

# Arts Commons

P R E S E N T S

#2



A circus performance that you'll 'flip' over *p.3* / Vintage jazz with a twist *p.9* / Meet the United Nations of bands – Pink Martini *p.15* / Three guys, a van, and a B3 organ *p.19*

# For 34 years, **Arts Commons** has been a key contributor to the social, economic, cultural, and intellectual life and well-being of Calgarians and visitors.

The existing facility has been enormously successful, but it is aging and we do not have sufficient space to serve the needs of our community. The Arts Commons Transformation (ACT) project will address these issues and more.

ACT will create jobs, generating millions in labour income, add tax revenues to The City of Calgary

for the benefit of our community, and increase Calgary's GDP, improving our overall economy. ACT also creates a business model that ensures the financial sustainability of Arts Commons and its resident companies.

ACT can be made possible through a dynamic partnership between all three levels of government.

**3,155<sup>[1]</sup>**  
jobs will be  
created in Calgary

*Attracting talent  
and jobs to our  
community*



**\$239M<sup>[1]</sup>**  
labour income

*Earnings of employees  
of companies providing  
goods and services  
to realize ACT*



**\$386M<sup>[1]</sup>**  
added to Calgary's  
GDP

*Goods produced  
and services  
provided during  
construction*



**\$11M<sup>[1]</sup>**  
collected by  
The City of Calgary

*Contributions to  
government revenues  
(taxes) as a direct  
result of ACT*



**#ACT  
NOW**



[1] Economic Contribution Analysis, Deloitte, 2019

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Calgary Philharmonics  
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ACTNOW**

# 2019-20 SEASON AT A GLANCE



## DEC

PCL BLUES

**Alvin**

**“Youngblood” Hart**

Dec 6 & 7, 2019

## JAN

PCL BLUES

**Todd Albright**

Jan 17 & 18, 2020

BD&P WORLD STAGE

**Cirque Flip Fabrique:**

**BLIZZARD**

Jan 21, 2020

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE

**Zoltan Takacs:**

**Deadliest Lifesavers**

Jan 26 & 27, 2020

## FEB

TD JAZZ

**The Hot Sardines**

Feb 7, 2020

CLASSIC ALBUMS LIVE

**Tom Petty – Damn**

**the Torpedoes**

Feb 20, 2020

CABARET

**We Gon Be Alright**

Feb 21 & 22, 2020

BD&P WORLD STAGE

**We Shall Overcome:  
A Celebration of Dr.  
Martin Luther King Jr.**

Feb 27, 2020

PCL BLUES

**Delvon Lamarr**

**Organ Trio**

Feb 28 & 29, 2020

## MAR

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE

**Joel Sartore:**

**Building the  
Photo Ark**

Mar 15 & 16, 2020

TD JAZZ

**Jazzmeia Horn**

Mar 26, 2020

CABARET

**Love Notes**

Mar 27 & 28, 2020



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Visual and media arts  
exhibitions run in our  
galleries all year long.

Learn more at

[artsccommons.ca  
/visualarts](https://artsccommons.ca/visualarts)

2020



Arts Commons  
Presents



## APR

BD&P WORLD STAGE  
**La Santa Cecilia**  
Apr 2, 2020

SPECIAL PRESENTATION  
**Pink Martini**  
Apr 16, 2020

CABARET  
**Tim Tamashiro's  
Drinky Jazz Cabaret:  
Jazz Cigarette**  
Apr 17 & 18, 2020

TD JAZZ  
**Maria Schneider  
Orchestra**  
Apr 23, 2020

PCL BLUES  
**Tim Williams,  
Madagascar Slim,  
and Cassius Khan:  
Conversations  
in Blue**  
Apr 24 & 25, 2020

## MAY

CLASSIC ALBUMS LIVE  
**The Beatles – Sgt.  
Pepper's Lonely  
Hearts Club Band**  
May 1, 2020

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE  
**Kara Cooney:  
When Women  
Ruled the World**  
May 3 & 4, 2020

SPECIAL PRESENTATION  
**Itty Bitty Arts Days:  
Alberta, The Land and  
The Animals**  
May 22 & 23, 2020

## JUN

CABARET  
**Tim Tamashiro's  
Drinky Jazz Cabaret:  
Ladies Be Good**  
June 5 & 6, 2020

CABARET  
**Sissy Fit:  
A Queer Cabaret**  
June 24 & 25, 2020

### JOIN US IN JUNE!

This June, we host  
free, all-ages events  
in recognition of  
National Indigenous  
History month  
**See p.34 for more  
information**



**Buy early for the best  
seats at the best price!**

 **BY PHONE:**  
403-294-9494

 **ONLINE:**  
[artscommons.ca](http://artscommons.ca)

 **IN PERSON AT  
OUR BOX OFFICE:**  
225 8th Avenue SE  
Mon-Sat: 10am-6pm  
Sun & Statutory  
Holidays: Closed

# ON THE STAGE

# OUR COMMUNITY

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Vintage jazz has a hot new name – The Hot Sardines. Upbeat, fun, and contemporary, these toe-tapping jazz cats are ready to party. [Learn more on pg.9](#)



## Arts Commons Presents

### PUBLISHED BY

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## Get your tickets today!

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**225 8th Avenue SE**  
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Holidays: Closed**

WELCOME

Arts Commons  
Presents



## We can't wait to show you what's in store!

The power of the arts excites and entices, inspires and engages. It's the music you love, the performances that move you, and the moments that make you laugh and smile. As we move into the New Year, we can't wait to show you what's in store.

Our BD&P World Stage series brings you Cirque Flip Fabrique, a brand new acrobatic performance – BLIZZARD as well as a multimedia celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. featuring Jazz at Lincoln Centre's Damien Sneed. TD Jazz has a party waiting for you with The Hot Sardines, and our PCL Blues series has everything from slide guitar masters, to an incredible trio featuring our Hammond B3 Organ.

Don't take our word for it! Join us for Classic Albums Live and see for yourself how they flawlessly recreate Tom Petty's *Damn the Torpedoes*, and The Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*, note for note, cut for cut. Our new (did we mention free?) Amplify Cabarets focus on inclusivity and diversity through artistic expression, comedy, and commentary. There's always something going on at Arts Commons.

But honestly, you don't need a ticket to see something extraordinary at

Arts Commons. After a successful pilot year, we're excited to kick off the RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program at Arts Commons, which will elevate local artists through mentorship, workshops, and public exhibitions in our galleries. They're bolstered by national and international artists showcased in our +15 Soundscape and Broadcast Lab galleries. This year we'll support more than 75 artists in our spaces – all paid for their work and time.

Our vision for a creative and compassionate society, inspired through the arts, carries over into our community engagement programs and education initiatives, which fill our theatres and hallways year-round, engaging more than 10,000 students and teachers, hundreds of local performers, and thousands of audience members at free events. We are proud to partner with outstanding community organizations like Action Dignity and the Philippines Festival Council of Alberta on projects that encourage empathy, inclusion, and connection like *Our Canada, Our Story* and the Youth Empowerment Program. Organizations like CADME, which allow us to connect music students directly with working professionals like GRAMMY

award-winning jazz conductor and musician Maria Schneider.

