# ONTARIO PRESENTS

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

#### **Table of Contents**

03	Land Acknowledgement and Welcome		
04	A Letter from the President		
05	Directors' Message		
06	Our Statement of Purpose, Values, and Guiding Principles		
07	Network Overview		
80	Advocacy & Sector Support		
09	Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Decolonization		
10	Network Updates and Membership		
12	Ontario Presents Governance Committee Report		
13	Block Booking and Theatre Connects		
14	Fall Virtual Networking Series		
15	FreshStart: New Young Audience Presenter Project and From Seed to		
	Season - How to Grow as a New Young Audience Presenter Toolkit		
16	Slow Touring		
18	Annual Spring Retreat 2023		
19	Update from the Ontario Presents Board of Directors		
20	Arts Touring Connector		
21	Communications		
23	Statement of Operations		
24	Thank You to Our Funders & Supporters		
26	Staff & Board		
27	Photo Credits		



#### Land Acknowledgement

Ontario Presents honours past, present and future Indigenous Peoples as the original stewards and caretakers of the lands we present, showcase, and engage upon here in oniatarí:io, Ontario. We recognize the embedded colonial structures in the performing arts sector, including ways of thinking, knowing and doing, and how the oppression of Indigenous Peoples has in turn affected the health and prosperity of the land, water and skies that surround us. We are therefore inspired to decolonize our work practices, to remain committed to Indigenous resurgence and reclamation, as well as engaged in platforming the stories of Black, People of Colour, Deaf/Disabled and LGBT2SQ+ voices across the province. We know and embrace that this is both an individual and organizational responsibility.

#### Welcome

As settlers offer an acknowledgement of the land for which they now live, plan and work on, it is my tradition, as someone with family descending from Six Nations of the Grand River, to welcome you as settlers and newcomers to these lands as First Nations Peoples have done for hundreds of years across oniatarí:io, Ontario. The legacy of all our ancestors was one based in relationship with one another; relationships with the land, the waters, the skies, the Ancestors and all things animate and inanimate surrounding us. Remembering the importance of relationships is critical to our humility as human beings, and to remain committed to building, reaffirming, and celebrating all our relations. Nya:weh'ko:wa.

- Dr. Terri-Lynn Brennan, Administrative Director

#### A Letter from the President

Dear Members and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year at Ontario Presents, it's impossible not to be filled with gratitude for the resilience and dedication of our staff, members, funders and supporters. Together, we've weathered challenges and navigated uncertain waters, all while staying true to our mission of fostering a vibrant and inclusive performing arts sector across Ontario.

First and foremost, I want to extend my deepest thanks to the incredible team at Ontario Presents. Under their steadfast leadership, we've continued to adapt and innovate, finding new ways to support our members and the broader industry. Their efforts have ensured that our programs remain relevant, impactful, and accessible to all. I'd personally like to acknowledge and thank Cynthia Lickers-Sage and Glenn Brown for their amazing stewardship over the years as they retire from our Board of Directors.

I also want to express my appreciation to our membership for their ongoing support and collaboration. Your input and feedback have been invaluable as we've shifted our program delivery to better meet the evolving needs of our sector. Together, we've explored new avenues for connection and community building, reaffirming that we are indeed stronger when we stand united.

Ontario Presents gratefully acknowledges the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Ontario Arts Council, the Canada Council for the Arts and all Ontario Presents Members.

As we look ahead, it's important to acknowledge the recent decision to retire the Contact ONTour program. While this may mark the end of an era, it also presents an opportunity for growth and renewal. By prioritizing inclusivity, accessibility, and community engagement, we're paving the way for a more vibrant and resilient arts ecosystem—one that benefits artists, presenters, and audiences alike.

At Ontario Presents, we remain committed to fostering collaboration and innovation throughout the year. Through our diverse array of virtual showcase and networking opportunities, we'll continue to connect artists with presenters, facilitating the development of new work and the cultivation of diverse audiences in communities across Ontario.

As we embark on this journey together, let's remember that our strength lies in our collective efforts. By lifting each other up and embracing new and innovative approaches, we can ensure that the performing arts sector in Ontario remains vibrant, diverse, and inclusive for generations to come.

Thank you for your support, dedication, and passion. Together, we will continue to shape a brighter future for the arts in Ontario.

