* program not only bring new artists to Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres but also create a foundation to support multiple artists' practices. Through these programs, we were able to tailor support and guidance to what each individual artist required.

We also farewelled two long-standing Gorman Arts Centre residents - Bryn Evans, who served on the Board of Gorman House Arts Centre Inc (GHAC) for a number of years, and award-winning Sage Restaurant and Mint Garden Bar. We thank both Bryn Evans and Sage Restaurant and Mint Garden Bar for their contributions to the cultural life of the Ainslie and Gorman community.

Ainslie Arts Centre

Adelaide Rief*
Australian National Eisteddfod
Canberra International Music Festival
Girls Rock! Canberra
Luminescence Chamber Singers
Music for Canberra
Musica Viva

Gorman Arts Centre

Andrew Sikorski
Ausdance ACT
Australian Dance Party
Bryn Evans*
Cameron Smith
Canberra Youth Theatre Inc.
Cathy Mauk
Cherylynn Holmes
Franki Sparke
Halstead Press
Ham Darroch
Hangama Obaidullah
Jackson Taylor-Grant*
**
Jacqui Mallins* **
Kirsten Biven
KV Productions
Lucy Alexander

Mark Cranfield
Michael Desmond
Michelle Dickerson
Musicale Pty Ltd
Nicci Haynes
Pat Campbell
Paul Summerfield
Phoebe Porter
QL2 Dance
Rebus Theatre
Sage and Mint Pty Ltd*
Samia Goudie**
Sarah Loynes* **
Sonic Light
Stuart McMillen
Tributary Projects
Weft Studio
Yamile Tafur Rios**

Gorman Commons

Baha Agency
Edmund Goldrick*
Greg Cassagne*
Matt Yoxall*

*Left in 2022.

**Part of the *Creative Recovery and Resilience Program*.

Venue Hirers

In addition to our residents, 167 regular and one-off hirers made use of our venues, contributing greatly to the diversity of activity and users of the centres, as well as providing much needed additions to our income. Among them were the following groups and organisations:

- A Gender Agenda

A Journey Through Art

ACT Together

Anthroposophical Society in Australia

ANU BIPOC Department

ANU Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research

ANU Laptop Ensemble

ANU Med Revue 2022

Art of Living

artsACT

Australian Girls Choir

Australian Government Department of the Arts

Australian Music Examination Board (NSW)

Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth

Balarinji

Barbara’s Music Circle

Bare Witness Theatre Co.

Beautiful Minds
- Biocentric Living

Canberra Gay & Lesbian Qwire

Canberra International Music Festival Ltd

Canberra Organic Growers Society Inc.

Canberra Symphony Orchestra

Canberra Vocal Development Centre

Conservation Council

Cooperative Research CREMS

Darren Hanlon

Deaf Connect

DEiFY Canberra

Delali Zevon-Aniakwah

Domestic Violence Crisis Service

Dr Marisa Paterson

Ennes Mehmedbasic

Entropico

Flowers of Peace

Good Shout

Gurdjieff Canberra

Her Smile

Humour Foundation

Impro ACT

Kaaren Sutcliffe

Kumon North Lyneham
- Leafy Sea Dragon Artwork

Limitless Strategies

Localjinni

Lucas Abela

Mary Lee Mendelssohn

MatchWorks

Meditate in Canberra

MindBodyT

Mixtape Chorus

Mockingbird Theatre

Mr Tim Choirs

Music Classes Canberra

National Capital Orchestra

National Film and Sound Archive

National Opera

National Trust of Australia (ACT)

Nia

Okay Studio CBR

Omega Ensemble

Pedal Power ACT

Phibs

QENDO

Raio de Sol

RSL Australia

Ruth O’Brien

Sabato Music Ensemble
- Sculpture By The Sea

Shannah Cady

She Shapes History

Shortis and Simpson

Silver Cloud Pictures

Song Company

Substance

The Big Issue

The Equality Project Ltd

The Training Ground

The Walk World Productions

Thorson Photography

Tom Fell

Tom Sherringham

Tom Tunks

Tracy Bourne

Tuneful Firkins

Ukulele Republic of Canberra

University of Canberra

University of Melbourne

Vaidehi Subramanyan

Venus Vinifera

Wayfarers Australia

WildBear Entertainment



Dance Club. Photo by Andrew Sikorski

Venue Hirers

Wellbeing + Safety of Community

The wellbeing of our community is paramount to Arts Capital, and especially as the sector navigated COVID19 disruptions for a third year in a row. Compounding pressures for our resident community included the multi-year funding application process (with its swift deadline) and ongoing uncertainty around potential and pending renovation impacts and disruption at Gorman Arts Centre. These pressures only increased the need for wellbeing support and care at an individual, organisational and community level.

