

# CENTRE'D with your SUPPORT 2020-21

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Ms. Andrea Surich General Manager, Theatre

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### MESSAGE FROM THE CEO AND CHAIR OF THE BOARD

As we complete the second year of the 2019-24 Strategic Plan, we are also completing a full year in the global pandemic. We are so grateful for the support of the community and the country as we have been able to maintain operations through most of the year and, during some periods, provide the only visual and performing arts available in the country. We are grateful to our local government for keeping us safe, to the federal government for their timely rollout of financial support, and we are grateful to you—our audiences, annual members, major gift donors, and sponsors—without whom we could not explore the many stories and perspectives of an evolving Canada. Thank you for supporting Confederation Centre of the Arts, a national historic site that celebrates Canada through visual and performing arts.

This past year has presented numerous challenges to be sure, but also a number of opportunities to progress in strategic planning and capital infrastructure. We have greatly improved our IT infrastructure and a number of facilities projects. We have moved forward on partnerships with diverse communities and taken action on Truth & Reconciliation. Reduced audience sizes did not prevent us from presenting dynamic concerts throughout the year, as well as arts education, dance, and heritage programming. We accelerated our move into video and new technology, and have now greatly increased our capacity to produce professional video.

We have a master plan for the future that includes all aspects of Confederation Centre's facilities and programs and we are looking forward to sharing those plans for feedback in the months ahead. We remain committed to our Strategic Plan and our three pillars of Artistic Excellence, Engaged Diverse Communities, and Organizational Sustainability.

We'd like to express our gratitude to the hundreds of artists, staff, patrons, donors, sponsors, and partners who bring Confederation Centre to life. We believe that through excellence in arts and heritage programming, we can help build understanding and shared knowledge about an evolving Canada.

Thank you, and see you soon!

STEVE BELLAMY Chief Executive Officer

**ROBERT SEAR** Chair, Board of Directors



9,340 visitations to the art gallery

\$141,629 individual donations

The support and philanthropic leadership of our community of supporters is foundational to

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CONFEDERATION CENTRE OF THE ARTS

all that we do at Confederation Centre of the Arts.

Your generosity provided opportunities for artists to find new ways to connect you to the arts, continue online arts education for children and youth, and provide accessible and free

arts programming.

As a supporter, you are vital to the success of all that we do and are part of an extraordinary community of philanthropists dedicated to making a meaningful impact in Prince Edward Island and across Canada through the arts.

Thank you for continuing to support Confederation Centre and for choosing to be an arts champion.

The 2020/21 season demonstrated the resilience of audience members, sponsors, volunteers, donors, and supporters through a year of many questions and few certainties. Your support helped us to quickly navigate programming from online to in-person in this ever-changing landscape and keep artists employed throughout it all.

921 individual donations made to the Centre

430 tickets refunded into donations 378 new members

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### Thankful for the continued support of our members...

### **2020-21 MEMBERS**

### **FOUNDERS' CIRCLE**

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\$5,000-\$9,999 Sarah & Steve Bellamy David Gauthier & Laurie Burdett

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**PARTNER** 

\$150-\$499

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In Memory of Eileen Berman

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Adam Brazier & Melissa Kramer

Valerie Bruce & Bruce Beaton

Brian Cameron

Lisa Carragher

In Memory of Ina Christie

Teresa & John Clarke Roland & Joan Coffill

Duncan & Linda Conrad

Blair Corkum & Sharlene Clark-Corkum

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Bethany Doyle

Rosalind Drewery

Joy Gallant

Richard & Judy Gallant Vicky Lynn Garland In Honour of Elizabeth

Rose Ellen Ghiz

Marla Gidney Richard Gotlib

Judie Goulden Bob Gray & Earlene MacKinnon-Gray

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Ben Versteeg

Christina Wysong

Jannah & Ian Toms

Kevin Yarr & Susan Brown Sharon & Dario Zannier

as of MARCH 31, 2021

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Feelin' Mighty Proud! | Official Broadcast Special Celebrating the Legacy of Anne of Green Gables

7,045 views - Premiered Oct 11, 2020













" For the first time in 23 straight years, my daughter Anne and I missed the musical at the Confederation Center this year. Tonight, Anne watched from Ottawa, I watched from here in Union Corner, PEI.

Thank you for this so that we could continue our tradition, even in this modified way! Loved it!

**—ERMA CAISSIE-RICHARD** 



47,000 total number of views

With your support, we pivoted quickly to develop and implement resources to move into the online digital space to a far greater degree than at any time in the Centre's history. This allowed us to expand our viewership globally, engage our artists with meaningful opportunities, and stay connected with our audiences.

## CENTRE'D on digital

Although the 2020 production of *Anne of Green Gables–The Musica*l™ was cancelled, viewers from across Canada were treated to Feelin' Mighty Proud, a one-hour broadcast special. The production engaged several local artists and featured more than a dozen company members from The Charlottetown festival, such as Aaron Hastelow, Michelle Bouey, and Emma Rudy as the title character. The show was recorded across P.E.I. and featured unique renditions of songs from the musical performed by Island musicians, including Lennie Gallant, Vishtèn, and Meaghan Blanchard on location in the iconic Green Gables Heritage Place in Cavendish. The broadcast also featured appearances from Amybeth McNulty and R.H. from Anne with an E (CBC), and musical cast alumni Gracie Finley and Glenda Landry.