#### **Directors' Message**





It's been an up and down year for Ontario Presents, as we experienced a year of renewal and streamlined initiatives due to funding cutbacks across the sector and performance cancellations over the past year. Some of our longstanding and fairly new programs such as ArtsEngage, and World Music were retired to focus on new ways of presenting and how we can continue to serve our members with the utmost care and consideration. And with that in mind, we dove into a full exploration of the Slow-Touring Concept with our partners at Réseau SPARC Network, Debajehmujig Theatre Group and Folk Music Ontario, while also producing an in-depth guide into becoming a young people's presenter, From Seed to Season, containing a whole range of resources, ideas and directions for beginning to veteran presenters alike.

Organizationally, we've also dived into a full-scale governance review and rebirth with new letters patent officially changing our

name to Ontario Presents (for those who don't remember us by our original name of Ontario Campus and Community Impresarios), to accompany our updated by-laws and board policies, bringing us in line with the new Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act.

We continue to evolve our methodology for showcasing and pitching and offered a very successful pilot program in the form of a Virtual Networking Series last autumn. This new initiative opened the doors to embrace voices and bodies of equity-deserving artists; some of whom have never approached OP before. As with this new networking series, Ontario Presents remains dedicated to evolving and growing as technology and priorities advance and change across our provincial landscape. We saw a full operational year of the Arts Touring Connector, helping to bolster relationships amongst our national network partners. While we also increased opportunities for our members to share in EDIAD (equity, diversity, inclusion, accessibility, and decolonizing) learning opportunities with bi-weekly Cedar Tea Breaks.

While we remain extremely devoted to recognizing and honoring the hard work of our small but mighty administrative team. We also are very grateful to our volunteer Board of Directors who continue to be consistently responsive and generous with their time and commitment to steering Ontario Presents in a good way. We remain incredibly grateful to all our government funding partners who continue to work with us and support new and ongoing initiatives that make OP unique as a provincial arts service not-for-profit. But it is our membership who we thank the most for maintaining their dedication to work with us and grow a collaborative and welcoming network across the province.

We hope that you will enjoy reviewing the successes and points of note in this year's annual report. For we at OP are dedicated to finding new ways to advocate and embolden our membership.

Whereas art is a fundamental aspect of the human experience that enriches the lives of individuals and communities, fosters empathy, and builds essential bridges of understanding, presenting organizations are uniquely positioned to facilitate engagement between artists and communities.

Ontario Presents exists to strengthen and support the practice of performing arts presentation so that it becomes more collaborative, artist-focused, and meaningful to communities. We believe that building effective and authentic relationships is fundamental to our work.

Ontario Presents' mission, then, is to foster effective working relationships among artists, agents, producers, and presenters in their mutual endeavours to stage great performing arts experiences that open citizens' minds and hearts to the world and the peoples around them.

#### **Our Values**

- Respect: Fundamental respect for all people is essential to all interactions
- Collaboration: We can achieve more by working together than alone
- Trust: Collaboration requires trust, honesty, and fair dealing
- Community: A focus on relationships over individual gain ultimately helps to build culturally, socially, and economically thriving communities
- Inclusion: All people deserve access to the arts
- Continual Learning: We are more effective when we recognize our own gaps in knowledge and understanding, and operate in a spirit of continual learning

#### **Our Guiding Principles**

- Provide a safe working environment in all of our professional interactions;
- Proactively **listen** to the unique needs of the membership in order to provide appropriate responses and support;
- Remove barriers to participation in presentation and touring;
- Actively encourage inclusivity, equity, and diversity in the presenting field; and
- Actively advocate for the advancement of the touring and presenting field.

#### **Network Overview**

Ontario Presents is a network of peers working together to advance the practice of arts presentation in Ontario. Network members participate in collaborative initiatives and events, support the development of the sector, and share knowledge and information. Facilitating communication to and with the members is a cornerstone of Ontario Presents' work.

As of May 2024, the network included 164 individual members from 86 organizations.

Members include presenters (volunteers and paid professionals), agents and managers, service professionals, artists, and supporters.

With members from across the province, Ontario Presents attempts to facilitate connection and knowledge-sharing in all regions of Ontario.



#### **Membership Composition**

61.9% Professional Presenters
26.3% Volunteer Presenters
5.6% Artists
3.8% Artist Management Professionals
2.5% Arts Business Consultants/ Services





This map includes all Presenter members of the Ontario Presents network — both professional and volunteer. <u>An interactive version is available on our website.</u>



#### **Advocacy & Sector Support**

Ontario Presents continues to work hard at cheerleading and promoting the need for and importance of maintaining a healthy presenting sector, both mentally as well as financially. We have continued to amplify sector issues through email and social media with routine Facebook and Instagram posts, as well as bi-monthly newsletter updates offering an Indigenous Artists Spotlight series. We hope that our diversified promotion of artists and sector opportunities ensures that our network is well informed, inspired and confident in knowing that OP is working hard to platform its members and colleagues in a healthy and encouraging way. Furthermore, we are deeply grateful to our government partners at all levels for the financial support that has allowed our sector to persevere.