Acknowledging this, Arts Capital implemented changes to invest in direct and practical support of our community.

- **We engaged mental health service provider Work Happy at the end of 2022 to roll out an Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**, providing Arts Capital staff, resident studio holders and all full-time, part-time and casual staff of resident organisations, free and confidential access to accredited mental health practitioners, up to four times per year. The EAP service provides support to the Ainslie and Gorman community, for both professional and personal issues, with an annual value of up to \$148,000 (if all registered users were to use all their sessions).
- **Arts Capital rebuilt the resident portal on the Ainslie and Gorman website**, transforming it from a minimal page hosting meeting minutes into a one-stop location for information on policies, processes, resident services and major project updates. It was launched towards the end of the year with a view to increasing accessibility to key information and ongoing communication surrounding major projects. This new portal will continue to be developed and expanded in 2023 to meet resident needs around communication and clarity and help provide stability as the Centenary Renovation Design Project progresses. The pending Strategic Plan, First Nations First and DIAP will also be published on the portal.

- **Arts Capital provided accessible services such as quiet zones and audio descriptions for four events** to ensure more members of the community could access a broader range of performances and programs on offer.
- **An artsACT Inspection and Safety Walkthrough found major improvements to the WHS items highlighted in previous inspections**, but clutter, Test and Tag and an absent Risk Register were still raised as issues. Clutter and Test and Tag are ongoing concerns requiring regular upkeep and vigilance.
- **A Risk Register group was formed to identify physical risks across and around Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres**. Risks such as obscure sharp objects and potentially aggressive bystanders are not rare for facilities that are close to the city centre. Such risks are now being regularly recorded and where possible, actions have been taken and are being taken to minimise or mitigate the risk.
- **A WHS system was purchased to streamline reporting and access to information**. A working group was set up for the creation of relevant paperwork (Safe Work Procedures) and the implementation of many of the recommendations. This group consisted of staff from Facilities, Administration, Venues and Events, to ensure a broad perspective of views were consulted before recommendations were made. By the end of the year, the group had drafted 12 Safe Work Procedures which will be reviewed by industry experts and the Board before publication.
- As a result of the Safe Work Procedures, **lone worker alarms and two-way radios were purchased** for the safety of workers working alone or in isolated venues.
- **An Emergency Planning Committee was established to review the safety of equipment onsite**. The Committee met in May for the inaugural meeting to discuss fire and other emergency procedures. This committee comprised persons responsible for the documentation and maintenance of the emergency plan and representatives of all users of the facilities. These included a mix of Arts Capital Board members and staff, artsACT staff and Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres residents.

Caring for our Heritage

There are many joys to working in such historically significant centres: the beautiful gardens and courtyards, the contemplative quiet which the architecture provides and the knowledge that for nearly a century, people have lived, worked, learned, loved and created art within these walls.

One hundred years of extensive use has taken a toll on the heritage buildings and surroundings. In 2022, major works to maintain the buildings and meet safety standards included:

- Removing the remaining lead paint from the lower row of windows at Ainslie Arts Centre,
- Resurfacing the rear carpark at Ainslie Arts Centre as potholes had become an issue after considerable and consistent rainfall, and
- Replacing the Gorman Arts Centre main electrical distribution board as the previous board was obsolete and a potential safety hazard.

Being heritage-listed provides formal recognition that the Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres' facilities have heritage significance for the community and should be protected under law. Arts Capital takes great pride in being trusted custodians of these culturally significant spaces and sustaining their legacies into the future.