And there will be more room to grow! We're now moving forward with the Arts Commons Transformation project (ACT), which will see the construction of the Road House – increasing the number of venues and spaces available – and revitalizing the current building.

Arts Commons continues to tell the stories of our community members. There is an appetite in this city to explore the world around us, and in the process, form unbreakable connections between Calgarians – through multiple art forms.

We can't wait to share another season in your company!

Jennifer Johnson,  
Director, Programming

# 2019-20 SEASON



BD&P



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What will show up in your feed this year?



BD&P

# WORLD STAGE

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# Cirque Flip Fabrique: BLIZZARD

**TUES, JANUARY 21, 2020**

Cirque Flip Fabrique was founded by a group of friends in Quebec at the peak of their circus game, and that friendship shows in every facet of the show. Using high-flying acrobatics, a gorgeous snowy set, and a sprinkling of humour, this tight-knit group must survive a winter storm using their unique skills and specialities.

Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Lobby pre-show 6:30pm / Concert 7:30pm  
Tickets start at \$39



**FLIP FABRIQUE BRINGS ALL THE MAGIC OF A SNOW DAY TO YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE.**

~Anna Rieser, Edinburgh Festival Magazine



### **A Message from Cirque Flip Fabrique Founder, Bruno Gagnon**

*Flip Fabrique is the story of each one of us. A story of long-time friends, who were dreaming of a collective project that would draw the people in; a project of circus that suspends time, feeds our imagination, and moves us by its beauty.*

*A circus that displays the colors of its people inspired by those near and dear to us; a circus where we can be audacious, and express ourselves freely through unadulterated fun, high spirits, and joy.*



**MOMENTS LIKE THESE ARE WHEN CIRCUS TURNS INTO BALLET, WITH THE SHEER BEAUTY OF THE EXQUISITE MOVES, SEEMINGLY EFFORTLESS, THOUGH WE KNOW IT IS DANGEROUS AND REQUIRES GREAT STRENGTH AND TRUST BETWEEN THE ARTISTS.**

~Stephanie Green, Broadway Baby



# We Shall Overcome: A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**THURS, FEBRUARY 27, 2020**

The words and actions of Dr. King continue to electrify generations of civil rights activists and defenders. Musical Director Damien Sneed, known for his work with Aretha Franklin, bottles that energy, and unleashes it on-stage through a living lineage of music and culture, including gospel, jazz, and Broadway. Songs from storied artists like Billie Holiday, Stevie Wonder, and Nina Simone are interwoven with spoken word from Dr. King's recorded speeches.

**Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall**  
/ Lobby pre-show 6:30pm  
/ Concert 7:30pm  
**Tickets starting at \$39**

“

**HATE CANNOT  
DRIVE OUT HATE;  
ONLY LOVE CAN  
DO THAT.**

~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Black History Month  
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# La Santa Cecilia

**THURS, APRIL 2, 2020**

A modern-day hybrid of Latin culture, rock, and world music, La Santa Cecilia draws inspiration from all over the world, including jazz, tango, bossa-nova, and klezmer music. Leaning into their Latin American and Mexican heritage, the group won a GRAMMY for Best Latin Rock Album in 2014 and have earned nominations for their last two albums.

Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Lobby pre-show 6:30pm / Concert 7:30pm  
Tickets starting at \$39

*Experience  
something new  
this season!*

Arts Commons  
**FOUNDERS  
CIRCLE**

“

**[FOUNDERS CIRCLE  
ALLOWS ME] TO BE  
PART OF A ‘FAMILY’ OF  
LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE  
PASSIONATE ABOUT  
THE ARTS.**

~Bob & Sue Benzen,  
Founders—Platinum Tier

**Becoming a  
member of  
Founders Circle  
is one of the most  
rewarding ways  
to support  
Arts Commons.**

Arts Commons is more than just a building! It's an inspirational gathering place where creativity is expressed daily in immersive and engaging ways. This includes Arts Commons Presents: BD&P World Stage, PCL Blues, TD Jazz, Classic Albums Live, and the distinguished speaker series *National Geographic Live*, among other special presentations.

By becoming a member of Founders Circle, you help to grow our ability to share the transformative power of the arts with many more in our community. You also enhance your own experience by participating in unique and exceptional opportunities that bring you closer to the creative people who make it all happen through a series of exclusive Founders Circle Events.

“

**BEING A MEMBER  
CEMENTS COMMUNITY  
SPIRIT AND SUPPORT  
OF THE INTEGRAL  
ARTS COMMUNITY.**

~Darrel Winter,  
Founder—Friend

Founders Circle is made possible  
with the generous support of

**GREAT EVENTS**  
CATERING





**Ticket sales, venue rentals and other income only cover 65% of Arts Commons' annual 12 million dollar operating budget, leaving a 4.2 million dollar fundraising gap. By joining Founders Circle, you help us deliver excellence on stage and behind the scenes: in our many programs for children, teachers and aspiring artists, for resident companies and underserved communities. Your gifts of membership are vital to our mission and collective success, making world-class arts and culture experiences accessible to all Calgarians!**

**Join  
our Circle!  
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..... GET YOUR TICKETS YODAY! 403-294-9494 / ARTSCOMMONS.CA/JAZZ .....



# Jazz



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### What's in a name?

*Elizabeth Bougerol and Evan Palazzo have been asked numerous times where the catchy name of their band came from. Would you guess...the grocery store?*

*"We just wanted to play this music for fun...We just needed a band name to put on the sheet," says Bougerol. "The jazz we were really digging into was sort of from the '20s and it was known as hot jazz. So, we wanted 'hot' in the name. And then I literally saw a tin of sardines in hot sauce at the supermarket, and I said to Evan, 'What do you think?' And he was like, 'Sounds good to me.'"*

*They weren't sure the name would stick, but when they did their first performance, people caught onto the name right away, for its irreverence and humour. Bougerol says, "Everything in our DNA is about connecting with the audience," so even if they could have changed the name, they realized then that it was the perfect fit.*

*Since those early days they haven't looked back, performing their distinct style of vintage jazz with a twist. The ensemble's original songs have even topped the charts next to artists like Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga. See them live at the Jack Singer Concert Hall. **Hurry! Tickets are going fast!***

# The Hot Sardines

**FRI, FEBRUARY 7, 2020**

Hungry? Fueled by the belief that classic jazz feeds the heart and soul, The Hot Sardines have become the charming front-runners of vintage jazz. With album names like French Fries and Champagne, they combine covers and originals to effortlessly channel New York speakeasies, Parisian cabarets, and New Orleans jazz halls.

They're not performing museum pieces – The Hot Sardines are here to party.

**Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Lobby pre-show 6:30pm / Concert 7:30pm  
Tickets start at \$39**



# Jazzmeia Horn

THURS, MARCH 26, 2020

A shooting star in the jazz world, Horn spent the last few years earning jazz vocalist awards left, right, and centre.

Maybe you picked up her GRAMMY-nominated 2018 album *A Social Call*, or caught her fluid vocals and sensational scat-singing at the 60th GRAMMY Awards Ceremony – or maybe you'll be hearing her for the first time when she performs at the Jack Singer Concert Hall, in which case, *lucky you!*

Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Lobby pre-show 6:30pm  
/ Concert 7:30pm  
Tickets start at \$39

# Maria Schneider Orchestra

THURS, APRIL 23, 2020

Maria Schneider is among the small club of musicians to win GRAMMY Awards in multiple genres, including jazz and classical, as well as for her work with David Bowie.

Her music is described as evocative, majestic, magical, heart-stoppingly gorgeous, and beyond categorization. The 18 members of the Maria Schneider Orchestra will fill every corner, crevice, and eardrum in the Jack Singer Concert Hall with a fearless sound.

Maria Schneider Orchestra is presented in partnership with CADME.

Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Lobby pre-show 6:30pm / Concert 7:30pm  
Tickets start at \$39

“

MARIA  
SCHNEIDER  
IS A NATIONAL  
TREASURE.

~NPR

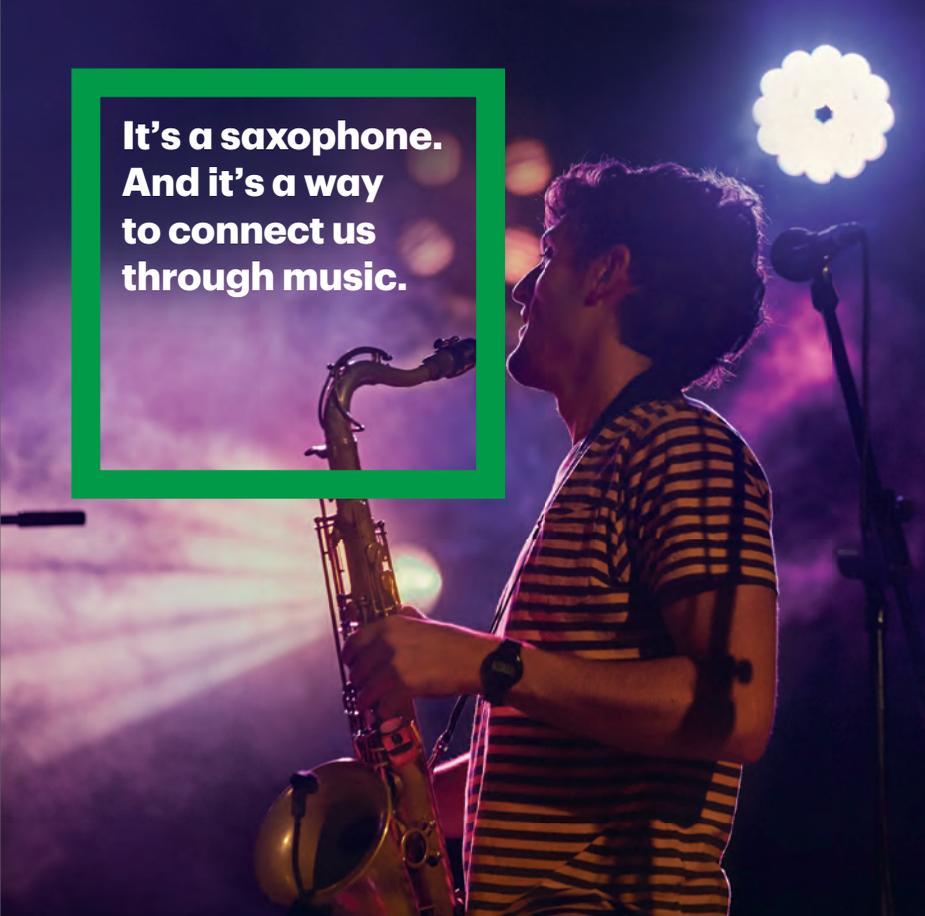


## Helping to Create Well-Rounded Citizens

Supporting youth and education is a vital part of ConocoPhillips' contribution to communities where we operate, for today and for the future. That's why we support Arts Commons' efforts to bring arts and culture to students and teachers.

[www.conocophillips.ca](http://www.conocophillips.ca)

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**THE  
READY  
COMMITMENT**



## CABARETS

# Tim Tamashiro's Drinky Jazz Cabarets

If you haven't checked out one of Tim Tamashiro's Drinky Jazz Cabarets, you're missing out on a night of casual music, engaging stories, and a host who cheerfully refers to himself as a jazz evangelist.

"These shows focus on the cabaret tradition, stories woven together with song," says Tim Tamashiro, creator of the Drinky Jazz Cabaret. "And part of what is so unique about them is the casual, cabaret format, with some of Calgary's best jazz musicians."

Avid musician and jazz historian, Tim Tamashiro hosted CBC's Tonic for 10 years and now shares his vast knowledge of jazz and music culture with audiences through these intimate cabaret performances.

"*Jazz Cigarette* is our second cabaret of the season. It's a collection of stories and songs about jazz and weed," says Tamashiro with a sly wink. "There's a collection of these songs inspired by marijuana, and they're actually quite funny. I wanted to give that period in history a bit of a spotlight and talk about how it got us to where we are today – both culturally and musically."



Not only did jazz musicians popularize cannabis across North America, it also gave rise to well-known songs like *Reefer Man* by Cab Calloway, *Texas Tea Party* by Benny Goodman and his orchestra, and *That Cat is High* by The Ink Spots.

**Join Tim Tamashiro as Arts Commons Presents brings you *Jazz Cigarette* in the Engineered Air Theatre, April 17 & 18, 2020. Tickets start at \$39**

*Also coming up this season!*

**Tim Tamashiro's Drinky Jazz Cabaret: *Ladies Be Good*  
FRI/SAT, JUNE 5 & 6, 2020**

SPECIAL  
PRESENTATIONS

# Pink Martini

THURS, APRIL 16, 2020

The United Nations of bands, Pink Martini features a dozen musicians with songs performed in 25 different languages. They draw inspiration from Latin music, jazz, cabaret, and even film scores for a sound that defies categorization.

Lauded and applauded around the world for the past 25 years, Pink Martini started out as a house band for parties helping with progressive causes like affordable housing, public broadcasting, libraries, music education, and the environment. The first concert they ever played together happened quite by accident when the band that pianist Thomas Lauderdale had hoped to line-up for a fundraising concert didn't show. So he threw on a cocktail dress, grabbed a bass player, bongo player, and singer, and took the stage as Pink Martini. That was in 1994, and they've been going strong since, playing fun, upbeat music for people who want to have fun and expanding their membership from four people to twelve!