521,410 total online viewership of digital programming

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The Symons Medal Lecture honoured Ambassador Bob Rae in its first virtual event, with people from across Canada, the United States, India, Brazil, and the United Kingdom. The virtual fireside chat welcomed students from across the country to an intimate discussion of Ambassador Rae's lecture: Learning from The Past, Imagining the Future: Reflections from a Political Life.

> **Total Number** of Views for **Symons Medal lecture:** 9,400



### 250,000 total number of views

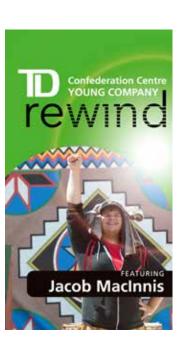
" We could not go to PEI like we used to every summer. Thanks Lennie for that wonderful song and your singing." — HAZEL VIENNEAU

Summer in Prince Edward Island was quiet and many of us were missing our friends and family from away. We were pleased to present Postcards from the Island, a weekly online series showcasing the rich depth of Prince Edward Island's creative pioneers, local artists, and quintessential locales. The series served as a love letter to the rest of the country saying: we wish you were here, but since you can't be, here's a taste of the Island.

The TD Young Company Rewind series kept the spirit of the stage alive with a digital series on Instagram with select group of alumni to share their fondest TD Confederation Centre Young Company memories, and subsequent successes.

- " I made my first drum, smudged with sage for the first time and attended my first powwow. I learned songs of Indigenous Peoples from across Canada and connected with the land. It was the best summer of my life."
- JACOB MCINNIS

215,600 total number of views





Despite numerous circuit breakers, your support helped us to complete in-person, full-year programming for all **dance umbrella** and visual arts classes. Thank you for ensuring children, youth, and adults had the ability to continue safely exploring creative expression.

300 students in dance

3,607
adults/children
engaged in
visual arts
programming

128
participants
in visual art
camps



The online video series *Art Class from Home*, designed and produced by our visual arts educator Evan Furness, was intended for families looking for tips on making art together, at home during the pandemic. This digital offering allowed us to reach over 1,000 online learners.

The Confederation Singers and the Confederation Centre Youth Chorus transitioned to an online format both for rehearsals and performance. The choirs worked effectively to produce a series of four videos in the tiled "Virtual Choir" format featuring 75 members from PEI, Nova Scotia, and New Mexico and over 1,800 people watching online.







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Your support enabled us to produce and present free multidisciplinary programming in our gallery and on our stages for all. We believe in community engagement and opening our doors for more people to experience and access the arts.

**Set** *in the Sun*, a free open-air concert series that featured local Artists highlighting a diverse cross-section of local talent, ranging from fiddle music to classical to folk, rock, and hip-hop.



**623** islanders engaged

12 island artists featured

Music filled the open air with the **Confederation Brass** as they continued the tradition of live outdoor concerts in a safely distanced manner on the front plaza of the Confederation Centre.

Despite restrictions, the Confederation Centre Art Gallery was able to remain open.

A drop-in series titled, *Meet the Makers* offered visitors to discuss concepts for works processes, materials, and techniques with the artists in-person and virtually titled *Creative Obsessions*.

Bilingual **Family Sundays** were offered in January, February, and March and featured free, hands-on art activities for families.





A total of six exhibitions took place in the free admission **art gallery** showcasing 46 artists both emerging and established.

Spheres, Skulls, and Other Icons of the Interior

Nelson White: Tukien (Awaken)

Give Me Shelter

Creative Obsessions: A Look at Contemporary Craft in Prince Edward Island

Gerard Clarkes: A Haunted Land

The Drive

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## GENITRE'D on community

### **Tuesday Night LIVE**

During the winter and spring, we were pleased to offer \$10 tickets to Tuesday Night LIVE performances in the Mainstage Theatre. These Tuesday night concerts featured Island folk mainstays such as Fiddlers' Sons, Cory Gallant, Logan Richard, Alicia Toner, Brandon Howard Roy, and Obembe.

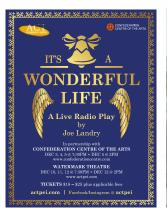
The series offered Island musicians an opportunity to perform during a year where work was hard to come by, and brought new and dynamic artists to the stage. The Centre partnered with local restaurants to encourage patrons to dine locally for a chance to win a gift card, and Capital Honda also provided gift cards for draws. The community partnerships and additional support from funders made this series a great success.

After more than a year since live theatre was presented on the Mainstage, the theatre raised its curtains for in-person shows. It was an emotional and exuberant feeling to bring back our audience members and donors back to our beautiful theatre. Tickets were only limited to 150 people to ensure a safe and entertaining experience for all.

