

ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 2022



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MISSION

Community Arts:

Engaging

Empowering

Transforming

VISION

Creative, vibrant
communities
fostering inclusion,
participation, and
potential.

VALUES

We are enthusiastically
committed to:

Integrity

Diversity

Inclusivity

Creativity

Empowerment

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ADDRESS

Art.

Our beloved medium to help youth process thoughts, emotions, feelings, and more importantly than all in 2021/2022, our favourite way to connect in a time of isolation.

Art allowed us a way to scream messages painted on murals in public places when our voices air could literally kill. It allowed us a medium to cry together in public through sketchbooks displayed at the Central Library when nobody was able to physically hold us. It allowed us a tool to fend off the darkest thoughts that isolation could bring, while being raw and exposed in a spoken word poetry session over Zoom. Art doesn't save everyone, and it doesn't work for every situation, but Antyx is proud that we played our part in the pandemic response for those it did fit, and the show continued on with us taking a lead role in our city's response production.

We all experienced a universal worldwide trauma over the last few years that at times acted as the glue for our communities through the uniqueness of nobody being excluded from its impact. Bonding over the shared experience of loss, isolation, frustration, confusion, patience, adaptation, forgetting to "unmute" and disruption that the last few years brought.

However, sadly, the fact many agencies like ours adapted so well does not mean all communities and youth were so lucky. We saw long-standing youth who attended our programs check out at times, only to find they had been forced to move or begin work instead of attending prevention programs such as ours. We heard of youth entering mental health facilities for suicide attempts and addiction treatment programs for entire families who were left without safety nets and healthy routines. Prevention by nature never shows how many you helped, but only reminds you of how many more youth still need you; they still need us to find them.

That is why we are excited that we were able to add additional staff, more programs, more communities, and our incredible new office location to ensure we can support even more youth with a deeper connection to the healing power of the arts in our city. Thanks to our city's belief in youth, prevention, and Antyx.

Jeff Gray

CHAIR OF THE BOARD ADDRESS

As we reflect back on a very exciting and tumultuous year at Antyx, I am very proud of the work that our dedicated staff have accomplished working through the tail end of the Pandemic in order to better serve our youth clients.

In 2021, Antyx continued to focus on building our organizational capacity and improving our bench strengths to better focus on the adapting needs of youth in this city. The shift to in-person delivery of programs allows us to better engage with young adults and understand their needs on a more direct and personal basis. The completion of our Diversity Mural at the Genesis Centre was one of the highlights of our community engagement.

One of the key milestones this past year has certainly been our move into a beautiful new home at the Contemporary Calgary facility on the western edge of downtown. Our new space allows us to better connect with the artistic community in Calgary and we are now able to inspire youth even more with the many partnership opportunities and collaborations with our new landlord of Contemporary Calgary.

Our new home is in the former Centennial Planetarium, itself a significant work of architectural art, and is quickly being transformed into a world-class gallery where our youth can be inspired by outstanding local, national and international contemporary art programming. Contemporary Calgary's core vision - of aspiring to become a leading voice among arts institutions by embracing their values of being welcoming, inclusive, engaging and relevant, is perfectly aligned with where our organization is also going in the future.

(cont.)

CHAIR OF THE BOARD ADDRESS

As we look to finalize the ANTYX strategic plan for the upcoming three years, some of our key areas of focus will continue to be:

- To Build Organizational Capacity
- Diversify and Increase Resources
- Improve Communication and Engagement
- Ensure Sustainability of Youth Arts Programming in the City and Surrounding Regions
- Broaden Our Audience Base and Artistic Offering for Youth

To this end, I would like to thank the continued support of all of our dedicated Board members who have done an amazing job of guiding the organization through challenging waters and have remained engaged in elevating the organization, even in the storm of a Pandemic. I am also grateful for the continued support of our community partners and funders who see the deep value of student-led arts programming that helps many young people stay mentally strong through continued community activities and social connections with peers and Antyx mentors.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank our tireless, and hardworking Executive Director, Jeff Gray, who has brought new energy and a renewed focus on youth engagement opportunities, along with more accountability, to an already well-respected community organization like Antyx.

With all of us working together, I'm really excited to see what fantastic new projects our youth will create in the upcoming year.

In service,
Robert Toth



ANTVX PROGRAMS

WFU

**COMMUNITY
MURALS**

LOOP

**HIP
HOP**

**POETRY
RESIDENCIES**

**#1
WILL**

VACC

CVSC

**SOCIAL
SNACKING**

**CC KIDS
&
YOUTH**

**PINK SHIRT
DAY**

**THE FILM
LAB**



WFU

W H A T F E E D S U S

WFU

What Feeds Us (WFU)

brought youth ages 12-24 together to learn, grow, cook and advocate for social issues they are passionate about through art and other creative mediums. This year, the WFU youth engaged in a number of creative projects which encouraged them to think about their voices and the importance of having youth voices heard. Since in-person programming was halted all last year and for the first few months of this year due to Covid-19, the WFU program continued to host online weekly meetings where we had monthly cooking, podcasting, craftivism and other creative sessions.

For our last podcasts of the school year, our topics were about how the power of people to create social change, how the arts and the projects we work on can create community and systems change, and the impact of art on people!