About performing in Canada, Thomas says, "Our time in Canada has always been great because the audiences are totally boisterous and on fire. It's like America but more earnest and less self-conscious."

Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Lobby pre-show 6:30pm / Concert 7:30pm  
Tickets start at \$39

“

**AN INTERNATIONAL  
PHENOMENON.**

~The Telegram



“

**AN UPLIFTING, ENERGIZING SHOW,  
ONE THAT TOOK THE AUDIENCE  
THROUGH TIME AND SPACE, LEAVING  
THEM DIZZILY HAPPY AND DANCING.**

~The Telegram

Perfect for  
ages 0-6



# Itty Bitty Arts Days: Alberta, The Land and The Animals

**FRI/SAT, MAY 22 & 23, 2020**

Join Arts Commons for a fun and interactive event for babies, toddlers, young children and their grown-ups to celebrate all that makes our home – home! The land that we share with all the animals has been here for a long time, and this art-party for the very young looks to our Indigenous neighbours to share the stories – both old and new – that help us explore the ways we can all work together.

*Itty Bitty Arts Days: Alberta, The Land and The Animals* provides everything you need to play, learn, and explore together, all you need to do is bring your curiosity!

**Arts Commons, Engineered Air Theatre  
9:30am & 1:30pm  
Tickets \$15**



GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY! 403-294-9494 / ARTSCOMMONS.CA/PINKMARTINI



# BLUES

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# Alvin "Youngblood" Hart

**FRI/SAT, DECEMBER 6 & 7, 2019**

A real musician's musician, the country blues of Alvin 'Youngblood' Hart has been praised by luminaries like Bob Dylan and Eric Clapton. Hart has released five diverse albums and a treasure trove of side projects, becoming known for his 'no barriers' approach to music.

Arts Commons, Engineered Air Theatre  
/ Concert 8pm  
Tickets start at \$46



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AND IMPORTANT  
PRACTITIONERS OF THE  
COUNTRY BLUES.**

~The Country Blues



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# Todd Albright

**FRI/SAT,  
JANUARY 17 & 18, 2020**

Grounded in the pre-war era of blues, Todd Albright picks his twelve-string guitar in the tradition of those who created the genre. Between vigorous and gritty sets, he often takes a breath to tell stories of the masters, adding to the meaning of the music and the moment.

With a 25-year history of playing the blues, Albright is a key part of the history his music evokes.

**Arts Commons, Engineered  
Air Theatre / Concert 8pm  
Tickets start at \$46**

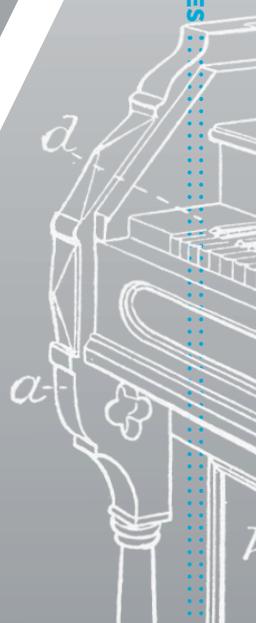


# Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio

**FRI/SAT, FEBRUARY 28 & 29, 2020**

With an infectious blend of soul, jazz, and rhythm & blues, the Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio oozes chemistry on stage. The Seattle based trio – Lamarr on B-3 organ, Jimmy James on guitar, and Doug Octa Port on drums – evoke a classic instrumental sound with a sensibility all their own.

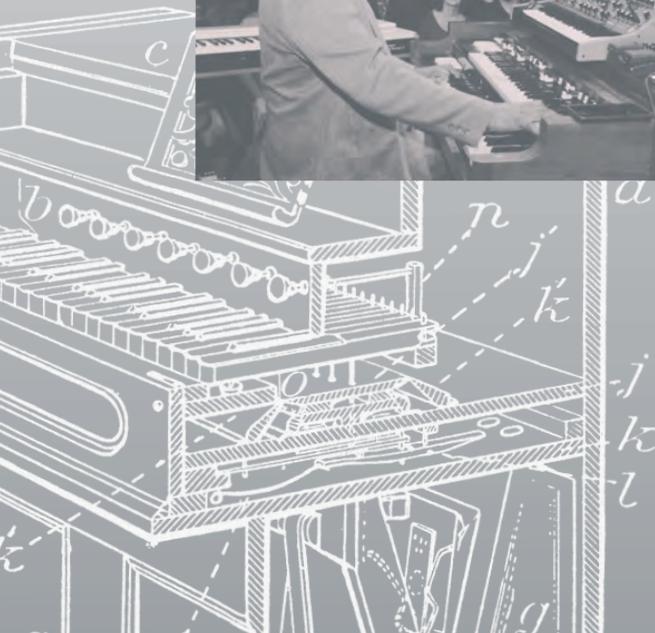
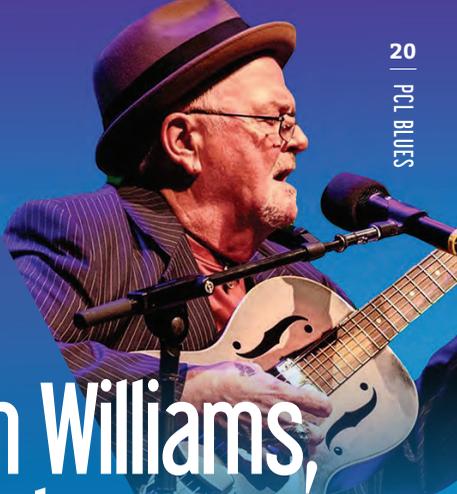
**Arts Commons, Engineered Air Theatre  
/ Concert 8pm  
Tickets start at \$46**



.....  
**Three guys, a van, and a B3 organ**  
 .....

*If you were to say to Delvon Lamarr that the organ is an outdated instrument, he would tell you, "You're sadly mistaken. The thing about the organ is that it's in a lot of music you listen to, you just don't realize it. A lot of cats use digital keyboards to recreate it, but the sound it just about everywhere. I love the sound and the personality of it. It's a very expressive instrument. You can make it sound like pretty much whatever you want it to sound like."*

*Performing with an organ isn't easy though. Unlike a guitar or keyboard, you can't take it on a plane. This means that Delvon is very used to driving to gigs – all over the continental United States. "We've pretty much been in every single State in the United States of America as well as Montreal, Vancouver, Victoria, Toronto...and this is our first time in Calgary."*

# Tim Williams, Madagascar Slim, and Cassius Khan: Conversations in Blue

**FRI/SAT, APRIL 24 & 25, 2020**

Calgary's own local blues legend, Tim Williams is a 40-year veteran of the roots music scene across North America. Williams has played festivals, folk clubs, concert halls, and roadhouses from Morocco to Australia, and through the Yukon and Mexico.

The hometown hero has been inducted to the Hall of Fame by the Calgary Blues Music Association, won the 2017 YYC Music Award for Blues Recording of the Year, and earned five Betty Mitchell Awards for composition and musical direction in theatre.