We continue to work with the Provincial Arts Service Organizations (PASO/OPSA) coalition as well as the National Presenters Network (NPN) to share information and advocate for recognition and financial equity in the arts across Ontario. OP was a strong voice and partner with CAPACOA this past year during the #FutureOfLIVE Campaign of the Federal Government, and although the supplemental funding is appreciated, it is still considered a band aid until permanent and increased funding is established. OP will continue to work with our funders in a manner that continues our advocacy for this result.

# Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Decolonization (EDIAD)

Ontario Presents now operates through an EDIAD (equity, diversity, inclusion, accessibility, and decolonization) lens, where all that we do proceeds with these critical intentions in mind. Over the last year, we engaged IBPOC, LGBTQ2+ community members through our inaugural virtual networking series, in numbers not previously seen through our showcasing events. OP continues to include an Elder and Knowledge Keeper to support the opening and closing of our annual retreat in Huntsville, while maintaining a permanent budget line to honour Indigenous leaders when we are visiting Indigenous territories, to ensure that we are not just extracting traditional knowledges or land-based access but offering reciprocity in giving back in a good way.

This past winter we solidified Cedar Tea Breaks as a permanent series of opportunities for our members and those interested from the general public, to join Terri-Lynn in sharing how regional Indigenous Leaders and non-Indigenous arts administrative partners met, developed relationships, and respectfully maintain and nurture those relationships. Terri continues to boost and be available with opportunities to talk and share best practices in working with Indigenous Peoples while encouraging members to prioritize this work in their daily routine both personally and professionally.

Maintaining connections with equity-seeking artists, agents and presenters guiding and leading what OP is, and can be, is now an instilled goal of the organization. Developing and strengthening relationships as an internal team is also important to us, and a weekly Lunch Club was started in the summer of 2023 for all staff and consultants to share 30 minutes a week over food while not talking about work.

Taking on this goal now means that we are striving to role-model an equity action process for you, our members, to adopt and work through in your communities. Equity action work is a journey for the brave and fearful alike. It is about becoming great listeners and great learners and it is a lot of work. For this is a journey not a sprint.



#### **Network Updates and** Membership

Ontario Presents continues to support the development of smaller networks within our presenting community, who collaborate informally and form communities of practice based on shared ways of working. These networks include the Community Presenters Network, the Ontario Classical Music Network, and the Northern Volunteer Young Audience Network. The networks continue to meet regularly strengthening their connections.

#### **Network**

The Community Presenters Network (CPN) was created in January 2017 after small venue performing arts presenters identified the need for a forum of smaller-scale presenters to collaborate, block-book, share resources, and grow as creative professionals in their own right.

The network now consists of 41 presenting members, as well as additional colleagues who are aware of and occasionally connect with the network. Members connect through monthly conference calls, an online information-sharing hub, and a group email list.



#### **Community Presenters Ontario Classical Music Network**

The Ontario Classical Music Network continues to work together to bring high-quality classical music to their communities. The OCMN currently consists of 9 volunteer-run member organizations that support each other's commitment to classical music through knowledge sharing and programming discussions. Ontario Presents continues to provide guidance and support in the areas of digital marketing to members of the Ontario Classical Music Network.





#### Northern Volunteer Young Audience Network

With support from the Department of Canadian Heritage, in 2023/224 Ontario Presents provided support to a network of 12 volunteer Young Audience presenters located in Northern Ontario. With facilitation from the network coordinator, this group has grown to trust and share logistical advice and artistic recommendations throughout the year, as well as participating in block booking.

#### The venues involved in the Northern Young Audience Network are as follows:

- Atikokan Children's Entertainment Series (Atikokan)
- Dryden Youth Entertainment Series (Dryden)
- Geraldton Children's Entertainment Series (Geraldton)
- Iroquois Falls Arts Council (Iroquois Falls)
- Kids and Company Family Entertainment Series (Fort Frances)
- Kids Kaleidoscope Entertainment Series for the Performing Arts (Sioux Lookout)

- Kirkland Lake Family Entertainment Series (Kirkland Lake)
- Over the Rainbow Children's Series (Sault Ste. Marie)
- Pied Piper Kidshows (Cobalt)
- Razzamataz Kids' Shows! (Haliburton)
- Red Lake Family Entertainment Series (Red Lake)
- Sunday Smiles Family Entertainment Series (Kenora)

## Ontario Presents Governance Committee Report

In January 2023, the Board of Ontario Presents established a governance committee. The governance committee, consisting of at least 2 Ontario Presents directors, assists the board to create and maintain a healthy governance culture that reflects the values and principles of Ontario Presents as well as current governance standards and good practices. In particular, the committee:

- Recommends to the board a plan for ongoing board education and development, and leads the orientation of newly elected directors;
- Reviews each of Ontario Presents bylaws and board policies every three years and recommends changes as required;
- Monitors Ontario Presents compliance with Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act's bylaws and policies;
- And completes other tasks/roles that may be required by the board to ensure a healthy organization.

