
STRATEGIC VISION
2018 - 2022

LSA

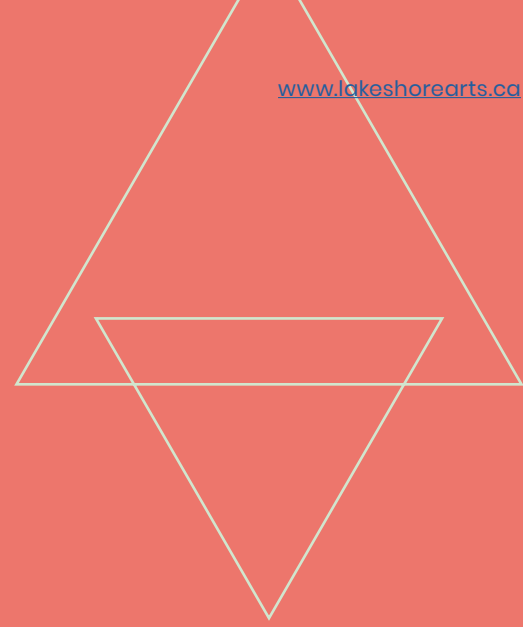
LAKESHORE ARTS

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



From its inception 25 years ago as a grassroots committee fostered by local visual artists, Lakeshore Arts has become a creative force championing and delivering accessible and innovative community arts programming in the Lakeshore area and throughout Toronto. Upon reaching our 25th anniversary milestone, as an organization we chose to pause, reconnect, reflect and create a road-map that will guide us in continuing to create positive change in the communities we serve every day.

What became apparent to us was the need to weave community voice and needs into the fabric of what we do — use the arts as a means to open dialogue, create acceptance, continue to learn and actively contribute to building a vibrant city. We are proud of our accomplishments to date and look forward to working together within this framework for the next four years and beyond.

Mark Koczij, President
Susan Nagy, Executive Director

OUR MISSION

AS A REGISTERED CHARITABLE NOT FOR PROFIT COMMUNITY ARTS ORGANIZATION, WE ARE DEDICATED TO ENGAGING ALL PEOPLES USING MULTIDISCIPLINARY ART FORMS AS A WAY OF ENRICHING LIVES AND STRENGTHENING TORONTO'S COMMUNITIES.

OUR VISION

FOR CREATIVITY AND COLLABORATION TO DRIVE CULTURAL, SOCIAL AND ARTISTIC GROWTH AND HELP BUILD INCLUSIVE, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES.

WE BELIEVE COMMUNITY ARTS CONTRIBUTE TO THE HOLISTIC HEALTH OF A COMMUNITY THROUGH...

COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

These are the cornerstones of our organization which provide the opportunity to discover new ideas, develop shared outcomes and realize mutual benefits.

SUSTAINABILITY

We develop and build lasting relationships with artists, participants and community agencies to strengthen our capacity and leverage funding. We pay fair and equitable fees/wages.

RESPECT

We aspire to create safe spaces where all feel welcomed and open to express and share their viewpoints. We believe everyone has the right to explore their artistic expression.

ACCESS

We are committed to eliminating barriers and providing access for all peoples.

LIFELONG LEARNING

To enhance social inclusion, active citizenship, empowerment and personal development, we will act as the creative catalyst providing innovative ways for sharing knowledge, resources and networks to strengthen our community.

THE NEXT FOUR YEARS

THREE ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS FORM THE FOUNDATION OF OUR STRATEGIC INTENT

YAM (Youth Arts Movement), Photography by Jeremy Sale

1

TO BE AN ARTS LEADER IN THE COMMUNITIES WHERE OUR PROGRAMS ARE DELIVERED.

2

TO DEVELOP STRONG PARTNERSHIPS AS A CRITICAL COMPONENT IN EVERYTHING WE DO.

3

TO BE A SUSTAINABLE, HEALTHY ORGANIZATION.

We will achieve these intentions by being a:

Collaborator
Connector
Catalyst
Community Builder

COLLABORATOR



8th Street Skatepark Mural Project, Photography by Kate Tauschel

BUILD COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Develop a focused effort to build strong and collaborative relationships with the six Local Arts Service Organizations (LASO's)
- Use a wider lens to create more fulsome cross sectoral partnerships
- when developing arts programming
- Leverage expertise across all sectors
- Create awareness of the organization, what we do and our standards of quality (staff, programming)



CONNECTOR

OPERATE IN AN ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE WAY

- Create accessible spaces both physically and digitally/virtually
- Incorporate a fulsome view of what it means to be accessible and transparent: operationally, physically, and programmatically

FIND NEW MEANS OF INVESTMENT

- Secure a satellite space for our expanding programming
- Attract working capital to meet operational and programming requirements/goals
- Create and maintain an infrastructure to support and attract new revenue streams

CATALYST

ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY IN MEANINGFUL ARTS EXPERIENCES

- Addressing gaps to ensure meaningful programming
- Addressing the capacity of our programming to meet communities needs
- Development is key to assist with expanding the programming
- Incorporate an anti-oppressive framework and social equity lens into our programming models

CAPTURE AND MEASURE OUR IMPACT

- Develop an integrated and standardized evaluation protocol that more accurately showcases the faceted impact of our programs/projects/events



COMMUNITY BUILDER

ACHIEVE A HEALTHY AND BALANCED ORGANIZATION

- To operate at the highest level of efficiency and effectiveness and build financial and organizational resources that promote adaptability and vitality
- Align policies and procedures to support systems and incorporate new legislation
- Achieve living wage compensation



OUR PROCESS

OVER THE PAST YEAR THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM OF LAKESHORE ARTS MET REGULARLY TO:

- Examine, adapt and reaffirm the vision, mission, and values of the organization
- Establish a rigorous planning process to ensure LSA can achieve its mission and at the same time be able to make necessary changes to stay healthy in a constantly changing environment
- Develop clear action plans with measurable targets and objectives to achieve key goals
- Assess all the elements of LSA's infrastructure in order to strengthen its organizational capacity
- Utilize a dynamic planning process that requires LSA to continually monitor the changing environment – collecting information, and adjusting or adapting the plans and actions to meet the changing conditions or emerging needs
- Develop a planning document to provide all internal and external stakeholders an understanding of the strategic direction of LSA over the next four years

TO ACHIEVE THIS WE:

- Hired a professional consultant and facilitator to guide us through the process, with funding from the Ontario Arts Council's COMPASS program
- Reviewed and utilized the existing planning documents and grant applications
- Undertook a knowledge based self assessment
- Thoroughly examined the programmatic and resource centers of activity to establish priorities, set goals and measurable targets/objectives with detailed action plans
- Completed an environmental mapping process
- Facilitated a focus group of key stakeholders
- Surveyed the community using an interactive arts project in partnership with Equalateral Collective and Humber College



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