For our last craftivism projects this year, we worked on protest embroidery pieces to be installed around the youth's neighbourhoods as an art intervention, asking questions about the world, civil rights, and community in a very approachable form to make people think and pull empathy for others out of them. We were inspired by Sarah Corbett's works, and the idea that "People coming to their own conclusion is sometimes more powerful and impactful than being told what you think the right thing is."

WFU

WISH TREE INSTALLATION AT GENESIS

For our final project of the year, we were inspired by Japanese 'wish trees' to create our own! Wish trees are part of the annual Japanese celebration 'Tanabata'.

The wishes are written on colourful strips of paper and tied to bamboo trees at shrines or in people's yards. Since we were still quarantining at home and doing online programs at this time, our youth wanted to create wishes for other people's wellness and happiness, and hang them on a tree at the Genesis Centre to inspire and connect with their communities, no matter how disconnected they are.



SHAGANAPPI HOUSING MURAL



In May 2021, we engaged kids and youth ages 5 to 15 at the Shaganappi Calgary Housing neighbourhood to paint a community mural with us (and this was some of the kids' first-time painting ever!). Our aim was to tell the youths' about their identities and what they love about their community. After spending a week having conversations, brainstorming and doing sketches, we finalized the design and then spent two weeks painting the walls and garden box at the playground together. At the end, the youth had a fun showcase to show off their work and received many compliments on the mural from their neighbours and families!

**SPRINGBOARD/
CONTAINER
MURAL**

In the summer of 2021, Antyx partnered with Springboard Performance to create several giant murals on shipping containers at Kensington/Sunnyside's ContainR site for Antyx's two-week summer graffiti camp. The first week was a planning and design process which occurred online through Zoom that had the participants sketching, drawing, and examining colour theory.

The second week had the youths onsite at ContainR creating their collaborative mural with special guest graffiti artist and facilitator, Tiziano L. AKA Kerz XXV. The camp also had a blogging and media component where two youth participants documented the entire process with photographs, interviews, and written articles. The camp culminated in a community unveiling ceremony that had talks with the artists and the youth bloggers coordinating the appearance of mainstream media (Calgary Herald and Global News Television) for interviews themselves.

Perhaps one of the most successful outcomes of this program was the beginning of three high school-aged youths (Moni R., Carl L., and Eshaad R.) collaborating to start their own graffiti collective, called "Spreason", where they can begin to build their own portfolio and receive their own contracted work.

SPRINGBOARD/CONTAINER MURAL





W A A N

G E N E S I S

D I V E R S I T Y

M U R A L

In September of 2020, we started a new year of Youth Arts Action North in the hopes of finally finishing the Genesis Diversity Mural we originally started in 2019 before the pandemic. In November of 2020, we had to again pause our efforts and return to online programming due to entering another quarantine. We spent the months up to the end of the school year working with the youth on their painting skills with the hope that we could finally meet in the summer to complete our long-awaited mural. And we did!

Summer of 2021, we finally came together with a group of 20 youth and designed the final bits of the mural then went on a mad, enthusiastic rush to finish the mural. It was completed and we held a small, safe showcase for friends and family of the youth to celebrate. It now sits in the mezzanine of the Genesis Centre, above the sports courts, for the community to enjoy for many years to come. To date, it is one of Antyx's largest youth murals and has meaningfully engaged around a total of 50 youth in its total design and creation time of two years.



BOB

BAHAN

MURAL

WITH SKIPPING STONE FOUNDATION

In the summer of 2021 after a long time apart, the youth of Antyx Community Arts and Skipping Stone Foundation came together to work on a series of panels inspired by the intersection of diversity, indigeneity and the 2SLGBTQ+ community. A representative from

Foodsaped, an Indigenous permaculture group, led them through conversations about Indigenous culture and the sacred medicine garden to be built in the Bob Bahan Community Garden, to help the youth create this mural as a reflection on their identities as people who live, play and work on the Treaty 7 land of Mohkinstsis.

BOB

BAHAN

MURAL

WITH SKIPPING STONE FOUNDATION



LOOP

After planning and preparing for two years (which was extended as a result of COVID) we finally launched the Loop Project with great success this summer!

Loop is an experiential research project to eventually replace the Genesis Sculptures with permanent ones. For 2021 and 2022, Youth Leaders will meet with Loop artists and facilitators and Elder Pablo Russell to explore cultural identity, history, self-expression through indigenous teachings and land trips, art workshops and through conversation, writing, sketching, photography and video.

In partnership with Diamond Willow Youth Lodge / Miskanawah, with a summer camp for a group of 15 Youth Leaders, we met in various locations around the city, including Nosehill Park to learn about Indigenous medicines and their properties and benefits from Elder Pablo, and at St. Patrick Island Park to learn about the process to make charcoal by burning specific type of wood from Summer Artist Lane Shordee, which we then used to draw and write together in our sketchbooks and on the rocks next to the Bow River! A few weeks later, we had our first Cultural Gathering where we shared our learnings with the public, played traditional games, and looked at the youth's artworks, writing, photos and videos from the summer season.