Over this past year, the governance committee was tasked with the responsibility to bring the Ontario Presents' Articles of Incorporation and its governing bylaws into compliance with the Ontario Not-for-Profit Incorporation Act. And then, to bring this work to the board of directors for approval in order to have the revised bylaws ratified at the Annual Meeting by the members.

The Committee has met monthly over the past year to review and write a set of bylaws that are compliant with the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act while still reflecting Ontario Presents values and principles. As the chair, I would like to thank the members of the committee and staff for their enthusiastic contribution and support that enabled us to accomplish this work.

Governance Committee Chair: Jahn Fawcett

Members of Governance Committee: Glenn Brown, Rick Caldwell, Rachel

Marks

Staff support: Judy Harquail, Terri-Lynn Brennan, Jane Marsland

#### **Block Booking**

Ontario Presents' block booking services provide presenting members with programming opportunities to book artists in partnership with other presenters. Block booking services also offer assistance with tour coordination, contracting, and marketing/promotion. Block booking activity resulted in 47 artist tours in the 23/24 season for a total of \$2.8M in artist fees.



#### **Theatre Connects**

Theatre Connects is Ontario Presents' flagship curatorial development program, originally developed in partnership with the Ontario Arts Council as Ontario Dances and Theatre Connects, respectively. Ontario Presents has now combined the two programs into one that we are fully responsible for, seeking to develop audiences for Theatre and Dance work in communities outside of Toronto.

In 2023, we were able to support **5 participating presenters** to bring a wide variety of Ontario based Theatre and Dance to their communities. This support used to help fund the performances as well as support audience engagement activities in each community.

#### **Fall Virtual Networking Series**

The Fall Virtual Networking Series was a sequence of events that took place in the fall of 2023. The event provided opportunities for performing arts professionals to connect online through Agent Pitches and Virtual Showcase/Pitches by Artists.

The series began on September 6th with Small Venue Pitches hosted and supported by the Community Presenter's Network (CPN), supported by SPARC, Ontario Presents and Folk Music Ontario. Over the course of 3 days, over 30 artists ranging over genres of music, theatre, dance, puppetry, TYA and more, pitched their projects, with 10 artists pitching each evening.

The event went on to include several Agent Pitch Sessions taking place from September 11th to 27th, 2023. During the Agent Pitch Sessions, artist representatives, agents and managers were invited to pitch works to targeted groups of Ontario Presents' presenting networks, including the Volunteer-Run Venue presenters, Professional Southern-based presenters and the Ontario Classical Music Network presenters.

The subsequent activity of the series focused on Artist Showcases that took place from October 3rd to 5th, 2023. Thirty artists were selected to showcase in two Multidisciplinary and one Young Audience showcase. Artist showcases provided the occasion for artists to have their work viewed by Ontario Presents' member presenters from across Ontario and beyond.

We gratefully acknowledge the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Artis in supporting this piloted journey of changing how we support showcasing artists. We extend our gratitude to the jury, team and partners for their ongoing support throughout the event.



## FreshStart: New Young Audience Presenter Project

With support of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Fresh Start Program: New Young Audience Presenter Project was established to nurture and sustain a vibrant ecology of community young audience presenters in rural, remote and underserved communities in Ontario. Starting in the fall of 2023, 8 new and emerging young audience presenters participated in a series of bi-weekly or monthly personalized consultations, in-person and digital professional development and network meetings. As a result of their hard work and commitment, project participants have already begun programming for children in their community and have built lasting community partnerships with municipal governments, school boards, early learning centres and other community collaborators that will help create a sustainable presenting practice for generations to come.

## From Seed to Season - How to Grow as a New Young Audience Presenter Toolkit

The digital how-to-guide "From Seed to Season" that provides practical tools and resources for new or emerging young audience presenters has been widely shared as of November 2023. The impact of this e-document, and its 3 supporting webinars, have been keenly felt by the participants of the New YA Presenter Project and the broader national cultural sector. New YA presenters have used this resource to help change the mindset of stakeholders to embrace the value of young audience programming, to help recruit volunteers, to help write grants and many more key presenting activities. Thanks to funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage the toolkit's resources will uplift new YA presenters from across Canada and beyond.