He's also won the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, and earned a string of Maple Blues Award nominations.

**Arts Commons, Engineered Air Theatre  
/ Concert 8pm  
Tickets start at \$46**

# CLASSIC ALBUMS LIVE

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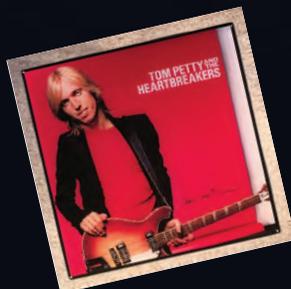


# Tom Petty -Damn The Torpedoes

THURS, FEBRUARY 20, 2020

Backed into a corner by a bad deal with a big record label, Petty actually threatened to shelve his third album with the Heartbreakers. Lucky for us, the label settled and Damn the Torpedoes was released in 1979, eventually selling triple-platinum. Rolling Stone declared it the Tom Petty album “we’ve all been waiting for.” The album sat at number two on the Billboard albums chart for seven weeks, cementing it as one of the great records of the album rock era.

Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Concert 7:30pm  
Tickets start at \$39



# The Beatles

## -Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band

FRI, MAY 1, 2020

A masterpiece that pushed recording technology to the limit, The Beatles eighth studio album was also a ground breaking concept album. The fictional Sgt. Pepper band became their alter ego and gave them the freedom to experiment musically, resulting in the number one position in Rolling Stone's list of the 500 Greatest Albums of All Time. Lean into *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds* after the band gets by *With a Little Help From My Friends* in the four-time GRAMMY-winning album that helped The Beatles define rock music as art.

Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Concert 7:30pm  
Tickets start at \$39



BOOK  
YOUR EVENT



## The perfect venue for your perfect event

When you stand on a stage at Arts Commons, you're standing in the same place where rock musicians, world class actors, National Geographic Explorers, comedians, and even opera singers have stood. In this same space, your event could be transformed and come to life with the help of Arts Commons.

Shandra Reynard, event coordinator with the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation, chose the Jack Singer Concert Hall to host CRESCENDO, a concert and fundraiser in support of the Centre for Child and Adolescent Mental Health being built in Calgary.

"The Jack Singer provided both the production values like the choir loft and exceptional acoustics and the guest experience in the lobby and the concert hall that were required for this signature event," she said.

"We had a really great experience working with Arts Commons staff. From the Booking team to the Front of House staff to the Production Manager and team, everyone went above and beyond in answering our many questions and making everything run smoothly on event day! Our production crew said that Arts Commons was one of the best experiences they've ever had with a venue in any city."

With more than 25 years of experience in the business of service and event planning, we have a proven reputation for providing our clients with one-of-a-kind events and exceptional service. Whether it's taking centre stage on your wedding day, or infusing your business reception with creativity, we have the right team and the right space for 18 - 1,800 people.

Learn more at [artscommons.ca/hostyourevent](https://artscommons.ca/hostyourevent)

*Opposite: The Timeraiser 150 event in the Jack Singer Lobby / Right: The Jack Singer Concert Hall stage during the Alberta Children's Hospital fundraiser: CRESCENDO*



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# Zoltan Takacs: Deadliest Lifesavers

**SUN/MON JANUARY 26 & 27, 2020**

Biomedical scientist and inventor Zoltan Takacs collects snake, scorpion, jellyfish, and other venoms from around the world. Back in the lab, using cutting-edge genomics, he creates combinatorial venom libraries to identify leads for novel medicines.

Driven by his childhood passion, he's travelled to 155 countries and become an aircraft pilot, scuba diver, and real-life survivor, roughing it in a hammock deep in the Amazon or in remote Pacific islands. He's survived charging elephants, pirated waters, a series of snake bites, and venom spit in his face (all his fault he admits). Now he's allergic to both snake venom and anti-venom.

**Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Sunday 2pm / Monday 7pm  
Tickets start at \$32**



### Seeking out lifesaving toxins

National Geographic Explorer and viper enthusiast Zoltan Takacs grew up in Hungary and developed a fascination with snakes, keeping and breeding them through his youth. Now, as an adult, he seeks them out around the world, but for a more global and noble reason.

*“Animal venoms haven been evolving for hundreds of millions of years to immobilize and kill,” says Zoltan. “But what makes these toxins so powerfully lethal, also can be used to make life saving medications.”*

By taking blood samples from a variety of venomous animals, Zoltan can build a diverse library, and from that library he can isolate the genetic blueprint for every single toxin. Venomous animals like rattlesnakes are immune to their own venom, and it’s in that immunity that could be the key to a lifesaving medication for a human illness. Currently, two of the most commonly prescribed medications used to treat heart attacks are derived from snake venom.

*“Animal toxins are excellent templates to design new medications,” says Zoltan. “Animal toxins have evolved to latch on to the receptors of their victims’ cells.*

*It is the precise nature of this ability that makes them so useful in pharmaceuticals. “It’s like a key would fit into a lock.”*

*This is where Zoltan’s passion for conservation comes in. Many of these toxic and venomous animals, particularly in the more unexplored parts of our planet, have never been studied let alone sampled. “If you let this natural beauty to be erased,” Takacs told the crowd, “we’re going to be erasing future potential medications.”*

*Learn more about Zoltan Takacs’ fascinating work as a herpetologist and toxicologist with National Geographic Live: Deadliest Lifesavers – January 26 & 27, 2020 at the Jack Singer Concert Hall.*



© Joel Sartore

# Joel Sartore:

## Building the Photo Ark

**SUN/MON**  
**MARCH 15 & 16, 2020**

National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore is on a mission to capture portraits of the world's species before they disappear. With ingenuity, wit, and a serious Midwestern work ethic, Sartore has created the Photo Ark Project, the largest archive of its kind with more than 9,000 images and counting. Hear about his comical mishaps, endearing encounters, and personal stories while documenting a world worth saving.

Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Sunday 2pm / Monday 7pm  
Tickets start at \$32

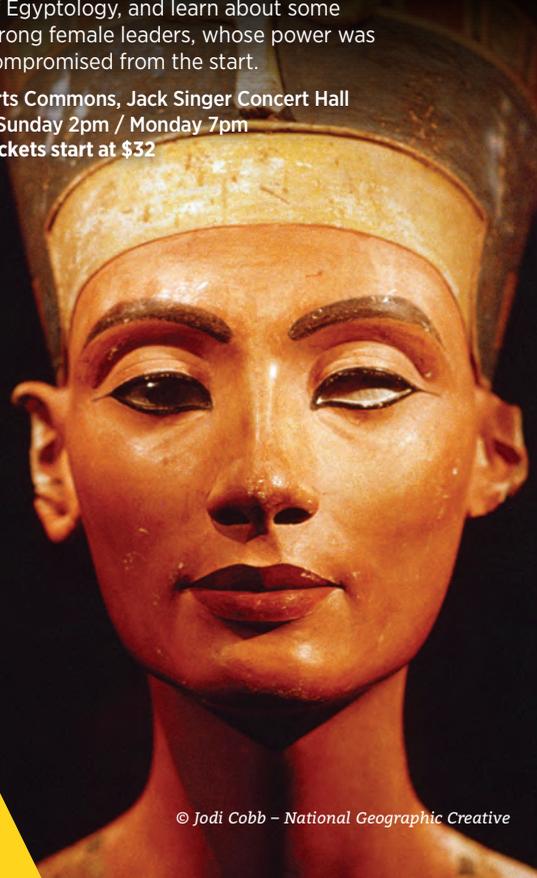
# Kara Cooney:

## When Women Ruled the World

**SUN/MON**  
**MAY 3 & 4, 2020**

Throughout history, powerful women have been called many things—witches, regents, and seductresses. But there was a time in the ancient world when at least one was called “King.” Join Dr. Kara Cooney, professor of Egyptology, and learn about some strong female leaders, whose power was compromised from the start.

Arts Commons, Jack Singer Concert Hall  
/ Sunday 2pm / Monday 7pm  
Tickets start at \$32



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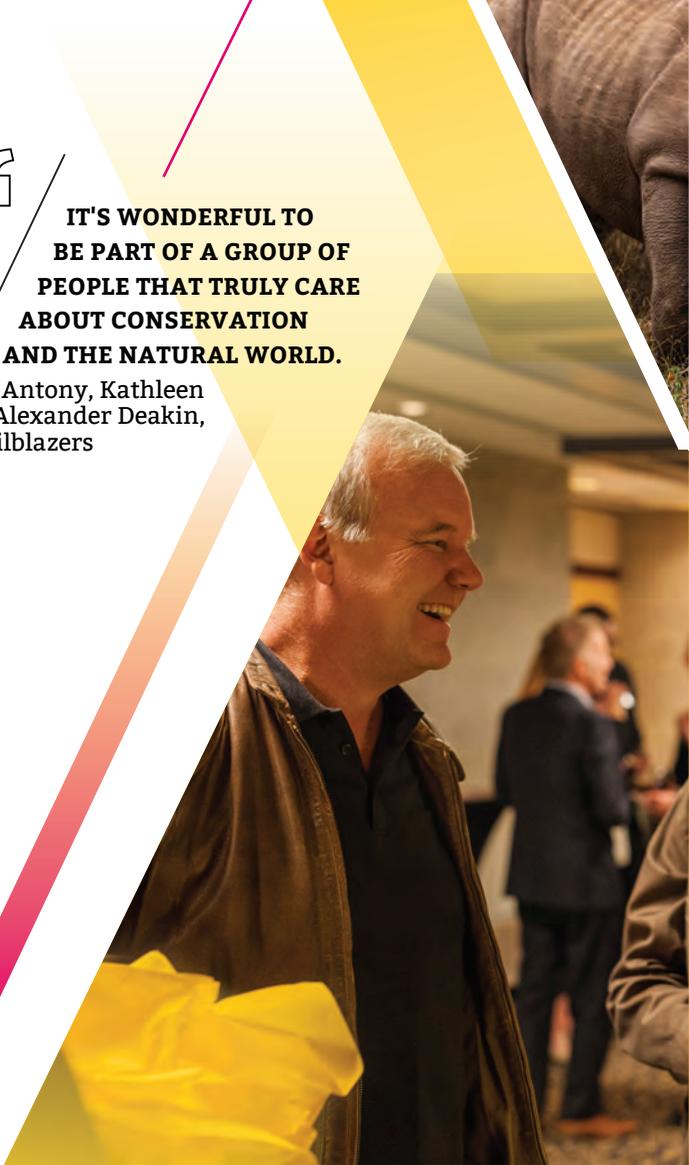
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BE PART OF A GROUP OF  
PEOPLE THAT TRULY CARE  
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AND THE NATURAL WORLD.**

~Antony, Kathleen  
& Alexander Deakin,  
Trailblazers

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Join Explorers Circle today and become a partner in National Geographic's important work of empowering the world's most innovative scientists and Explorers to inspire, illuminate, and teach.

As a Member of Explorers Circle, you'll have the privilege of meeting National Geographic's remarkable storytellers while they are visiting us at Arts Commons. You'll also help support Arts Commons public and student matinee presentations of *National Geographic Live*, engagements that inspire thousands of Calgarians (including over 8,500 students), and contribute to National Geographic's work in conservation, exploration, research, and education.



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“

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~Lloyd & Riona Freeman,  
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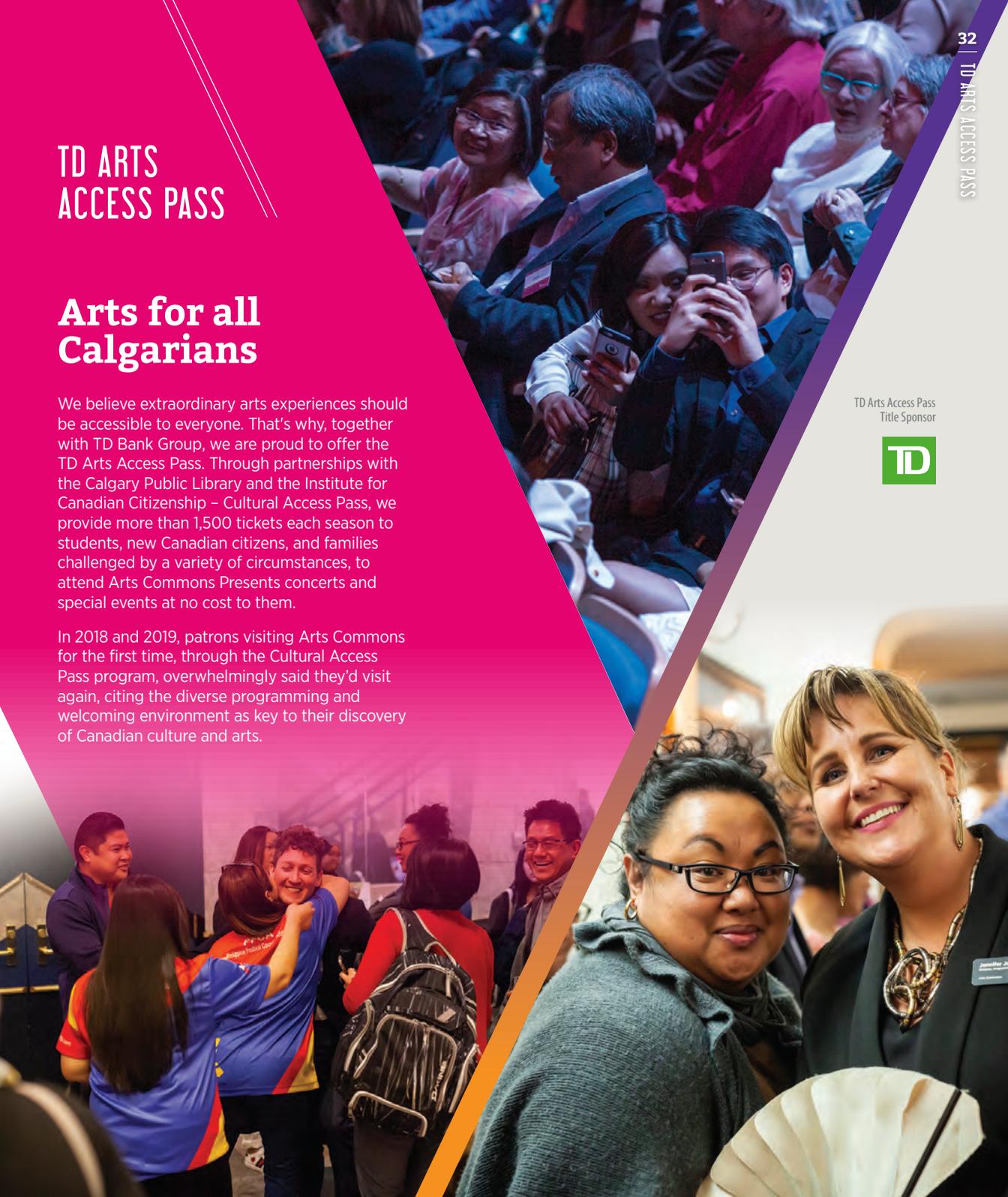
## TD ARTS ACCESS PASS