LOOP

In the fall, we visited the Kiyooka Ohe Arts Centre where our Fall Artist, Tamara Lee-Anne Cardinal was the current artist-in-residence. For this season's sessions, Tamara led us through the process of creating orange and red paper out of pulp created from fallen leaves. Our goal was to create a paper installation by hanging up orange shirts and red dresses we cut out of our paper and install it in the woods on the land to honor the lost children of Turtle Island's residential schools. In our second cultural gathering, attended by the public, we installed the paper shirts and dresses, while Elder Pablo led us through a beautiful and moving ceremony, finally sending the children home.

In 2022, we are planning to continue the land teachings, art workshops, and gatherings for our Winter and Spring seasons, to conclude the research project.



THE FOUR ELEMENTS OF

HIP HOP

DANCE

DJ

RAP

GRAFFITI

DANCE

NEW HIP HOP CLUB AT THE GENESIS CENTRE

Currently in its fifth year of programming, Antyx has continued to conduct weekly hip-hop youth programming at the Genesis Centre. With the mandatory halt in Genesis facilities and services due to COVID and with 1000 voices shifting away from their office space, 2021 saw Antyx occupy a new, larger hip hop space in front of the recently completed Antyx Youth Arts Action North's Genesis Diversity mural in the fieldhouse's upper mezzanine. Previously, Antyx hip hop programming had originally been dedicated solely to dance. With the larger space, the opportunity had arisen to make use of Antyx's DJ equipment and PA system to allow participants to learn deejaying and emceeing (rap). The space now employs a more inclusive format that allows for an open floor for dancers, open mics for emcees, and open decks for DJs.



DANCE

DRIVEN SHOW

On Saturday, July 24th of 2021, five Antyx youth entered into an all-ages breaking (dance) competition which took place at Southcentre Mall's rooftop parkade. The event was a combination of hip-hop-based events and performances that took place in conjunction with a popular automotive show that drew in crowds of hundreds of spectators throughout the day. The Antyx participants spent the preceding month at Antyx's weekly hip hop program at the Genesis Centre training their stamina, freestyle dance, and performance capabilities in preparation for the competition. In the end, longtime Antyx youth participant, Dylan G, was able to make it to the finals amongst over a dozen competitors and place in 2nd.



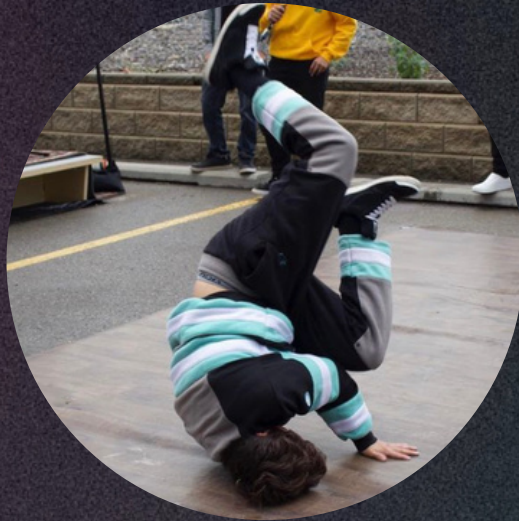
DANCE

ANTYX & THE ALCOVE AT ESKER FOUNDATION

On the evening of Friday, August 27th, 2021, participants from Antyx's summer rap, dance, and mural programs partnered with the Alcove Centre for the Arts and the Esker Foundation. The Alcove collaborated with @eskerfoundation on a creative series inspired by the artwork in the exhibition RELATIONS: Diaspora and Painting. Together, they hosted an outdoor jam in Inglewood at the Esker Foundation's parking lot that explored themes of roots, identity, culture and Colonialism, and featured open dance floors, mics, DJ turntables, a graffiti jam, and a spoken word showcase. Many Antyx youth took volunteer leadership roles by supervising the hip-hop spaces and encouraging spectators to participate in the different art forms. The newly formed youth graffiti artist collective, "Spreason" (Moni, Carl, and Eshaad), took on their first assignment managing the graffiti jam portion of the event after initially collaborating on that summer's Mural Camp at Springboard ContainR site.

DANCE

ANTYX & THE ALCOVE
AT ESKER FOUNDATION



DANCE

ALBERTA CULTURE DAYS INTERCULTURAL
DANCE & DRUM CIRCLE @
INTERNATIONAL AVENUE'S UNITY PARK

On the afternoon of Saturday, September 18th, 2021, four Antyx youth participants were contracted by the City of Calgary to participate in an intercultural drum & dance circle at International Avenue's Unity Park. Dancers, martial artists, and performers from over a dozen different cultures and backgrounds came together to share dance, movements, sounds, and percussions for a unique outdoor performance in Southeast Calgary's Forest Lawn, one of Calgary's most culturally diverse neighbourhoods. The event was funded in celebration of the Province's Alberta Culture Days initiative. Antyx youth, again, used their time at the weekly dance program at Genesis to make their preparations in getting "show ready" in the preceding weeks before the event. They were honored to be selected as ambassadors of dance, hip hop, and youth culture.



DANCE

ANTYX OPEN HOUSE & JAM AT CONTEMPORARY CALGARY

On Saturday, October 30th 2021, Antyx hosted an open house jam to introduce stakeholders and youth to our new space at Contemporary Calgary. A small group of Antyx participants, Youth Central volunteers, Antyx Board members, and members of the general public toured the galleries and enjoyed a small dance party in the atrium.

Guests of the open house were then treated to annual passes complimentary of Contemporary Calgary.

