

2024-25



Arts Commons
**FOUNDERS
CIRCLE**



Arts Commons

FOUNDERS CIRCLE

**Become a member of
Founders Circle and discover
one of the most rewarding
ways to support the
Arts Commons ecosystem.**

Founders Circle is a donor benefit program that gives you immersive experiences while you support our work in sustaining vibrant spaces where audiences, artists, and organizations thrive.

Your support enriches our diverse programs for children, teachers, and aspiring artists, bolsters the resident companies that call Arts Commons home, and aids the hundreds of community organizations who benefit from our facilities. Your membership is crucial to our mission, ensuring world-class arts and culture experiences are accessible to all Calgarians.

But that's not all. With your Founders Circle membership, you gain access to **exclusive behind-the-scenes events** with visiting artists and our partner organizations, along with several other benefits—all while supporting the work we do.

"We love bringing our family to the behind the scenes events. Our teenagers benefit from being exposed to people who are living their passions and following their hearts. It's a powerful message to instill in them to show that there are so many options on how to live a meaningful life."

—Christina Marlett, Benefactor

Christina & Paul Marlett © Will Young

"We believe in a balance in life, including academics, sports and the arts. We've been bringing our daughter to Arts Commons Presents from a young age to expose her to high quality artists. To us, the arts scene is important to our family and our city."

—Mike & Mireille Robinson, Benefactors



Behind-the-scenes with Puppeteers from
Dinosaur World Live © Will Young

Arts Commons FOUNDERS CIRCLE

The arts inspire, enlighten, and entertain. We are grateful to the following members of Founders Circle that support our work in performance, learning, and community engagements. Enriching the lives of Calgarians through the arts and championing our city's artists, young people, resident companies, and underrepresented communities, is our shared aspiration.

FOUNDERS - HONOURARY MEMBERS

Dr. Martha Cohen, C.M., LL.D.
(in memoriam)
Sandra LeBlanc
Vera Swanson, O.C.
(in memoriam)

FOUNDERS - PLATINUM TIER

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Ken Hillier & Shannon Knutson
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BENEFACTORS

Anonymous (2)
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& Dr. Jeremy Brown
Patricia van de Sande
& Tim Laman
Jermyn Voon

Please note that only gifts of \$1,000 or more at the time of publication are listed above. For a complete list of individual donations, please visit our website at artscommons.ca.

To inquire about becoming a member of Founders Circle, please contact Meaghan Underhill at 403-294-7497 or munderhill@artscommons.ca.

FOUNDERS CIRCLE EVENTS

1ST EVENT

Special Guests: **Sarah Garton Stanley, Tracey Erin Smith, and Michael Rubinfeld from *The Lehman Trilogy***

Date: **Thursday, October 3, 2024 – 7:00pm**

Event Partner: **Arts Commons Presents & Theatre Calgary**

Join Arts Commons and partner Theatre Calgary, for an exclusive donor event aligned with Theatre Calgary's production of *The Lehman Trilogy*. Enjoy an interview-style discussion with Arts Commons VP of Programming and Director of the show, Sarah Garton Stanley, assistant director Tracey Erin Smith, and actor Michael Rubinfeld as they delve into the fascinating process of co-creation.

2ND EVENT

Special Guest: **Dancers from the *Social Tango Project***

Date: **Saturday, November 2, 2024 – 2:00pm**

Event Partner: **Arts Commons Presents & BD&P World Stage**

Immerse yourself in the vibrant world of dance with the founder of Social Tango, Agustina Videla. Captivating audiences around the world with their precision, grace, and emotional intensity, this project celebrates the art form as a pivotal part of Argentina's social fabric. Put on your dancing shoes and join us for an unforgettable journey through the art of tango!

3RD EVENT

Special Guests: **Artists from *A Tribute to Bob Marley***

Date: **Thursday, February 6, 2025 – 7:00pm**

Event Partners: **Arts Commons Presents
& Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra**

Celebrate Bob Marley's 80th Birthday and learn about the process of producing *A Tribute to Bob Marley* with the creative team behind the latest Arts Commons and Calgary Phil co-production. Delve into the inspiration, challenges, and artistic vision that bring this tribute to life, and gain a deeper understanding of Marley's enduring influence on music and culture.

1ST



OUR BELIEF

That equitable access to the arts is a human right.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

To redefine a bold and adventurous Calgary by championing and investing in creativity.



2ND

OUR MISSION

To be an inspirational force where artists, community, and organizations celebrate identities, experience the full breadth of human emotions, and ignite positive change.



3RD

"Founders Circle gives me an opportunity to directly engage with the premier aspects of Calgary's arts community."

—Rod Villanueva

4TH



4TH EVENT

Special Guest: **Arts Commons Visual Arts & Education**

Date: **Tuesday, April 8, 2025 – 6:00pm**

Event Partner: **Arts Commons**

Learn about Arts Commons visual arts program in a hands-on workshop led by a featured teaching artist. This interactive experience offers the chance to explore creative techniques and express your artistic side, all while gaining insight into the artist's unique process and vision. Get ready to learn new skills and connect with your artistic side!