Gorman Arts Centre. Photo by Rebecca Worth

2022 Finances at a Glance

\$697,899

Key Arts
Organisation
funding received

+24.90% from 2021

\$1,125,361

Value of employment
created for Arts
Workers

+6.34% from 2021

\$1,185,396

Other income
generated (excluding
COVID19 subsidies)

+23% from 2021



\$375,140

Venue hire
income

+52.44% from 2021

\$115,335

Utilities expenditure

+13.65% from 2021

\$1,883,295

Earned Income
(excluding COVID19
subsidies)

+23.7% from 2021

\$1,951,167

Expenditure

+10.33% from 2021

\$67,873

Net Deficit

—34.74% from 2021

Profit or Loss Statement



Income	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Core grant	\$291,701	\$298,264	\$304,975	\$558,792	\$697,899
Sub-licence fees	\$363,455	\$354,157	\$115,185	\$251,630	\$248,680
Co-working fees	\$62,141	\$68,803	\$35,962	\$84,795	\$76,072
Other grants	\$78,111	\$95,924	\$107,763	\$123,364	\$273,148
Venue hire	\$249,270	\$272,737	\$181,189	\$246,096	\$375,140
Programs	\$197,651	\$180,541	\$59,638	\$106,927	\$75,011
Ainslie car park	\$103,336	\$111,542	\$95,891	\$81,720	\$79,358
Fundraising	\$60,000	\$20,000	\$547	\$0	\$15
Cost recovery	\$66,833	\$170,380	\$76,744	\$39,574	\$22,800
Admin services	\$24,877	\$24,261	\$29,805	\$28,605	\$32,959
Other	\$2,105	\$1,858	\$1,434	\$1,013	\$2,213
Total Income	\$1,499,480	\$1,598,467	\$1,009,133	\$1,522,516	\$1,883,295

COVID19 Financial Support

ATO – JobKeeper	\$0	\$0	\$364,500	\$142,000	\$0
ATO – Cash flow boost	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$0
ACT Government – Rent relief	\$0	\$0	\$358,094	\$0	\$0
ACT Government – Crisis support	\$0	\$0	\$187,777	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$1,010,371	\$142,000	\$0

Expenses

Employment	\$751,272	\$886,855	\$942,586	\$1,058,314	\$1,125,361
Building services	\$156,781	\$221,341	\$138,251	\$210,136	\$134,961
Utilities	\$157,696	\$142,963	\$105,309	\$101,486	\$115,335
Administration	\$120,035	\$177,023	\$188,198	\$208,555	\$187,604
Programs	\$188,739	\$72,941	\$49,739	\$73,158	\$257,369
Other grant expenses	\$1,455	\$0	\$30,949	\$5,262	\$0
Sponsored projects & fundraising	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Depreciation	\$38,204	\$34,889	\$38,081	\$35,136	\$34,504
Marketing	\$15,374	\$28,521	\$42,489	\$64,533	\$74,300
Equipment	\$4,911	\$13,263	\$10,856	\$11,937	\$12,026
Asset write-offs	\$13,122	\$1,310	-\$2,351	\$0	\$0
Cost of Sales	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,707
Total Expenses	\$1,447,589	\$1,579,106	\$1,544,107	\$1,768,517	\$1,951,167

Net Profit/Loss	\$51,891	\$19,361	\$475,397	-\$104,001	-\$67,872
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Financial Overview

Our resilience was greatly tested in 2022 with the ongoing effects of the pandemic. The financial struggles of the broader economy, compounded with audience reluctance to attend in-person events, resulted in a deficit to our cash reserves.

With two heritage-listed arts and cultural centres, our baseline expenses continued to increase, yet our subsidies and in-kind offerings to residents, artists and organisations remained steady.

Operational and facility expenses – ‘doors open, and lights on’ – has increased greater than the historical 3% CPI, including third-party suppliers, service increases and utilities rates. Despite this, the artistic program and events schedule continued to increase the number of events and support provided to residents, culminating in another successful Ainslie Salon series, and several development opportunities throughout the year.

