



www.sk-arts.ca

The arts are an important pillar of society. The arts enrich our communities by enhancing our quality of life, while they allow us to learn about ourselves and about others. A creative society nurtures innovation and imagination by exposing people to new ideas that stimulate positive change.

A collage of images including a blue arch, a white arch, a yellow arch, a dark blue arch, a red arch, and a yellow arch, overlaid on a background of a plant with white stems and yellow leaves.

Strategic Plan

2020-23



Vision Mission Values



Above: Margaret Harrison teaches a workshop on Métis rug hooking.

Photo: Donna Heimbecker

VISION

Saskatchewan arts thrive for the benefit of everyone at home and around the world.

MISSION

To provide funding and support to the arts for the benefit of all people in Saskatchewan.

VALUES

Achievement

We recognize exceptional achievement in the arts, while allowing communities to define what excellence means in their own contexts.

Leadership

We lead through consultation, collaboration, responsiveness and advocacy.

Accountability

Our practices are transparent and reflect a commitment to effective stewardship of the public trust we hold, and we strive for effective management of our province's environmental resources.

Inclusivity

We engage actively with Saskatchewan Indigenous communities and support artists and arts activities that reflect the full diversity of the province.

Accessibility

We provide services that are accessible and user-friendly.

Adaptability

We encourage artists and arts organizations to pursue new and innovative practices, and our programs can be adapted to support that work.

SK Arts acknowledges that the land currently known as the Province of Saskatchewan is comprised of portions of lands from Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10, the territories of the Nêhiyawak, Anihšīnāpēk, Dene, Dakota, Lakota and Nakota nations, and the homeland of the Métis.

We give thanks to the host Indigenous communities in this province, as we bear the collective responsibility to honour and respect their protocols and homes and to engage meaningfully with their knowledges in our work.



Strategic Goals

1. REAFFIRM THE VALUE OF THE INDIVIDUAL ARTIST

The work of the individual artist is at the core of the arts sector in Saskatchewan. The individual artist creates the work that is showcased by our own organizations and by those on the national and international scenes.

Objectives:

- Secure additional funding and supports for individual artists.
- Provide incentives to funded organizations to support Saskatchewan artists.

What Success Looks Like:

- More Saskatchewan artists receive support through our grant programs and other activities.
- Funded companies increase their support for the work of Saskatchewan artists.

How It Could Be Measured:

- Percentage of grants funded in support programs for individual artists.
- Number of new works created by Saskatchewan artists.
- Number of works by Saskatchewan artists presented by companies receiving operating funding from SK Arts.

2. PROVIDE ACCESS

People across the province need access to the arts and artistic experiences to enrich their quality of life. In addition to access to the arts across the province, SK Arts must also examine access to our own programs and activities, working to eliminate any barriers to our services.

Objectives:

- Increase access and user-friendly services for artists and arts organizations.
- Provide support for the arts in all geographic locations across Saskatchewan.
- Provide support for Indigenous art and artists.
- Identify and address the barriers faced by members of equity-seeking communities (including rural/remote, Indigenous, newcomers, LGBTQ+, Deaf artists and artists with disabilities) when accessing our support.

What Success Looks Like:

- SK Arts works proactively to identify and address challenges in our application processes.
- Funding is more accessible to first-time applicants.
- The work of funded artists and organizations reflects Saskatchewan's population.

How It Could Be Measured:

- Number of challenges and barriers within SK Arts programs identified and resolved.
- Number of new applicants supported through SK Arts programs and activities.
- Percentage of total funding awarded by region.



Top: A teepee is set up at the nēhiyawak Summer Language Experience camp. (photo detail on cover)

Photo: Sweetmoon Photography



Below: Mayson Sonntag (left) dances in "Petals of the Iris" with classmates at Ithaca College.

Photo: Sheryl Sinkow



Strategic Goals

3. CHAMPION THE ARTS

SK Arts will continue to take a leadership role in fearlessly advocating for Saskatchewan art and artists. We will promote the value of a thriving arts sector and increase the appreciation and understanding of the arts in the province.

Objectives:

- Create programs and partnerships to change attitudes on the value of the arts.
- Use effective messages, platforms and partners to improve how we tell the stories of the arts community.
- Advocate for the value of public arts funding to the public and to policy makers.

What Success Looks Like:

- People in Saskatchewan place greater value on the arts in society.
- SK Arts communication initiatives focus more heavily on celebrating the arts community than on promoting our own activities.

How It Could Be Measured:

- Results of public opinion surveys regarding the value of the arts in Saskatchewan.
- Number of audience members and volunteers supporting the work of arts companies.
- Percentage of SK Arts communications highlighting achievements of the arts community.
- Number of policy makers becoming more deeply engaged with the arts community.

4. BUILD A RESILIENT AGENCY

In order to continue being effective in our role, SK Arts needs to build toward our own sustainability. We must review our resources – financial, human, social and environmental – to ensure that they are being used in the most efficient and effective manners.

Objectives:

- Develop diverse revenue streams from government, private donations and endowments.
- Model principles of environmental sustainability.
- Support SK Arts staff to help them do their jobs as effectively as possible.
- Increase support for strong Board governance.

What Success Looks Like:

- New revenues and new sources of funds increase the SK Arts ability to achieve our mission.
- SK Arts resources are optimized to allow the agency to operate in a conscientious manner.

How It Could Be Measured:

- Percentage increase of SK Arts budget.
- Amount of funds received from new sources.
- Results of environmental audits and/or self-assessments by Board and staff.



Top: Fiddler Karrnel Sawitsky teaches participants at the Kenosee Lake Kitchen Party music camp, run by Kitchen Party Music.

Photo courtesy of Kitchen Party Music



Below: Joe Fafard's *Reveille* on exhibition at the Saskatchewan Legislative Building in 2012.

Photo: Gary Robins/Available Light Photographics