5TH EVENT

Special Guests: **Craig Martin, Founder of Classic Albums Live**

Date: **Friday, May 2, 2025 – 5:00pm**

Event Partners: **Arts Commons Presents, Classic Albums Live & National Music Centre**

Explore the iconic Rolling Stones album, *Sticky Fingers*, in a special interview with Craig Martin, founder of Classic Albums Live. A devoted Stones fan, Martin will share insights and stories behind the journey to create a note for note live rendition of this legendary album. Don't miss this intimate conversation with a rock 'n' roll aficionado, hosted at Calgary's very own National Music Centre, home of the famous Rolling Stones Mobile, with which *Sticky Fingers* was recorded!

FOUNDERS CIRCLE DINNER

Special Guest: **You!**

Date: **Stay tuned!**

Celebrate a remarkable year of memorable experiences at Arts Commons by joining President and CEO, Alex Sarian, fellow members of Founders Circle, and many of Calgary's acclaimed artists for an exquisite dining experience with special performances throughout the evening. (Please note that the Founders Circle Dinner is open to Silver, Gold, and Platinum Founders Circle Members)

5TH

DINNER



Join the
Circle

[artscommons.ca/
founderscircle](https://artscommons.ca/founderscircle)

FOUNDERS CIRCLE EVENTS

Make your membership go further!

All contributions to Founders Circle will be matched up to 50%, through Rogers Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink!

All Founders Circle events (special guests, dates, times and locations) are subject to change.

FOUNDERS CIRCLE (FC) MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

	ASSOCIATE \$20 TO \$99	FRIEND \$100 TO \$499	FELLOW \$500 TO \$999	BENEFACTOR \$1,000 TO \$2,499	FOUNDER – SILVER TIER \$2,500 TO \$4,999	FOUNDER – GOLD TIER \$5,000 TO \$9,999	FOUNDER – PLATINUM TIER \$10,000+
Official receipt for tax purposes pursuant to Canada Revenue Agency regulations	Donation Amount	Donation Amount	Donation Amount less \$50	Donation Amount less \$150	Donation Amount less \$250	Donation Amount less \$250	Donation Amount less \$250
Grateful acknowledgment of your name on the Arts Commons website and 2024-25 Report to Community	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invitations for two to attend exclusive Founders Events and complimentary parking for one (See pages 5 through 8 for details)		One FC Event	One FC Event	All FC Events	All FC Events	All FC Events	All FC Events
Complimentary bar service in the Founders Room for two when attending select Arts Commons Presents performances*			Two Arts Commons Presents Concerts	All Arts Commons Presents Concerts	All Arts Commons Presents Concerts	All Arts Commons Presents Concerts	All Arts Commons Presents Concerts
Concierge Services - Priority Seating through the Development Office			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grateful acknowledgement on the Honour Wall in the lobby of the Jack Singer Concert Hall throughout the 2024-25 Season			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Front of the line ticket purchasing privileges for select performances at Arts Commons				✓	✓	✓	✓
Invitation to attend the Founders Circle Dinner with some of Calgary's most celebrated artists				✓	✓	✓	✓
Invitation to attend the Celebration for the Arts hosted by Mayor Gondek on October 4, 2024					✓	✓	✓
Invitation to dedicate a performance presented by Arts Commons Presents					✓	✓	✓
Complimentary use of the Founders Room for a private event (subject to availability)					✓	✓	✓
Invitation to align your gift towards a programming priority at Arts Commons							✓

Membership is for a 12-month period; benefits are provided throughout that period.

* Includes all concerts in BD&P World Stage and Classic Albums Live.

Arts Commons wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the following event partners that have offered inspiration, encouragement, and most notably support of Founders Circle.

EVENT PARTNERS



FOUNDERS CIRCLE
IS MADE POSSIBLE
WITH THE GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF

GREAT EVENTS
CATERING

STUDENT
ENGAGEMENT
PARTNER

ROGERS
Birdies
for Kids
Presented by ASTORIA



Top to bottom, left to right:
Course at the 2023-24 Founders Circle Dinner
Kitchen Party with The Barra MacNeils
Wilmer Aburto & Ken Havard at the 2023-24 Founders Circle Dinner
Pam Weber, Roger Pilkington & Joanne Steinmann enjoy some beverages at a 2023-24 event
Sydney Williams at the 2023-24 Founders Circle Dinner
Luba & Randy Pettipas at the 2023-24 Founders Circle Dinner
All photos © Will Young



"My membership gives me superb opportunities to stretch the boundaries of my involvement with and exposure to the ticketed events I attend at Arts Commons. I've gained new appreciation for the artists and the way shows are presented."

—Brian Mills, Founder, Silver Tier

**Enhance your experience
with Arts Commons by joining
Founders Circle today.**



Arts Commons

205 – 8 Avenue SE, Calgary, Alberta T2G 0K9
403-294-7497 / artscommons.ca

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Cover photo, *top to bottom*: Dawn Tyler Watson at *Whale of a Jam* 2024 © Sara Kuefler | Shannon Knutson, Steve & Sari Paterson at a Founders Circle Event © Will Young

Back photo: Founders Circle members at the *Secrets of the Whales* 2023-24 Founders Circle event © Will Young

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