### Arts for all Calgarians

We believe extraordinary arts experiences should be accessible to everyone. That's why, together with TD Bank Group, we are proud to offer the TD Arts Access Pass. Through partnerships with the Calgary Public Library and the Institute for Canadian Citizenship – Cultural Access Pass, we provide more than 1,500 tickets each season to students, new Canadian citizens, and families challenged by a variety of circumstances, to attend Arts Commons Presents concerts and special events at no cost to them.

In 2018 and 2019, patrons visiting Arts Commons for the first time, through the Cultural Access Pass program, overwhelmingly said they'd visit again, citing the diverse programming and welcoming environment as key to their discovery of Canadian culture and arts.

TD Arts Access Pass  
Title Sponsor



## CABARETS

# Amplify Cabarets

Arts Commons' Amplify Cabaret series is an opportunity for Calgarians to celebrate a groundswell of artistic talent from outside the 'mainstream' in a comfortable setting.

**Get on the guest list today -  
RSVP at [artscommons.ca/cabarets](https://artscommons.ca/cabarets)**

Arts Commons, Engineered Air Theatre  
/ Show 8pm

## We Gon Be Alright

**FRI/SAT FEBRUARY 21 & 22, 2020**

The margins of the Black community move to the front and centre as performers highlight the resilience of Black women and Queer Black folks in tumultuous and uncertain times.

Black History Month  
Supporting Sponsor



## Love Notes

**FRI/SAT MARCH 27 & 28, 2020**

Poets flirt with painters, dancers, and musicians, creating a love note to Calgary and sharing it with the universe and beyond.

## SISSY FIT: A Queer Cabaret

**WED/THURS JUNE 24 & 25, 2020**

The future is queer! Sissy Fit honours the future of pride and the power of queer imagination. Join Sissy and their band of wickedly queer companions in an all-inclusive celebration of radical performances.

**FREE!**

# Community Events

## Our Canada, Our Story

**SAT, FEBRUARY 1, 2020**

Our Canada, Our Story weaves together the narratives of Calgarians deeply impacted by racism. The production is a daring, honest study in resilience. At times surreal, at times difficult, a cast of both youthful and seasoned storytellers conjures an alchemizing magic: dramatized accounts of real life events transform pain into action, adversity into self-awareness.

**Arts Commons, Martha Cohen Theatre  
/ Show 2pm & 7:30pm**

## National Indigenous Peoples Celebrations

**THURS, JUNE 18, 2020**

A free, all-ages, celebration of Indigenous culture in support of Canada's National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21 and National Indigenous History Month (June). Families are encouraged to join the free drop-in sessions at any time to learn and take part in different Indigenous songs and dances, while the Mini Pow Wow is a great first-look into the rich Pow Wow scene occurring here in Mohkinstsis – the traditional name for Calgary – and across North America. We hope that these events spark an interest and desire for families to celebrate Indigenous Culture year-round.

**Arts Commons, Various times**

## The Youth Empowerment Program

**MONTHLY**

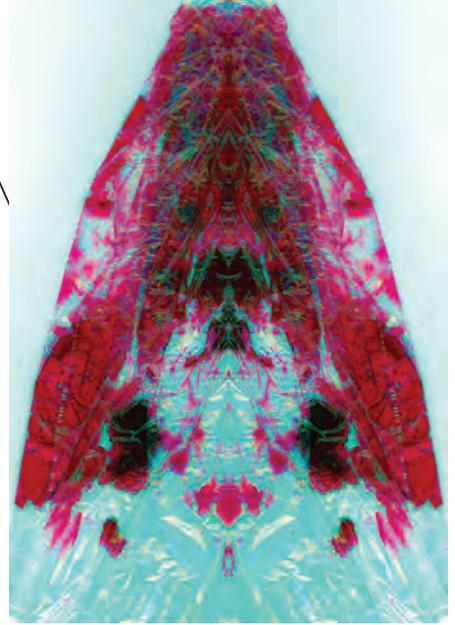
The Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) is a project of the Philippine Festival Council of Alberta (PFCA), in partnership with Arts Commons. YEP is all about youth engagement through hands-on experience of Filipino-Canadian culture. It gives emphasis on creating a sense of belonging in Canadian culture to young Filipinos and strengthening a sense of Filipino Canadian identity. This year, YEP will embrace the PFCA's theme of Kapit-Bisig (Strength in Unity).

**Arts Learning Centre & The Hub  
Various Dates**



## VISUAL & MEDIA ARTS

ARTIST  
RYAN PUCHALSKI

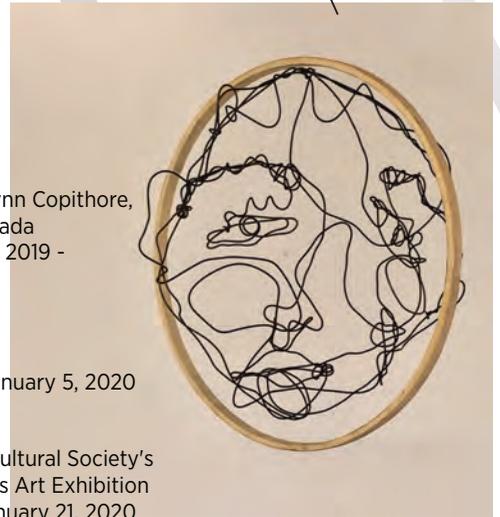


ARTIST  
HALI HEAVY SHIELD



# The RBC Emerging Visual Artists Program

ARTIST  
ABI BUCHBERGER



Showcasing local Canadian artists, the RBC Emerging Visual Arts Program provides both mentorship and exhibition opportunity to young artists, assisting them in bridging the gap between emerging and established. Through the program they are given one-on-one coaching opportunities, professional development, networking, and exhibition opportunities in our Lightbox Studio, as well as the Ledge and Window Galleries.