DANCE

ANTYX & THE ALCOVE AT
STEPHEN AVE.

On the evening of Friday, November 19th 2021, participants from Antyx's rap and dance programs once again partnered with the Alcove Centre for the Arts; this time, to host an indoor jam and event in downtown's Stephen Avenue with space provided by the Calgary Downtown Association. Antyx dancers and emcees took leadership roles encouraging spectators to participate in the event's open floor and mic format. New Antyx dance program participant and volunteer, Alden AKA DJ Playtime, volunteered to DJ the entire event and is looking forward to future event collaborations with both the Alcove and Antyx Arts.



DANCE

ANTYX & THE ALCOVE
AT STEPHEN AVE.



DANCE

SLED ISLAND X ANTYX X
TRIBE ARTIST SOCIETY
COMMERCIALS

In February of 2022,
Calgary-based music and arts festival,
Sled Island, approached Antyx about creating
media that highlighted the city's youth arts scene. After
some deliberation, Antyx brought on Crooked Cinema to help
produce a series of short commercials and vignettes that
Antyx could release to the public on social media. Filming took
place inside various spaces in beautiful Contemporary Calgary
while Antyx youth were interviewed and filmed showcasing
their chosen art form. In summary, eight commercials
featuring eight youth from Antyx's dance, rap (songs
produced with Tribe Artist Society), and graffiti mural
programs were created. A release and screening
party for the commercials is scheduled for
June of this year at
Contemporary Calgary.



DANCE

THE ESSENCE VOL. 2 WITH JUICEBOX CREW

On March 19th of 2022, Antyx hosted their first large-scale youth hip hop event at Contemporary Calgary. The event, a breaking (dance) competition and jam, was coordinated in collaboration with Justin S. of JuiceBox Crew, a former volunteer coach of Antyx's "North Beasts" (a 15-person team of Antyx dance program participants and 2019 Battle City Champions). The event brought in over 150 spectators, participants, competitors, and youth from all over the city and country. Antyx rap program participants were highlighted in the intermission performance and rap cyphers while multiple Antyx dance program participants competed and were honored with community leadership awards throughout the night. Longtime Antyx youth participant and volunteer, Maverick, had the honor of co-hosting the event on behalf of Antyx. The event was well-received by Contemporary Calgary as it brought in a lot of new members of the public that wouldn't normally engage with the gallery space.



DANCE

THE ESSENCE VOL. 2
WITH JUICEBOX CREW



DANCE

TUESDAY FOREST LAWN
HIP HOP

From April-May of 2022,
City of Calgary collaborated with Antyx to
contract dance facilitators for a six-week program
at the Bob Bahan Forest Lawn Activity Centre.
Professional dancers Edward C. (Funk-E) and Kalyna H.
(Kuween) were contracted for the weekly program as
well as an additional outreach event. The outreach event
featured DJing, basketball, and free pizza outside of the
Bob Bahan Aquatic and Fitness Centre. The event
brought in over 100 youths throughout
the neighborhood.

R A P

MONDAY RAP NIGHT DOWNTOWN WITH TRIBE ARTIST SOCIETY & ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY CALGARY



From November 2021 to June 2022, Antyx collaborated with Tribe Artist Society and Elizabeth Fry Society to host a weekly rap group at Arts Commons. Like the program at Miskanawah, the collaboration suffered from an initial low turnout but continued in-person programming until a steady flow of youth participants and volunteers came regularly. Numerous participants were even enthusiastic enough to attend both the Monday and Thursday night rap programs in the same week. One of the highlights of this program included a special workshop series dedicated to writing, creating, collaborating, and analyzing different themed types of hip hop songs (E.g., battle rhymes, diss tracks, party anthems, crew bangers, socially conscious tracks, and love songs). Other highlights of the program include participants and youth sharing outside performance opportunities and projects that they are working on, and one youth sharing that they had been accepted into an international music program in Berlin that starts in September. Although both rap groups intend to break at their current locations for the summer months and return in the fall, the Monday group has already secured a performance and outreach invitation with the High Performance Rodeo (Calgary's International Festival of the Arts) for January 2023.



R A P

THURSDAY RAP NIGHT NORTHEAST WITH TRIBE ARTIST SOCIETY & MISKANAWAH



From September 2021 to June 2022, Antyx collaborated with Tribe Artist Society and Miskanawah's Diamond Willow Youth Lodge to host a weekly rap group at Miskanawah's Northeast location in Sunridge. Despite the setback of an initial low turnout and being further aggravated by a month's long break from in-person programming to online Zoom sessions, the Thursday Rap Night program has managed to receive a steady flow of youth, participants, and volunteers towards the end of its initial year. Most recently, adult DJ volunteers have been volunteering their time and skills to allow emcees to practice performance skills with live beats and DJ backing. Highlights of the year include attending a group sweat lodge on Tsuut'ina Nation, being invited and attending an Indigenous film premiere at Fairy Tales Queer Film Festival, and practicing for a contracted performance at (Antyx funder) Calgary Foundation's end of the year Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Stampede Grounds' Rotary House in June.

