



www.richmondartscoalition.com

January 07, 2019

Thank you for your essential support of the Arts community in Richmond through your Richmond Arts Coalition (RAC) membership. With the interest of people like you, we are working to expand the Arts into a major force in our city and create the vibrant culture that makes a city both liveable and exciting.

RAC's Mission is to connect, inform, support, and advocate for the arts and artists of Richmond.

Achieving this goal requires input from all artists and arts supporters in our community, such as yourself. With your RAC membership, you strengthen our voice so that we can address local issues that are important to artists and to the arts.

Highlights of RAC's accomplishments in 2018:

- We **re-energized our board of directors** with exciting members focused on improving our arts communities.
- We produced, in partnership with the City of Richmond, the 10th annual **Richmond Arts Awards**.
- Thanks to funds from Canadian Heritage, we paid performers and artists taking part in the **Maritime Festival**.
- We partnered with Steveston Historical Society to find and pay performers for their annual **Songs in the Snow** event (Dec 1st, 8th, and 15th). Our Executive Director also MC'ed all three performances.
- We transitioned to a **new, modern website** with permanent member bio pages, a searchable database, an up to date events calendar detailing arts events in Richmond, a listing of opportunities for artists, and more!
- We actively advocated on **Arts issues** to the City, such as repurposing the old Minoru Seniors Centre – a plan which has received preliminary votes of approval from the current city council!
- We compiled a monthly **list of local arts & culture events** which is published in the local newspaper, posted on our website and social media platforms and sent out in our monthly e-blast. Local hotels also use this listing for helping guests.
- We continued a rotating semi-weekly **member feature** on our website (www.richmondartscoalition.com) and actively promoted our members on Social Media: **Facebook** (facebook.com/RichmondArtsCoalition), **Twitter** ([Twitter.com/RichmondAC](https://twitter.com/RichmondAC)) and **Instagram** ([Instagram.com/richmond_arts_coalition](https://instagram.com/richmond_arts_coalition)).
- We put on a **performer showcase** for this year's Culture Days event.
- We thanked Rob Fillo for his service and promoted Andrew Wade as our new **Interim Executive Director**.
- We began preparations for **ArtRich 2019**, our third bi-annual exhibition for local artists at the Richmond Art Gallery.

Our goals for 2019 and beyond (we will achieve these together with you). We aim to:

- Have **our most successful ArtRich exhibition yet!**
- Ensure that the new city council keeps the arts in mind with every decision they make
- **Meet regularly with city staff** and provide artist feedback
- Continue to build and update our new website to **better serve our community**
- Further partner with other arts organizations in Richmond, lending our expertise and commitment
- **Better serve our members better** by showcasing opportunities throughout the year
- Continue to compile and publicize monthly **Arts Events**, and to maintain our semi-weekly **member feature** on our new website and social media
- Be more directly involved in our partnerships for the Arts Awards and the Maritime Festival to ensure even more opportunities for local artists.
- Use our **endowment fund** with the Richmond Community Foundation to fund a monetary Arts Award for youth. If you would like to contribute, you can do so here:
<https://www.rcrg.org/Foundation/donate/#richmondArtsCoalition>

Why be a member of RAC?

- With us, you can be directly and indirectly involved in the **advocacy** of Arts issues, and have your voice heard by the decision makers. The more members we have, the more influential our voice will be.
- Get your art known by a **broader audience**. If you are an artist or a member organization, your profile can be featured on RAC's website and all social media platforms. We also compile a **monthly Arts Events list** which is published in the Richmond News and sent out in our eblast.
- Find out about **future artist opportunities** in our community.
- Be eligible to enter the **ArtRich 2019 exhibition** to have your artwork displayed at the professional Richmond Art Gallery.
- Contribute to the **growth** of the creative art industry in the city.

Mark your calendar:

- **2019 Richmond Arts Awards**

Nominations for the 2018 Richmond Arts Awards will be open soon! More information can be found at www.richmond.ca/culture/artists/art-awards . We will announce the opening of nominations in our monthly eBlast. Please encourage others to nominate people deserving of cultural recognition in our City. Note the option to nominate someone online!

- **RAC Annual General Meeting – March 29th, 2019**

On March 29th, at 7pm at Gateway Theatre, RAC will hold our annual general meeting. If you would like a chance to meet with the board in person, this will be a great opportunity to do so!

- **ArtRich 2019**

The ArtRich 2019 exhibition will take place from December 7th, 2019, to January 4th, 2020, with our opening gala on December 6th. Entries will be accepted beginning in mid-February.

*Thank you for your ongoing support of RAC
and for helping us continue to build a celebrated Arts scene in Richmond.
Please tell your friends about RAC!*

www.richmondartscoalition.com