If you're an artist looking to apply, visit [artscommons.ca/submissions](https://artscommons.ca/submissions)

*Meet some of this season's artists:*

### Ledge Gallery

Elijah Wells / December 9, 2019  
-February 29, 2020

### Window Galleries

Abi Buchberger, Kaitlynn Copithore,  
Ryan Puchalski, and Nada  
Khatib / December 21, 2019 -  
February 28, 2020

### Lightbox Studio

Ryland Fortie  
/ November 1, 2019-January 5, 2020

### +15 Galleries

The Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society's  
2nd Annual Indigenous Art Exhibition  
/ October 1, 2019 - January 21, 2020

Kwento't Litrato: Stories of Filipino migration  
in Alberta told through photography  
/ February 1 - 29, 2020

Naming Partner



Foundation

**ARTIST**  
**JONATHAN**  
**KAWCHUK**



# Media Arts Program

Featuring highly talented sound and media artists from across Canada and around the world, both the +15 Soundscape and Broadcast Lab bring a unique dynamic to Arts Commons, allowing patrons and passersby to experience art passively or actively on a daily basis.

## **+15 Soundscape**

Jonathan Kawchuk / September 9,  
2019-January 6, 2020

C.R. Gillespie / January 7-April 30th 2020

## **Broadcast Lab**

Kyle Whitehead / December 9, 2019-February  
29, 2020

## **Artist Receptions at Arts Commons**

Meet and mingle with this season's artists, curators, and fellow art lovers with a cash bar and deeper discussions about contemporary art in Calgary.

Winter reception: Friday, February 28, 2020  
/ 5:30 – 8:30pm, Arts Learning Centre

**ARTIST**  
**KYLE WHITEHEAD**  
*(background image)*

## EDUCATION

# School Programs

Education at Arts Commons creates memorable learning opportunities that support more than 12,000 students, teachers, and education professionals each year by teaching core subjects through the arts, and inspiring students to engage meaningfully with the world around them.

**Book your class with our education team at [education@artscommons.ca](mailto:education@artscommons.ca) or call 403-294-7455 ext. 1458 for more info.**

## ConocoPhillips Hub for Inspired Learning

For one week, the classroom is transported to the arts and cultural hub of the city. Every theatre, gallery, rehearsal hall, and the experts who work at Arts Commons become the facilitators for an immersive learning-through-the-arts experience (in partnership with Campus Calgary).

## National Geographic Live

National Geographic Explorers, scientists, and photojournalists engage with students on curriculum-based presentations, followed by Q&A sessions.



**I JUST THINK THAT I WOULD GIVE THIS PLACE 80 MILLION STARS OUT OF TEN**

~Andres, St. Philip, Grade 5

## One Day Arts School

Curriculum linked, arts-enriched field trips allow students from Grades K-12 to learn through the visual and performing arts while exploring Canada's third largest arts centre.

## Artist-in-Residence

From a single day to multiple weeks, Arts Commons Education will design a custom visual and/or performing arts experience to host directly in your school.

## Professional Development

Strategically transform your classroom toolkit through arts enrichment with professional artists and arts educators. Join us for Teachers' Convention 2020, inquire about after school sessions or register for our Summer Master Class for Educators.

## Arts for the Early Years (Infants – Preschool):

Do you represent a childcare centre or preschool interested in arts-enriched learning for the very young? Contact us for more information on events, field trips, and artist-in-residence programs for early learners.



LEARN MORE AT ARTSCOMMONS.CA/EDUCATION

Arts Commons Presents

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE!

Arts Commons Presents  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE!  
Pink Boots and a Machete  
Mona More  
MARCH 21 & 22, 2014

Arts Commons Presents  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE!  
View from Above  
Terry York  
JANUARY 21 & 22, 2014

Arts Commons Presents  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE!  
A Wild Life  
Dawn Gregory  
MARCH 2 & 3, 2014

Arts Commons Presents  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE!  
Landing at the Outer Edge  
April 10, 2014

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*We wish to express our gratitude for the generous support of our Founders Circle members. Because of you, Arts Commons is empowered to bring remarkable artists to Arts Commons stages, as well as deliver impactful community and arts education initiatives that change peoples' lives for the better. Thank you.*

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*(in memoriam)*  
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*We wish to express our gratitude for the generous support of our Explorers Circle members. Explorers Circle membership supports National Geographic Live and National Geographic, two unparalleled sources of inspiration for adults and students alike, inspiring all of us to care about the planet and each other. Thank you.*

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Doug Flaig & Helen Timmons, *Deadliest Lifesavers* by Zoltan Takacs  
Ken Havard, *When Women Ruled the World* by Kara Cooney  
Brian & Annette Hester, *Akashinga - The Brave Ones* by Damien Mander  
James & Janice Morton, *When Women Ruled the World* by Kara Cooney

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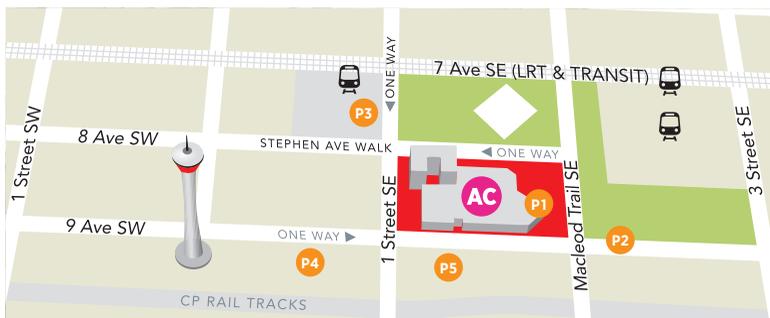
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### AC OUR LOCATION

Our address is 205 8th Ave SE. Our main entrance is located on Stephen Avenue, one block east of the Calgary Tower and across from Olympic Plaza.

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### ACCESSIBILITY

All Arts Commons venues offer wheelchair accessibility and seating. Please phone ahead so we can accommodate your needs, or visit [artscommons.ca](http://artscommons.ca) for more accessibility details.



### GETTING HERE BY LRT

Calgary's LRT (light rail transit) service has a station one block north of Arts Commons.

.....



### GETTING HERE BY CAR

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- P2** Civic Plaza Parkade
- P3** TELUS Convention Centre
- P4** Palliser Square (access Arts Commons via the +15 network)
- P5** Surface parking lots in the 200, 300, and 400 blocks on the South side of 9th Avenue SE  
\*Plan ahead – some parking options may be under renovation throughout the season.

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