



For Immediate Release

Werklund Centre Announces Jonathan Love to Lead Programming Through a Transformative Era

July 23, 2026 – CALGARY, AB, CANADA

Werklund Centre proudly announces the appointment of Jonathan Love as the new Vice President of Programming. This appointment follows an extensive executive search conducted by DHR Global Talent. A longtime Calgarian with deep roots in the city, Jonathan Love joins the team on September 8, 2026, bringing a strong understanding of Calgary's cultural scene to Werklund Centre.

In his new role, Love will lead Werklund Centre's programming department during a transformative period for the organization, guiding the exploration of new experiences, genres, disciplines, and art forms while expanding opportunities to connect with audiences in fresh and unexpected ways. As part of the team shaping a campus designed by Calgarians for Calgarians, he will oversee the programming department as it prioritizes exceptional education and community partnerships, artist development programs, and presenting initiatives.

A respected ambassador for the arts in Calgary, Jonathan Love joins Werklund Centre after seven years as CEO of the Alberta Jubilee Auditoria Society, where he curated distinctive community events, increased registrations for the Jube School/Jubilee Arts program from 1,000 to more than 15,000 members in his first year, and played a key role in enhancing the patron experience through renovated lobbies, mobile order services, and upgraded livestream capacity for both the Calgary and Edmonton Jubilee Auditoria. His background as a broadcaster at CBC, an educator at Mount Royal University, and a founding member of the Heebie-jeebees has enabled him to work with artists at all stages of their careers, strengthening the cultural scene in our city.

"As a lifelong Calgarian, it's an incredible honour to join Werklund Centre at such a transformational moment in our city's history. The arts have helped shape who I am, and I believe they have the superpower to strengthen communities, spark imagination and bring people together," says Jonathan Love. "I look forward to working alongside an exceptional team, our artists, partners, and community to create experiences that inspire curiosity, foster belonging and celebrate the creativity, diversity, and ambition that define Calgary."

"Jonathan brings the kind of creative leadership, community-minded perspective, and deep commitment to Calgary's arts ecosystem that will be essential as Werklund Centre moves into this next chapter," says Alex Sarian, President and CEO of Werklund Centre. "His work with the Alberta Jubilee Auditoria Society demonstrates a remarkable ability to



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connect artists, audiences, and communities, and we are proud to welcome him to our team as we continue building Canada's largest cultural campus."

Werklund Centre looks forward to welcoming Jonathan Love as the new Vice President of Programming as the organization embarks on a momentous period of change through the Werklund Centre Transformation project. The expansion phase of the project will add two new performance spaces to Calgary's cultural landscape, along with the re-envisioned Olympic Plaza to support year-round gatherings.

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Werklund Centre (formerly Arts Commons) is the steward of Western Canada's largest arts centre and the artistic and civic cornerstone of Calgary's downtown core that fosters the arts through live performance, educational opportunities, and artist development programs. For 40 years, it has been a key contributor to the social, economic, cultural, and intellectual life and well-being of Calgarians—a commitment that is being renewed through the Werklund Centre Transformation project, the largest cultural infrastructure project in Canadian history. It is home to five resident companies, including Alberta Theatre Projects, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Downstage, Theatre Calgary, and One Yellow Rabbit. It houses six gallery spaces, five theatres, a concert hall, rehearsal and education spaces, costume and scene shops, and a restaurant.