#### **Slow Touring Pilot Project**

**Slow Touring** is influenced by the broader Slow Movement and aims to transform the touring industry by promoting artist-community interaction, creative freedom, well-being, financial stability, and sustainability. The project is intended to challenge the traditional industry norms and support artists to create meaningful and impactful tours. It will also provide a platform for artists and professionals to share ideas and strategies, and create a more sustainable and equitable touring and presenting industry.

#### This project aims to address the following key principles:

- 1. **Equity** (including for Indigenous, people of colour, women, deaf and disabled, queer, trans and non-binary, elder, emerging, and caregiver artists and artworkers)
- 2. Ensuring **meaningful connections** between artists and the communities they visit

- 3. Addressing the power imbalance between artists and presenters
- 4. **Climate justice** and sustainability
- 5. Mental and physical wellness of artists and artsworkers

After last year's research phase, we are now in the pilot project phase. Based on an open call for participants as well as calls within the participating networks, we have identified 8 presenters and 6 artists who will participate in the initial cohort, creating a shared learning community and enacting pilot initiatives.

This community came together in-person in Buckhorn (Feb 7-9, 2024) to establish meaningful connections, establish a shared understanding of **Slow Touring**, and brainstorm ideas for individual and collective projects. The learning community will now continue to meet virtually every month.



#### The participants in the pilot phase cohort are:

- Padideh Ahrarnejad (Kune World)
- Denise Fujiwara (Fujiwara Dance) Inventions)
- Kaitlin Milroy
- Veronica Johnny
- Erin Ball and Maxime Beauregard
- Lauren Satok
- Ian Kamau
- Jeff Bray (Cultivate Festival)

- · Ronnie Brown (Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts)
- Glenn Brown (Sanderson Centre)
- Diana Moser (FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre
- Dan Watson (Huntsville Festival of the Arts)
- Tania Joy (Springtide Music Festival)
- Lisa Poushinsky (Kemptville Street Piano)
- Isaac Akrong (African Arts Institute)



We are grateful to the Canada Council for the Arts for funding this project, and to our supporting partners: Réseau SPARC Network, and Debajehmujig Theatre Group, Folk Music Ontario.



for the Arts

Canada Council Conseil des arts du Canada

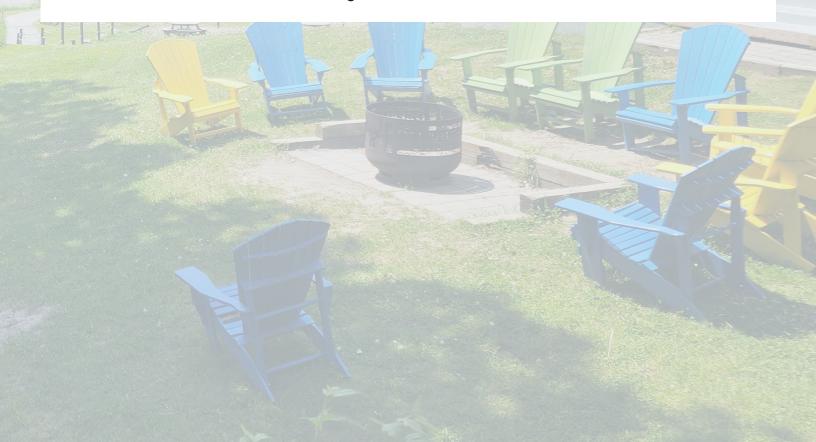
#### **Annual Spring Retreat 2023**

Ontario Presents' annual Spring Retreat provides members with the opportunity for collaborative learning, reflection and study, mixed with the right proportion of R&R.

From May 31st to June 2nd, 2023, OP members, friends, and staff gathered together at the Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville, Ontario for two days of connection, professional development and informal conversation.

We kicked off the retreat with a Respectful Workplaces workshop facilitated by **Terri-Lynn Brennan**, followed by dinner at the Hillside Farm and an evening performance from local band, **Tonic Lane**. The event continued with the <u>AFC Helps</u> facilitating a workshop focusing on Managing Workplace Anxiety, while the OP team shared event and programming updates. Attendees took the opportunity to network with familiar colleagues and build new connections throughout the afternoon and well into dinner at The Mill on Main. We wrapped up the retreat with a series of peer-led round table discussions where presenters, agents and arts management professionals shared successes and current challenges in the touring performing arts sector.

