

ARTS AND CULTURE GRANT PROGRAMS

IMPACT REPORT 2023



A thriving arts and culture scene makes Calgary a more livable city by strengthening the local economy, enriching our city's cultural diversity, supporting well-being and creating social connections for all individuals.

One of the ways that **The City of Calgary Arts & Culture Division** invests in communities and builds capacity within the arts and culture sector is through grant programs. We are pleased to have offered the following grants to local non-profits, Community Associations and Business Improvement Areas in 2023.

Arts and Culture Microgrant

- The **Arts and Culture Microgrant** helps activate culturally vibrant neighbourhoods and districts.
- Funded new initiatives that enhanced cultural learning and arts appreciation, such as community art installations, creative placekeeping, workshops, productions, makerspaces and programming.

Chinese Immigration Act Centenary Microgrant

- Provided to the Calgary Chinese community to mark the centenary of the Chinese Immigration Act, also known as the **Chinese Exclusion Act**.
- Funded initiatives supported actions identified in the Chinatown Cultural Plan, such as honouring contributions, intergenerational talks, cultural education and revealing hidden histories.

Festivals and Events Grants

Festivals and Events Subsidy Program

- Helps strengthen the local economy and enhance communities.
- Subsidized 50 to 90 per cent of the cost of City services (permits, inspections, road closures) and 50 per cent of City-contracted services incurred by festival and event organizers.

Innovation Microgrant

- Provided startup funding to festival and event subsidy recipients for new initiatives that diversify programming and promote environmental stewardship.

Eventful City Electrical Efficiency Microgrant

- Provided funding to reduce financial barriers for local festival and event organizers to implement efficient electrical and power management.



\$3.6 million funding requested
\$1.03 million funding awarded



94 initiatives funded
170 first-time applicants



210,455 individuals attended
2,073 creative professionals engaged



634 community groups supported
530 local businesses benefitted



\$250,000 funding awarded



14 initiatives funded



41 community partners engaged
13 local businesses benefitted



\$3.2 million subsidy awarded



108 festivals and events funded

37 events focused on advancing equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging

27 events focused on a commitment to Truth and Reconciliation



1.4 million individuals attended



7,920 partnerships supported
1,043 local businesses benefitted
92 cultures, faiths and unique communities celebrated



\$4.2 million non-profit investment



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

ARTS AND CULTURE MICROGRANT



Tall Feathers Raising and Ceremony

"People told us how they were moved on a deep level, stirring a thoughtfulness from the heart, and how their journeys were enriched by learning common values with Indigenous traditional wisdom. The raising of the large feathers gave a visceral memory of the event."

– ORGANIZER

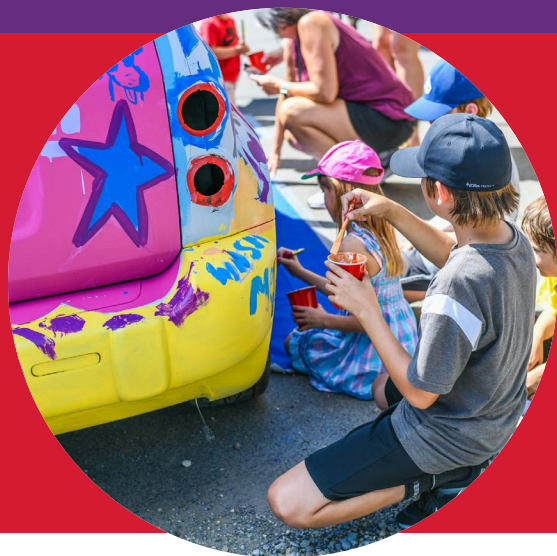
N!ght L!ght

"N!ght L!ght helped change people's perceptions of Victoria Park and evoked a sense of belonging and pride in local residents."

– ORGANIZER

"Even at night, I felt safe, and the area was much more vibrant with so many nice shops and bars than I realized."

– PARTICIPANT



The "Carden"

"The highlight of this project was watching the hundreds of families paint the car and contribute to this wonderful community art piece in Greenview. *The Carden* will have a lasting impact on our BIA and the city, helping to placemake, beautify, create a bright, safe space and bring joy to people's hearts."

– ORGANIZER