POETRY

Residencies & Workshops

ARTIST RESIDENCY: ONLINE, CBE GRADE 9 ELA HUB

In May to June of 2021, with schools having moved to online classes due to COVID, Antyx Community Arts Facilitator, Bryan F., saw an opportunity

to bring Antyx directly to students without having to conduct in-person programming. Since the online Learning Hub format included various students from different CBE (Calgary Board of Education) schools, the online class sizes were much bigger than if they were in-person (~80 students in attendance per week). With the help of their teacher, Mrs. Roberts, an eight-week (eight-session) poetry residency was designed with Antyx in

conjunction with the class's CBE curriculum: a novel study of John Boyne's "The Boy in Striped Pajamas". Throughout the online workshop series, the group created poetry and engaged in writing exercises and discussions that related to themes in the book. The grade 9 students practiced sharing their thoughts, writings, ideas, and feelings with one another. The material tackled difficult topics such as genocide, loss of innocence, and the troublesome impact of creating fantasy from important historical events.

QUOTE:

"I once again wanted to let you know that today's class was absolutely the best. I felt very good letting out all my thoughts and getting good feedback from my other classmates. I am excited about tomorrow's class and even if it's two hours I would be happy. It releases my anxiety in a peaceful way. Discussing these issues make me happy :)"-- Grade 9 Student, CBE Grade 9

ELA Hub

ARTIST RESIDENCY: ONLINE, THOMAS BAINES JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Occurring simultaneously as the aforementioned CBE Grade 9 ELA Hub residency, Antyx Community Arts Facilitator, Bryan F., took on a similar eight-week (eight-session) poetry program with another group of Grade 9s from Thomas Baines School with the help of their teacher, Mrs. Lin. The curriculum in this case was Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird". Students undertook exercises and discussions which involved critical analysis of how the book explores racism, perspective, and history.

QUOTE:

"I just wanted to send a message to let you know how honored and privileged I have felt to have Bryan Francisco complete an eight-week art residency with my Grade 9 English Language Arts class online. After an initial presentation on Spoken Word Poetry, Bryan informed me that he was available to do a residency with my group of 58 students, all from Tom Baines Junior High School. His initial presentation was so engaging and enjoyable, that I leapt at the opportunity to have Bryan join my class.

Since we were working on the novel study, To Kill a Mockingbird, Bryan agreed to create a series of lessons focused on themes from the novel, while still incorporating spoken word poetry. The result was a highly successful two months of lessons, that complimented my classes very well, and engaged the students in the large themes and topics of the novel. Not to mention, the students acquired a love of poetry in the process. I was consistently surprised and impressed by the poetry that students created during Bryan's classes, and their increasing confidence to share with the entire group. Students definitely enjoyed Bryan's energy, talent in poetry, and overall ability to engage them through discussions and activities.

I definitely value Antyx Arts and hope more and more teachers in the Calgary Board of Education will take advantage of the opportunity to experience an art residency with a talented member of your team, like Bryan Francico. Bryan's energy, knowledge, and dramatic art skills, all contributed to a highly successful series of classes." -- Patricia A. Lin (Grade 9 teacher, Thomas Baines Junior High School)

ARTIST RESIDENCIES: FATHER LACOMBE HIGH SCHOOL

From October to December 2021, Bryan undertook two in-person poetry program residencies (eight weeks; eight sessions) at Father Lacombe High School. Based on the online model developed the previous spring season with junior highs, Bryan received the opportunity to be in-person with high schools facilitating poetry for the first time since before COVID restrictions had moved classes online. Each residency was with a different class of grade 11 students, with one group studying Jeanette Wall's "The Glass Castle" and the other group undertaking "Patron Saints of Nothing" by Randy Ribay. The former dealt with issues of coming-of-age, parental neglect/abuse, and poverty while the latter was a book that told a fictionalized American youth's perspective of the drug war in the Philippines. Very interesting poetry, thoughts, and discussions were shared.

QUOTE:

"Bryan Francisco won over students immediately with his debonair attitude and engaging presentation style. He typically opens with a slam poem and every time, without fail, a palpable awe falls over the room, and the students cannot help but become captivated by his vulnerability, his cadence, his earnestness. For his residencies with my ELA 20-1 and ELA 20-2 classes, Bryan would prepare detailed and unique presentations, specially tailored for the themes covered that week. One time, in order to talk to students about the War on Drugs in the Philippines, he opened the session with a traditional Filipino song in the same dialect of the author we were studying at the time. Bryan then proceeded to discuss the impact of the War on Drugs on the Philippines, as well as how people were using art to create resistance, as well. This greatly helped students to create connections and see the relevancy of disruption and creation in real-life international issues.

Cannot emphasize Bryan's contributions to Father Lacombe enough— have been so grateful for his continued contributions to this school and look forward to many more future collaborations!"-- Carole Yue (English Language Arts Teacher x Sustainability Club Facilitator x Racial Justice Representative: Father Lacombe High School)

CALGARY YOUNG OFFENDERS CENTRE (CYOC)

From October 2021 to January 2022, Antyx Community Arts Facilitator, Bryan F., conducted weekly arts workshops inside the Calgary Young Offenders Centre working with small groups of incarcerated youth. The group played mostly improv theatre and freestyle rap exercises. The main goal was to explore the idea of performance as play while making one another laugh and enjoying spending time with one another. Bryan also conducted activities with the use of a SMART screen where the group would do word association and critical analysis of famous images, songs, videos, movies, etc.