We send a huge *chi miigwetch* to **Hunter Corbiere** who started our retreat off in a good way and closed the circle on Friday in sending those who remained off safely. As well as our heartfelt thanks to **Dan Watson** at the Huntsville Festival of the Arts and the Deerhurst Resort for hosting us!



## UPDATE FROM THE ONTARIO PRESENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

For more than 2 decades, Ontario Presents has been proud to host an annual conference that serves as a cornerstone event, uniting our community through enriching showcasing and networking opportunities. Originally established as the Ontario Contact program, and now known as Contact ONTour, this initiative has been instrumental in fostering connections within our industry

As our community emerged from the pandemic, both calls for a format change to the program and escalating production costs for the conference compelled Ontario Presents to reconsider the future of the Contact ONTour program. To ensure thoughtful deliberation, a committee comprising board members and industry professionals was convened to explore potential pathways forward.

Through extensive conversations and consultations with provincial presenters, national agents, artists, and other stakeholders, it became evident that the existing format of Contact ONTour no longer fully aligned with the evolving needs of the majority of our sector. There was a clear consensus that a shift towards more inclusive, accessible, eco-conscious, and community-focused networking and showcasing approaches was imperative.

Therefore, after careful consideration and under the guidance of the board, Ontario Presents has decided to retire the Contact ONTour program. While we acknowledge that this news may disappoint some long-standing members, we urge everyone to recognize it as a necessary step in safeguarding the financial health of our organization and prioritizing the needs of our communities

Although Contact ONTour may be coming to a close, Ontario Presents remains steadfast in our commitment to facilitating networking opportunities, showcasing, and relationship-building within the sector. This fall, we will once again offer a diverse array of virtual showcase and networking opportunities, building upon the positive feedback received in the autumn of 2023 for this online format.

Furthermore, we are still actively exploring alternative avenues to foster collaboration and community engagement. Our programming decisions will be guided by the evolving needs of the performing arts sector, the resources available, and our unwavering commitment to nurturing meaningful relationships.

We invite everyone to stay engaged with us as we embark on this journey of innovation and progress. Together, we will continue to shape a vibrant and resilient arts ecosystem that benefits all.

#### **Arts Touring Connector (ATC)**

The **Arts Touring Connector** continues to be an effective tool for presenter collaboration and tour coordination. Since its launch in 2022, data collection and tour activity tracking has become easier to monitor and report. Other features have resulted in presenter networks collaborating across the county on the development of artist tours making touring more effective and impactful for artists, presenters, and community audiences.

The National (Regional) Presenting Networks who partnered to develop the program continue to use the system, and as a result, tours have been coordinated by the Atlantic Presenters Association, the Arts Touring Alliance of Alberta, the Manitoba Arts Network, Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils, and BC **Touring Council.** 

The ATC provides a significant contribution to Canada's touring landscape, where through it's portal in the 2023/24 season, Ontario Presents coordinated 47 tours across the province with artists from all over the world.









#### **Communications**

Ontario Presents connects with our members and the broader arts presenting sector through timely and relevant communications.

#### Websites

Ontario Presents currently oversees the operation of 3 websites:

• <u>Ontariopresents.ca</u> offers information for and about our network, including the presenter map, blog, resources, job board, resource centre and more.

#### What's on OntaroPresents.ca?



**The Job Board** hosts industry-specific job postings. Non-members can post on the board for \$40. Member posts remain free.



**The Blog** is a place to share stories from the network and broader industry. Posts include updates on OP programs, news from the presenting field, and interviews with artists.



The Resource Centre holds a wide range of resources for presenters and industry professionals. The Centre is full of information on grants, touring and presenting resources, and other helpful tips and tricks!

• <u>The Arts Touring Connector (ATC)</u> is a digital platform developed to support presenter collaboration and information-sharing with block-booking tours across Canada.

#### **eNewsletters**

**Newsletter - 1318 subscribers** 

Ontario Presents publishes two monthly eNewsletters containing industry events, advocacy reports, member news, professional development opportunities, relevant information from the sector, and artist interviews to an audience of 1,300+ stakeholders, artists, and Ontario Presents members.

#### **Social Media**

Ontario Presents provides our community with relevant industry news, updates from our partners, and organization activities through our digital communication channels including Facebook, X (formally Twitter), and Instagram.



#### **Indigenous Artist Spotlight**

Ontario Presents and its presenting members recognize the importance of presenting Indigenous artists, stories, and culture as part of their presenter practice. Launched in November 2017, the Indigenous Artist Spotlight invites Indigenous artists to share their artistic work in our monthly eNewsletter and blog. We give our sincere thanks to all of the artists who have shared their work and their stories with our community.

You can view all Spotlights on our blog.



