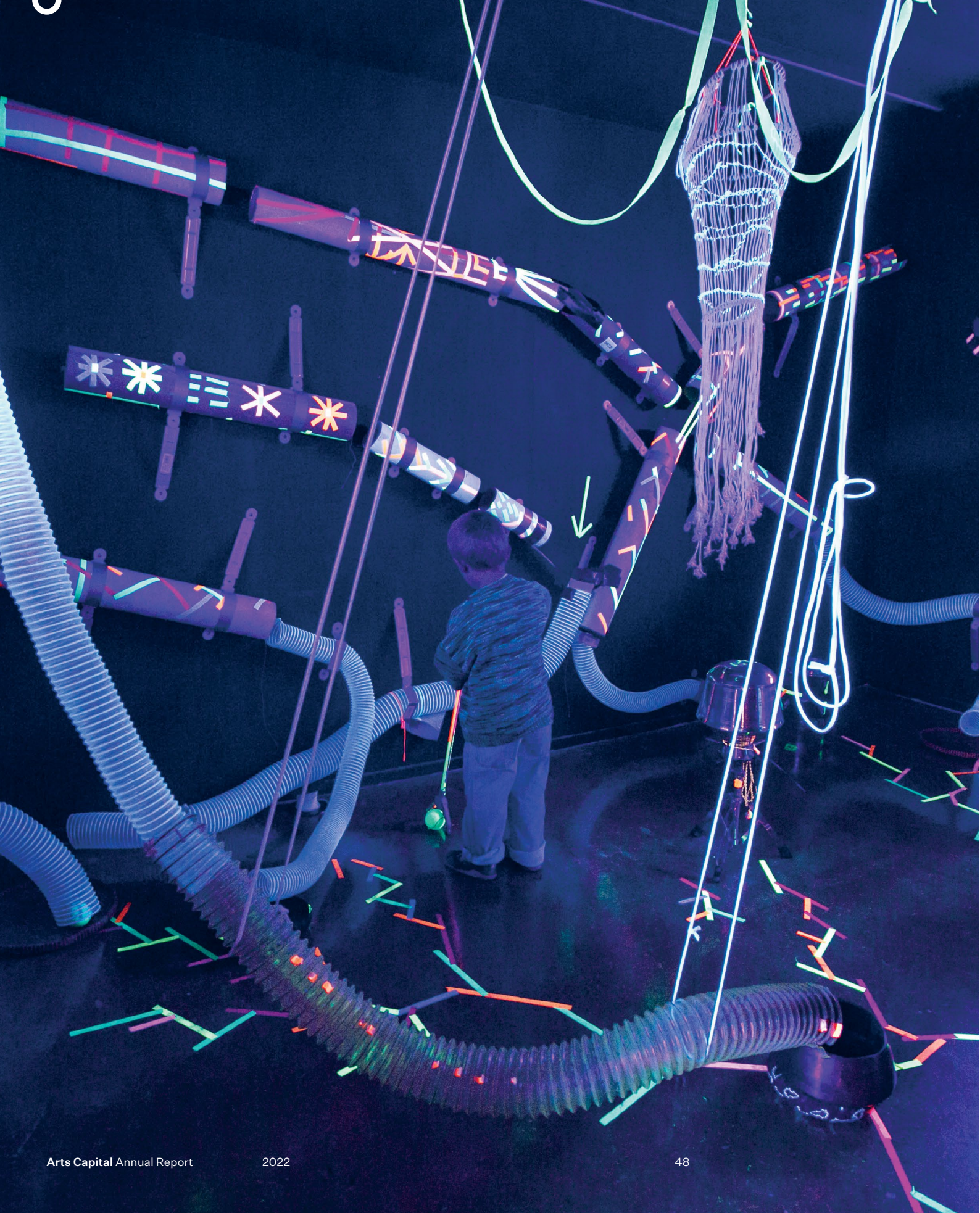
2022 is the year we implemented a new chart of accounts to comply with the requirements of Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission reporting standards.

2022 also saw major leadership change with the Board appointing Carly Davenport Acker as Director/CEO in late July. Her guidance and direction were welcomed at this opportune time as Arts Capital prepared to finalise our Strategic Plan and submit a long-awaited application for ACT Government Organisation funding. We acknowledge the team for holding the fort prior to Carly’s appointment, in particular Adelin Chin, Interim CEO, and staff members Lachlan Johnson, Elizabeth Curry, Isabelle Sheppard and Dolly Prajapati, who stepped up to support Adelin in the business responsibilities, governance, financial and administrative duties. In this time, two Managers also departed to pursue higher career roles.