Lovers' Lament: A Vaccine for Relationships, was an 80-minute cabaret performance with a hilarious and original take on Valentine's Day. Directed by Artistic Director Adam Brazier, the show featured stars of The Charlottetown Festival, including Aaron Hastelow, Emma Rudy, Michelle Bouey, Josée Boudreau, and Cam MacDuffee. It was the perfect remedy for the COVID winter blues.

During the month of December, we were pleased to partner with A Community Theatre (ACT) to present *It's a Wonderful Life* on our Mainstage.







Confederation Centre of the Arts and United Way collaborated on *United by Song*, a celebration of our community and a thank you to those who help make it a better place for everyone to live, work and play.

- "United Way of PEI would not have been able to shift our annual United by Song event to a video series this past year without the support, expertise, and talent of the Confederation Centre. Thanks to Confederation Centre of the Arts, our United by Song online series was able to showcase three incredible Islanders who shared their empowering personal stories. It also profiled three local artists who wrote and debuted poignant original songs inspired by the strength and resiliency of the storytellers, shining a light on the critical issues, diversity, possibility and talent found right here at home."
  - -ANDREA MACDONALD, CEO, United Way of PEI

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"During the summer of 2020, the hallways of the Confederation Centre were unusually quiet as the world was forced to press pause on all programming due to the pandemic. But that didn't stop the Young Company from finding new and creative ways to keep the spirit of the program alive, even if meeting in person wasn't possible. The Young Company decided to amplify the voices of the program's alumnae this time through a retrospective digital storytelling initiative called the TD Young Company Rewind series which kept the spirit of the stage alive."

—JENN AULD, VP TD Canada Trust - Atlantic Region.

\$306,226 invested through corporate and sponsorship investments

Sponsors, donors, volunteers, patrons and government funders rose to the occasion to assist Confederation Centre during a season of uncertainty and cancellations. As we reworked Centre programs, support from the entire community became vital to the Centre, allowing us to continue operating and make a meaningful impact on P.E.I. and across Canada through the arts.

Arts patrons tuned in digitally to take in performances from home and many donated the cost of tickets for cancelled shows. Donors and members stepped up their generosity and continued to support the Centre philanthropically. Sponsors stood by their commitments and either donated their dollars back or transferred their sponsorship to new activities. Funding partners at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels came forward with various programs to keep the Centre operating during an unstable financial year. We are so grateful for the support of the local, regional, and national communities who have helped Confederation Centre continue inspiring Canadians through the arts!

### **2020-21 SPONSORS**

**Confederation Players** 

Confed Centre Presents Title Sponsor

TD Rewind

**TD Ready Commitment** 

Feelin' Might Proud Production Sponsor

**CAA Atlantic** 

Set in the Sun Production Sponsor

Post Cards from the Island

**Production Sponsors:** 

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Live@The Centre

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**RBC Foundation** 

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& Development

Choral Music

Maritime Electric

Arts Education

**Hyndman & Company Limited BMO Financial Group** 

Official Suppliers

Office Interiors

Pepsi

### 2020-21 ARTWORK DONATIONS

Chris Tweel

Donnalee Downe Colleen Wolstenholme Landon MacKenzie Elizabeth Townsend Anna Karpinski Graeme Patterson Richard Corso Dianne Porter Catherine Miller Richard Furlong Jake Werner Chantal Laberge Robin Peck Alex Bobak

Lee Plested

### 2020-21 FUNDING PARTNERS

Government of Canada

Province of Prince Edward Island

City of Charlottetown

+ core and project based funding delivered through various programs and agencies.

### **2020-21 CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Complete audited financial statements of the Fathers of Confederation Buildings Trust for the year ended March 31, 2021 are available on the website

### CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (at March 31)

(in thousands of dollars)	2021	2020
ASSETS		
Cash	1,029	40
Accounts Receivable	2,460	800
Inventory and Prepaids	185	218
Capital Assets	34,777	34,407
	\$ 38,451	\$ 35,465
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES		
Bank Advances	2,593	2,988
Payables and Accruals	1,252	965
Deferred Revenue	829	624
Long Term Debt	37	51
Capital Fund	32,086	31,391
Culture Development Fund	500	_
Operating Fund	1,154	(554)
	\$ 38,451	\$ 35,465

### ANNUAL OPERATING REVENUE BY SOURCE (%)



### **CONDENSED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS** (for the year ended March 31)

2021	2020
185	4,009
329	1,710
641	1,845
106	252
8,865	5,281
1,500	211
\$ 11,626	\$ 13,308
3,314	7,518
340	1,419
217	253
3,810	3,491
1,043	1,174
\$ 8,724	\$ 13,855
\$ 2,902	\$ (547)
2,707	21
195	(568)
\$ 2,902	\$ (547)
	185 329 641 106 8,865 1,500 \$ 11,626 3,314 340 217 3,810 1,043 \$ 8,724 \$ 2,902

Programming activity was very limited due to the pandemic, which affected the sources of operating revenue. We are grateful for the additional government support that enabled the Centre to continue to operate.

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confederationcentre.com