#### **Meet the Artist Spotlight**

Ontario Presents is committed to equity, diversity, inclusion, accessibility, and decolonization (EDIAD) in all of our work within the performing arts sector. Each month, we create a space for performing arts professionals from diverse backgrounds to amplify their work in our Meet the Artist Spotlight feature in our monthly newsletters and our blog.

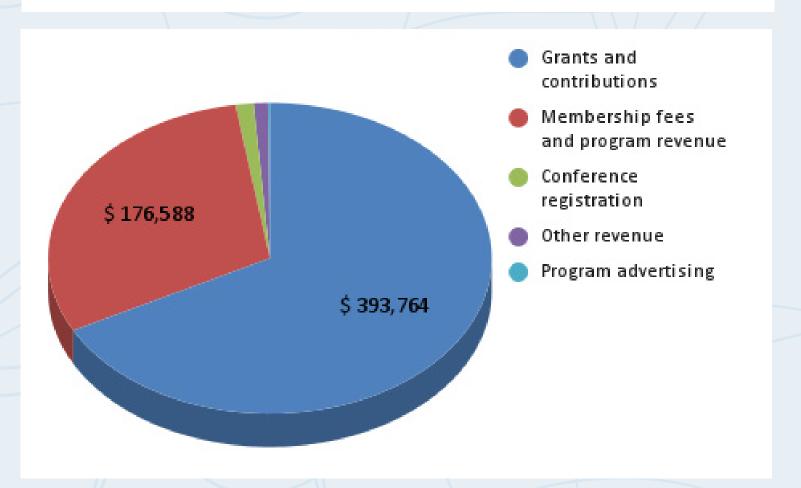
You can view all interviews on our website.

#### Statement of Operations

Condensed financial information from our financial statements includes the following. Full audited financial statements are available at ontariopresents.ca or by request to info@ontariopresents.ca.

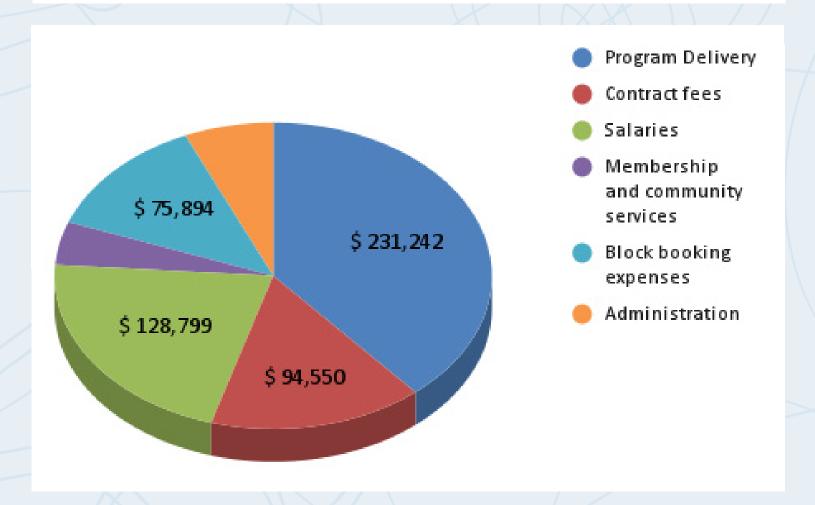
#### Revenue

Grants and contributions Membership fees and program revenue Conference registration Other revenue Program advertising	\$ 393,764 \$ 176,588 \$ 7,678 \$ 5,956 \$ 920
Total Revenues	\$ 584,906



#### **Expenses**

Program Delivery Contract fees Salaries Membership and community services Block booking expenses Administration Amortization	\$ 231,242 \$ 94,550 \$ 128,799 \$ 27,185 \$ 75,894 \$ 39,296 \$ -
Total Expenses	\$ 596,966



#### Thank You to Our Funders & Supporters

As we continue to support the development of the touring and presenting sector, collaborative partnerships are vital. Thank you to all of the partners who helped to make our year a success.