Our ability to derive income through a diverse range of streams continued despite the multiple uncertainties presented by the Gorman Centenary renovations plan. We recognise the wonderful impact the ACT Government and Federal Government’s investment will contribute to our centres and the future viability of Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres and the broader community. We continue to work with artsACT and other stakeholders on designs for when renovations commence.

Our advocacy to ACT Government for the centres resulted in a successful artsACT Organisation Funding grant outcome, which partly acknowledged the operational resource challenges to maintain two large-scale heritage facilities. An increase on previous years to \$720,000 was welcomed and appreciated. However, \$360,000 funding per centre is significantly short of operational expenses incurred, in particular with 20% of funding directly consumed by increased electricity, sewerage/water and gas suppliers to keep ‘doors open and lights on’.

That said, the centenary renovations will enable Arts Capital to meet our mission, which is in line with the Minister’s Statement of Ambition for the Arts – developing the arts through facility investment. This includes prioritising resident services at the centre of what we do, providing affordable and accessible spaces to support the creation of work by artists, arts organisations and aligned creative industries, developing our own complementary artistic and resident-support programs where possible, presenting engaging work across all artistic disciplines, attracting audiences and building diverse cross-sector partnerships.



Summary of Trends

- The massive 311.15% increase in cash income generated for artists was partially due to postponed events from 2021 and the ACT Government’s Amp It Up! program.
- The Creative Programs team had a near 100% success rate in securing a number of project grants from the ACT Government to develop Ainslie Salon, Little Day Out and Sensory Art Lab while delivering a series of events for the Surface Street Art Festival.
- The number of performances and events held in 2022 jumped to 98 and this was largely due to the number of previously postponed events.
- Venue hire income trended up by 52.44%, demonstrating the desire for in-person workshops, classes and education programs to continue.
- Ainslie car park earned income dropped by almost 3% as a result of more parking tenants working from home.
- Cash Reserve remains at more than 10% of revenue which exceeds the threshold determined by artsACT.
- Administration expenses decreased by more than 10%.
- Utilities expenses increased by 13.65%.
- Persistent work by our Facilities team to address risk and public safety resulted in a premium decrease of 50% for Public Liability Insurance.
- Two major assets were purchased in 2022:
 - A set of walkie talkies costing \$5,000 GST exclusive which allow workers at each centre to communicate with each other when a worker is alone or in an isolated area; and
 - A special built mobile bar with a cost of \$8,000 GST exclusive, designed to meet the needs of bar staff working in the Ainslie Main Hall or Ainslie Courtyard. The bar is functional, easily movable and has been used for a number of events since acquisition.

Board + Staff

2022 Board Members

The Arts Capital Board retains an equitable gender balance and is made up of members who possess invaluable skills that serve the needs of our organisation and community. An annual Board audit is undertaken to identify gaps in skills and knowledge to ensure effective succession and breadth of experience between our members.

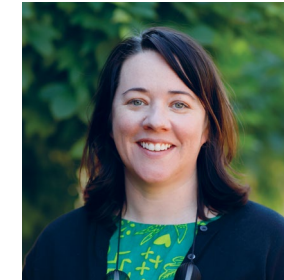
We acknowledge departing members Elizabeth Harris and Suzie Campbell. We wish Elizabeth all the best in her move overseas and also thank long-serving Board member Suzie Campbell for her dedication and encouragement. Suzie was a member of GHAC Inc and subsequently Arts Capital, holding the positions of Board Chair and Deputy Chair at various times throughout her tenure. Thank you Suzie for your insight, direction and golden contribution across the years.

Board members (as of 31 December 2022)



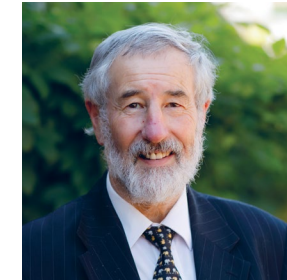
Mark van Veen, Chair

- Arts and business management
- Curatorship and public programs
- Arts policy
- Artist (visual)



Sheridan Burnett

- Governance
- Exhibitions
- Grants and donations
- Insurance and risk management



Eric Martin AM

- Architecture
- Heritage
- Building conservation
- Access + universal design



Lauren Honcope, Casual Vacancy Member

- Arts Governance
- Legal
- Refugee advocacy and human rights



John MacCulloch, Company Secretary

- Chartered Accountant
- Small business management
- Succession planning
- Business planning and restructuring



Morwenna Collett

- Arts Policy
- Disability + Inclusion
- Strategic planning
- Arts programming



Dr Jodie-Lee Trembath

- Arts Policy + Research
- Strategic planning
- Risk management

**Elizabeth Harris*
Suzie Campbell***

*Left 2022

2022 Staff

We farewelled Joseph Falsone, our Director and CEO of 10 years. Over the years, he built a dedicated and seasoned team which ensured the growth and breadth of future offerings for residents and the creative community. We thank Joseph for his dedication, legacy and leadership.