One of the highlights was a youth sharing their writings and plans to author a book upon their release while another youth shared the music that they wrote along with their independently shot music videos. Future collaborations are planned with CYOC with both Bryan and Antyx visual artist, Jace LS., set to return to CYOC in August.

NELSON MANDELA HIGH SCHOOL WELLNESS FAIR

On February 24th of 2022, Antyx was once again invited to Nelson Mandela High School's Virtual Wellness Week. Bryan gave an online presentation and workshop about spoken word poetry and the importance of art, self-expression, and having fun finding whatever it is that gives you your "voice".

Current and future Antyx programs were also promoted.

QUOTE:

"I think the students had a good time. It is super hard to gauge their interest in an online format though. However, I think they really enjoyed the activity, it was in stark contrast to some of the other presentations and I think it was good to show some of them how to take those risks."

--Teacher, Nelson Mandela High School

QUOTE:

"Thanks for taking time from your schedule to present to our students. Next day after your presentation on Friday, we reflected on all the presentations. Students appreciate that you demonstrated to them that writing and reciting poems as a powerful means of relieving their stress. They also mentioned that writing poems or stories is safer and more meaningful."

-- Teacher, Nelson Mandela High School

GUEST FACILITATOR:

PETER LOUGHEED SCHOOL

In April 2022, Bryan was invited to Peter Lougheed School (Junior High) as a guest facilitator for Mrs. MacGregor's class's grade 8 poetry unit. Bryan told stories, shared poetry, and conducted games that focused on listening skills, positivity and having fun while speaking/performing. Current and future Antyx programs were also promoted.

STUDENT COMMENTS FOR BRYAN FRANCISCO:

"Because of Bryan, we felt comfortable with sharing our experiences (histories) with the class."

"He was super nice & funny, and he had great stories; he shared details about his past, and we were able to think and reflect on our own family histories."

"He got everyone to step out of their comfort zones in a safe and creative way!"

"Three words to describe our experience: inspired, open, and creative!!"

"Bryan helped us write poems about our own stories. I wrote about my previous school experience."

"I would love to see/learn more about Bryan's creative writing process."

GUEST SPEAKER AT FATHER LACOMBE HIGH SCHOOL: ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

On May 18th, 2022, Bryan was invited back to Father Lacombe High School as a guest speaker for Asian Heritage Month. Bryan shared stories, poetry, and performance and writing exercises that got the youths thinking about their identity and creative voice.

QUOTE:

"During Asian Heritage Month, Bryan also came in to talk about using spoken word poetry to explore his Filipinx identity. Students immediately connected with Bryan, thanks to his apt use of interactive games, performances, and his general openness.

I saw students who typically refrain from engaging in class opening up readily with Bryan, which I believe is due to the unique blend of skills and receptivity Bryan brings to every visit."-- Carole Yue (English Language Arts Teacher x Sustainability Club Facilitator x Racial Justice Representative; Father Lacombe High School)

#IWILL

UK Project

At the end of October 2021, we collaborated with UK Youth, a non-profit organization in the UK that is focused on unlocking youth work as the catalyst of change, on a project called #iWill that was showcased on November 26th, 2021, at their youth conference in the United Kingdom and online. Tony Tran (former Antyx staff) with the UK youth engaged two of our elder youth (Makayla K. & Rani) to have a conversation with #iWill ambassador Nerissa for their Youth Conference.

They worked on a project for #iWill. #iwill is a UK-wide movement helping more young people make a difference in their communities through social action. This project was showcased on their YouTube to 82 people as well as to everyone at their conference. Our youth talked about the work and projects they have done with Antyx and how they have made a social change in their communities.

YOUTH ARTS ACTION CENTRAL

In May 2022, we merged Youth Arts Action North and Youth Arts Action South into Youth Arts Action Central! Originally held in the Genesis Centre, the Bob Bahan Activity Centre and on Zoom, we shifted the program to run in the workshop at Contemporary Calgary every Wednesday. The location switch was decided in order to provide the youth with a more central and engaging environment that is easily accessible by public transportation, as well as supplying more space to create high-quality artwork.

Since merging, we have had the opportunity to meet and connect with a number of youths to share meaningful conversations regarding community care, self-care, mental health, identity and social activism. Inspired by these conversations, we have created a number of really special projects utilizing a variety of visual arts mediums including a miniature sculpture of the youths' ideal community/city, an abstract portraiture series focused on identity and representation, a number of spoken word and poetry pieces, as well as some personality-based contemporary sculptures. By structuring YAAC to incorporate these conversation topics and subject matter into the projects rather than splitting the program into half discussion and half creation, this has made our discussions more natural and comfortable for the participants. A number of the youth who attend the program regularly have expressed that meeting up for group is one of their favourite parts of the week. They believe that the program is an important space, and more crucially, feel safe here.

Once solid and consistent attendance is established, YAAC will be able to focus more on larger-scale, involved long-term projects. We're excited to use the summer as a time to promote and run the program as many youths will have more time and energy available to them.

CALGARY YOUTH SKETCHBOOK COLLECTION

In collaboration with the Calgary Public Library (CPL), we created the Calgary Youth Sketchbook Collection, inspired by the original Sketchbook Project. We worked with Sunnyside Art Supplies to build 300 art packs to be distributed to youth and youth-serving agencies to provide them to youth for free. Once completed, the youth submitted the sketchbooks to any CPL location and they were transferred to the Central Location and are now part of the permanent collection in the Teen Section! To support the creation of these sketchbooks, our partner organizations, including CPL, hosted us and our contract artists to run workshops for their youth. Antyx also ran a weekly online program internally. The creations may now be viewed at CPL Central whenever they are open to the public!