#### **Special thanks to:**

Al Connors

Alec Harmer

Alex Glass

Alfredo Caxaj

Alyson Martin

Andreja Kovac

Andrew Alexander

**Atlantic Presenters** 

Association

CanDance Network

Catherine O'Grady

CAPACOA

**Crane Creations** 

Dan Misturada

Danielle Lefebvre

Debajamajig Theatre Group

Deerhurst Resort

Folk Music Ontario

Franco Pang

Fran Côté

**Grandmother Kathy Brant** 

Hillside Farm

**Hunter Corbiere** 

Huntsville Festival of the

Arts

Janis Monture

Jayson Duggan

JP Longboat

Matthew Behrens

Myles Warren

Nicole Milne

Ottawa Children's Festival

Puppet Festival of

Mississauga

Rachel Marks

Rick Caldwell

Ross Paton

Robin Zettel

Sandy Irvin

SPARC

Sunfest

Sydney Yang

The Mill on Main

Tonic Lane

The Alliance of Canadian

**Dance Networks** 

The CanDance Network

Westwind Inn

#### **Our Funders:**





Canada Council Conseil des arts du Canada



#### **Board of Directors**



Preseident
Sara Palmieri, Director
of Programming &
Marketing, FirstOntario
Performing Arts
Centre, St. Catharines



Vice-Preseident
Cynthia Lickers-Sage,
Executive Director,
Indigenous Performing
Arts Alliance, Toronto



Treasurer
Glenn Brown,
Theatre Manager,
Sanderson Centre for
the Performing Arts,
Brantford



Corporate Secretary Nicole Rochefort, Founder, AIM: Artists In Motion, Toronto



Danny Harvey, Programming Coordinator, Rose Theatre, Brampton



**Dan Watson**, Executive Director, Huntsville Festival of the Arts, Huntsville



Debora Johns, Manager, Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, Oakville



Jahn Fawcett, Portfolio Manager, Shenkman Arts Centre, Ottawa



Jason Manitowabi, Events Coordinator, Wikwemikong Tourism, Wikwemikong

**Staff** 

**Judy Harquail**Director of Programs

Joanne Churchill
Special Projects Coordinator

**Deb Daub**Senior Accountant

**Dr. Terri-Lynn Brennan** Administrative Director

**Deb Maitland**Programs Associate

**Ceilidh Wood**Programs Associate

Jane Marsland
Special Projects Coordinator

**Kiera Watson**Communications Coordinator

**Devanshi Mishra**Slow Touring Project Coordinator

#### **Photo Credits**

Front Cover: Photo of Tonic Lane performing at Hillside Barn during the 2023 Spring

Retreat

Land Acknowledgement and Welcome: Photo courtesy of Adobe Stock

A Letter from the President: Sara Palmieri

Directors' Message: Judy Harquail and Dr. Terri-Lynn Brennan

Our Statement of Purpose, Values, and Guiding Principles: Photo of guests at 2024 Spring

Retreat

Network Overview: Screenshot of the Presenters' Network Map

Advocacy & Sector Support: Photo of Roland Grant

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Decolonization: Equity, Diversity, Inclusion,

Accessibility, and Decolonization logo courtesy of Sydney Yang

Network Updates and Membership: Photo of OCMN participants in Ottawa in 2015, Photo

of Northern Volunteer Young Audience Network at the Ottawa Chrildren's Festival.

Block Booking and Theatre Connects: Photo of Mundial Showcase 2023

Fall Virtual Networking Series: Photo of JER

FreshStart and From Seed to Season-How to Grow as a New Young Audience Presenter

Toolkit: Photo curtosy of iStock Photos

**Slow Touring Pilot Project:** Photo of Deerhurst Resort, Photo of Slow Touring participants in Buckhorn, Ontario; Canada Council for the Arts logo, Indigenous Performing Arts Alliance

logo; Réseau SPARC Network logo

Annual Spring Retreat 2023: Photo of campfire area at Deerhurst Resort

Arts Touring Connector: Arts Touring Connector logo; Government of Canada logo; Canada Council for the Arts logo

Arts Touring Connector (ATC): Photo of RUBBERBAND Dance Company

Communications: Facebook logo, Twitter logo, Instagram logo; Yolonda Bonnell, photo courtesy of Tyler J.Sloane; Sandra Lamouche, photo courtesy of Define Yourself Photography; Cherish Violet Blood, photo courtesy of Rezkatstudio.com; Elisapie, photo courtesy of Leeor Wild; Adiran Sutherland, photo courtesy of Joey Senft; Semiah, photo courtesy of Make Emarthle; Beverly McKiver, photo courtesy of Denis Redmond; Brock Stonefish; Shawnee Kish, photo courtesy of Megan Moore; Cale Crowe, photo courtesy of Sara Tanner

**Thank You to Our Funders & Supporters:** Photo of Shawn Cobiere and guests at Spring retreat 2024, Government of Canada logo, Canada Council for the Arts logo, Ontario Arts Council logo

**Staff & Board:** Sara Palmieri, Cynthia Lickers-Sage, Glenn Brown, Nicole Rochefort, Danny Harvey, Dan Watson, Debora Johns, Jahn Fawcett, Jason Manitowabi,