Staff (as of 31 December 2022)		Total FTE = 12.9
CEO + Director	Carly Davenport Acker (1.0 FTE) Joseph Falsone* (1.0 FTE)	
Business Manager (Interim CEO)	Adelin Chin (0.8 FTE)	
Finance Officer	Dolly Prajapati (0.8 FTE)	
Major Projects Officer	Lachlan Johnson (0.8 FTE)	
Administration & Finance Officer	Ami Kothari (0.8 FTE) Janam Shah* (0.8 FTE)	
Administration & Customer Service Officer	Isabelle Sheppard (0.8 FTE)	
Weddings and Event Officer	Jenni Curry*** (0.8 FTE)	
Facilities Manager	Mauro Aviles (0.8 FTE)	
Facilities Officer	Jason Burgess (0.9 FTE)	
Maintenance Officer	Matt Kristaly (0.5 FTE)	
Marketing & Communications Manager	Kristi Monfries* (0.8 FTE)	
Marketing Coordinator	Rebecca Worth (0.6 FTE) Andrew Finegan** (0.6 FTE)	
Program Manager	Rochelle Whyte (0.8 FTE)	
Senior Creative Producer	Sia Ahmad (0.8 FTE)	
Assistant Producer	Claudia Hogan (0.6 FTE)	
Venue Hire Coordinator	Elizabeth Curry (0.6 FTE)	
Production & Technical Manager	Jeremy Christian* (0.8 FTE)	
Technical & Venue Support Officer	John Carberry (0.7 FTE)	
Customer Experience Coordinator	Kylie Walsh (0.8 FTE)	

*Left 2022
**Maternity Leave position
***0.2 FTE was Marketing Assistant duties to help cover maternity leave

2022 Project-based Staff
Nyssa Miller
2022 Casual Event Staff
Timothy Austin
Miriam Ellen Barwell
Tanner Clark
Lea Collins
Jonathan Corcoran
Minna Featherstone
Talisha Jackson
Emily Leslie
Nicholas Schmidt
Camille Struzina
Liam Wong

Ainslie + Gorman Arts Centres. Photo by Andrew Sikorski →

The challenges of the past few years were unprecedented for all. It would not have been possible to get through them without the on-the-ground contributions and experiences of our Board, our dynamic staff, our beloved residents, our previous Director and CEO, Joseph Falsone, and Interim CEO Adelin Chin.

Through COVID19, an essential economic lifeline was provided by artsACT to the Ainslie and Gorman community and local arts sector, enabling artists' livelihoods and visions to continue with a creative heartbeat. We sincerely thank artsACT. We also deeply appreciate all Ainslie and Gorman resident artists and organisations, all external artists (local to global), diverse partners and suppliers, our venue hirers and the broader community of Canberra for continuing to contribute, nourish, innovate and advocate for the sector.

We thank artsACT and the ACT Government, notably the ACT's Minister for the Arts Tara Cheyne, for their ongoing commitment to Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres as essential and vital parts of the growing and vibrant ACT arts community. We thank the Federal Labor Government, notably ACT Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher, Minister for Finance, for their commitment, with the ACT Government, to Gorman Arts Centre's sustainability and for recognising that the past 100 years deserve to be protected for the Canberran community's future access. We also thank Jo Clay MLA the ACT Greens' Spokesperson for Arts and Culture for her energetic and tangible support for the arts centres in 2022.

We also thank the service providers and staff of Wise Workplace (healthy organisational management) and Work Happy (Employment Assistance Program) for their support of Arts Capital Ltd. and our many varied stakeholders.



— To each and every one of you, thank you.

The 2022 Annual Report was produced by the Arts Capital Marketing Team.

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