CALGARY YOUTH SKETCHBOOK COLLECTION



S O C I A L S N A C K I N G

In May 2021, Antyx was presented with the opportunity by the United Way's Council of Champions for Children and Youth to develop a city-wide public awareness campaign on the Social Snacking initiative in connection with the Natural Supports framework funded by Burns Memorial Fund and Max Bell Foundation, and developed by Dr. Suzanne Tough, Nancy Reynolds and their team. The Calgary Public Library expressed a great interest in this project, and together with Burns Memorial Fund we collaborated to launch a free community Social Snacking Toolkit that includes social media assets, pre-written social media copy, posters, postcards and bookmarks, available on the Connections First website.

In the fall, we held two public town hall meetings where we invited local agencies and organizations to present the toolkit and explain how they could incorporate Social Snacking into their own workplaces and communities. The Calgary Public Library also launched the release of their branded Social Snacking bookmark, as well as hosted our Communications Coordinator, Ashleigh Imbery, on their Instagram Stories to run an informational segment on Social Snacking. With the help of CPL, our Executive Director Jeff Gray interviewed with CTV's Joelle Tomlinson to discuss the positive impacts that Social Snacking has especially during the isolating time of COVID.

Currently, Antyx and Burns Memorial Fund are working on creating more resources that can be given out to agencies to promote Social Snacking internally and hopefully inspire other organizations to develop their own Social Snacking campaigns.



C O N T E M P O R A R Y
C A L G A R Y

k i d s
&
y o u t h
p r o g r a m s

The first couple of Contemporary Calgary Kids and Youth workshops had impressive attendance, and high levels of engagement. The programming was based off of one of the feature artists showing in the Flanagan Gallery- Catalina Tuca. A tour of the gallery was given, with ample time to ask questions and explore. After the tour, we went to the workshop to work on our projects. We started off with making a shape (of choice) out of plain modeling clay. The kids were then able to use other craft supplies, and paint to decorate and expand on their object. The object was meant to reflect an aspect of who they are, or how they were feeling that day. The kids and youth were excited to take their objects home, and enjoyed the process of making them.



PINK

SHIRT

DAY

WITH 12CSI,
USAY, CIWA &
CORNERSTONE

Pink Shirt Day is an annual movement to create a more kind, inclusive world by raising awareness for anti-bullying initiatives.

Antyx, together with our partners Twelve CSI, Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth, Calgary Immigrant Women's Association, Pinkshirt YYC and Cornerstone Youth Centre, hosted the third annual creative challenge for Pink Shirt Day! We delved deeper into the concept of anti-bullying, what that means and how we can make a change in our city. Through creative means of podcasting, video and Tik Tok/reel challenges, we used these platforms to share our voices and make change in our communities.

Youth from the 2022 Pink Shirt Creative Challenge did another instalment of our podcast series. In this podcast, the teens discuss how Covid has changed the style of bullying, the effects of lockdowns and physical separation on bullying and youth mental health, cyber-bullying, micro-aggressions, unconscious bias, polarization and how that effects discrimination, abuse and exclusion. We also talked about how we can have the power to stand up against bullying and how you can make a difference.

THE FILM LAB

Looking into 2022

The Film Lab at Contemporary Calgary was officially launched this year in late April to youth all over Calgary!

In an exciting partnership with Crooked Cinema, a local award-winning production company, The Film Lab's goal is to provide youth with hands-on experience on a large variety of interactive and rewarding projects such as filming music videos, commercials, abstract photography, portraits, interviews and short stories. Eventually, the youth can take these skills and newfound knowledge to build out their own projects.

We want to provide youth with an effective way to identify which aspects of film & photography they enjoy the most. These aspects could be anything from camera operation to lighting, prop making, acting, story writing, editing, visual fx, sound design, and more. After only a month of programming (every Monday between 4:30-8:00 p.m.), we saw a constant increase in youth engagement eventually leading to all available spots being filled via our new online pre-registration process.



THE FILM LAB

Looking into 2022

As we transitioned into our second month of The Film Lab, we were surprised and ecstatic to see youth begin to take the skills they have learned to create and pilot their own ideas. We currently have a youth who is now working on creating a music video for one of their favorite songs that will help express their story to the world. We also have a youth who is learning to express their written poetry through visual arts using lights and projectors. Eventually, these projects will have the opportunity to be displayed among other artists within the local community.

Due to the increased numbers and youth's urge to create their own projects we are excited to now be running on Sunday and Monday from 4:30-8:00 p.m. at Contemporary Calgary with the goal to provide youth with more time and resources to see their projects to completion. We are also excited to expand to a third day of The Film Lab during the summer break.

Youth will leave The Film Lab with a better sense of community, mental health, self-empowerment, creative skills, teamwork & leadership, and expressing emotions in a healthy way. All of which will help aid youth in their transition to adulthood and beyond.

The background features a vertical rainbow gradient from purple at the top to red at the bottom. Overlaid on this are several sets of thin, white, wavy lines that create a sense of motion and depth. The word "STAFF" is centered in a bold, white, sans-serif font. A small white triangle points downwards from the bottom of the letter 'A'.

STAFF

STAFF



JEFF

Executive Director



ASHLEIGH

Communications
Coordinator



COLIN

Manager of Community
Engagement

STAFF



BRYAN

Creative Arts
Facilitator



INDY

Creative Arts
Facilitator



JACE

Creative Arts
Facilitator

Not Pictured:
Justine - Office Admin

Outgoing:
Stephanie Banzky
Noor Sayadi
Kara Bullock
Maria Tellez

ARTISTS

Dylan "ill Dill" Ganuelas - Dance Facilitator

Maverick "Mav-wreck" Dumali – Rap/Dance Facilitator

Ryan "Rubix" De Guzman – Rap/Dance Facilitator

Tiziano "Kerz.XXV" Lombardo – Graffiti/Mural Facilitator

Alia Shahab – Sculpture, Visual & Digital Artist and Facilitator

Dwight Farahat "tribe.1491" - Rap/Dance Facilitator

Edward "Funk-E" Campbell – Dance Facilitator

Kalya "Kueen" Howmat – Dance Facilitator

Tamara Lee-Anne Cardinal – Mixed Media Artist

Lane Shordee – Scavenger Artist

Jordan Baylon – Mixed Media Artist & Community Worker

Juicebox Crew – Breaking Crew

Alden De Guzman "DJ Playtime" - DJ Artist

PARTNERS

- 1000 Voices
- 12 Community Safety Initiatives
- Action Dignity
- Alberta Culture Days
- Alberta Foundation for the Arts
- The Alcove Centre for the Arts
- Arts Commons
- Awotaan
- Burns Memorial Fund
- Calgary Arts Development Association
- Calgary Board of Education
- Calgary Afterschool
- Calgary Bridge Foundation
- Calgary Foodbank - Foodlink
- Calgary Public Library
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Carya
- CAS Youth Committee
- Centre for Newcomers
- Choke Cherry Studios
- City of Calgary
- Calgary Immigrant Women's Association
- Closer to Home
- Concept Mind
- Contemporary Calgary
- Calgary Young Offenders Centre
- Coalition for Equal Access for Education
- Cornerstone Youth
- Crooked Cinema Productions
- Doorstep Arts (UK)
- Dover Community Association
- Esker Foundation
- Families Matter
- Forest Lawn Community Association
- Elizabeth Fry Society Calgary
- ENMAX
- Genesis Centre
- Government of Alberta
- Government of Canada
- Immigrant Services Calgary
- Kiyooka Ohe Arts Centre
- Linkages
- Miskanawah (Diamond Willow Youth Lodge)
- Mount Royal University
- Northeast Family Connections
- Planet Youth
- Policy Wise
- Project Climbing Wall
- Sketch Art Supply and Custom Framing
- Skipping Stone Foundation
- Sled Island
- Springboard Performance
- Sunrise Community Link
- The Alex Community Food Centre
- Trellis
- Tribe Artist Society
- Two Wheel View
- USAY
- YMCA

VOLUNTEERS

A special thank you goes out to all of our volunteers that have dedicated their time and efforts to helping support Antyx! your support and hard work has allowed us to continue to offer better quality services and programming. Thank you!

From April 2021 - March 2022:
35 volunteers contributed 1126.5 hours which
is equivalent to
\$28,162.5 of work!

ADULT VOLUNTEERS:

- Aaron Truong
- Eric Albert
- Shandie Ta
- Jasen Canul
- Alden De Guzman
- Nic Van Dam
- Taylor Whitehouse
- Jordan Rudolph
- Simran Tamber
- Caylan Sawan
- Antyx Board Members

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS:

- Carl
- Dylan
- Eva
- Emine
- Eshaad
- Jessi
- Kiran
- Makayla K.
- Mavrick
- Moni
- Nabiha
- Rani
- Tia
- Tanya
- Youth Central Volunteers

ANTVX BOARD MEMBERS

To our current and outgoing Board members, thank you for your dedication, wise counsel and patient advice to this organization.

We would not have been able to accomplish our achievements and improve our services without you all.

We are incredibly grateful!

BOARD MEMBERS:

Robert Toth: Chair

Stephanie Savoie: Vice Chair

Irtiza Noor: Treasurer

Lauren Minuk: Secretary

Dylan Jones: Past Chair

Chi Illiya-Ndule: Director

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS:

Eric Mogensen: Director

DONORS

A big thank you to all of our various individual, anonymous and in-kind donors, and to those who donated through Shaw. Your donations help Antyx support our youths and provide them with opportunities that allow them to build their confidence and self-esteem, learn creative leadership skills and make a positive change in their communities.

Lauren Minuk

Nitu Purna

Karina Gillies

Brenda Fischer

Ward 9

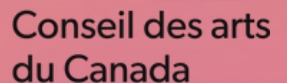
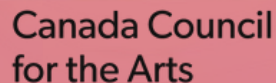
Amber Alexander

Allan Nielsen

Anonymous Donors

FUNDERS

Thank you to our funders who have invested in Antyx. We could not have accomplished our goals without your support and enthusiasm!



COMMUNITY ARTS

Antyx

engaging. empowering. transforming.