



PRISMA

PACIFIC REGION INTERNATIONAL
SUMMER MUSIC ASSOCIATION
2021 ANNUAL REPORT





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Pacific Region International Summer Music Association (PRISMA) Festival & Academy



About PRISMA

PRISMA stands for Pacific Region International Summer Music Association.

Every year, the PRISMA Festival & Academy welcomes world-renowned guest artists and top international music students for two weeks of musical exploration by the sea. Here in Powell River you can see an 80-piece symphony take shape right before your eyes, along with guest appearances by members of the LA Phil, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra and more.

Since the very first PRISMA Festival held in 2013, our organization has mentored over 630 students from 37 countries. Many have gone on to win positions in professional orchestras around the world; others enjoy busy careers as soloists, chamber musicians, and instructors. Our collaborative environment nurtures both professional development and community

engagement. Many attend our PRISMA Academy on a full scholarship, thanks to the incredible generosity of Musical Merit Fund donors.










Powell River's scenic location, combined with strong local support, is what makes the PRISMA Festival truly one-of-a-kind in the world. Enjoy daily musical events including orchestra and chamber music performances, masterclasses and limelight concerts – all open to the public. Or, check out the popular Sail to the Symphony tour package for Vancouver Island visitors, and our free, family-friendly PRISMA on the Beach celebration, which attracts thousands annually.

PRISMA wishes to acknowledge the Tla'amin Nation, on whose ancestral territories we gather each summer for two weeks of inspiring music-making.

To watch a video overview of PRISMA, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera:



Staff & Contractors














-  **Arthur Arnold**
Artistic Director
-  **Daniel Bhattacharya**
Festival Director
-  **Kim Stokes**
Finance Director
-  **Andy Rice**
Marketing & Multimedia Director
-  **Arlan Smallwood**
Operations Manager
-  **Rachel Rocco**
Development Manager
-  **Kim Barton-Bridges**
Community Outreach Manager
-  **Yoanita Maria Kartadihardja**
Academy Manager
-  **Sandy Cumberland**
Production Manager

PRISMA also acknowledges Lynda Harris, Misty Oakes, Vanessa Turnbull, Tanja Wittberger, Hannah Schweitzer and Sarah Schweitzer for their contributions in 2020-21.

“PRISMA is a highlight of the annual event calendar in the qathet Regional District. Not only does the event attract top music talent and artists from around the world, they provide affordable access to music events that bring exposure to an orchestra to visitors to the region.”

***– Ann Nelson
President, Tourism Powell River***

Board of Directors

-  **Mike Robinson, C.M.**
President
-  **Lyn Adamson**
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-  **Meriko Kubota**
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Director
-  **Michael Matthews**
Director
-  **Cyndi Pallen**
Director
-  **Quentin Smith**
Director
-  **Arthur Arnold**
Director



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A statement of PRISMA's financial position and operations for the year ending September 30, 2021

The Big Picture

At the completion of another amended festival year, PRISMA has a strong financial position with net assets of \$413,426, including \$263,006 restricted and unrestricted cash. The lack of earned income – ticket revenue and student fees – was offset by government funding and special project grants. This year, like last year, the board restricted the Musical Merit Fund donations to be used as intended, helping future students attend PRISMA in-person based on musical merit rather than the ability to pay the required fees.

For the year ended September 30, 2021, PRISMA is reporting an excess of revenues over expenses of \$90,801. The 2021 surplus breaks down as follows:

- \$35,730 restricted Musical Merit Fund donations
- \$28,600 restricted BC Community Gaming Grant funds received in 2021 for use in 2022
- \$23,050 restricted BC Arts Council operational funding received in 2021 for use in 2022
- \$3,421 unrestricted funds

PRISMA reports revenues and expenses in the fiscal year incurred. Therefore, we have reported and restricted grant revenue received during our 2020-2021 fiscal year that is intended, by the funder, to be spent in our 2021-2022 season.

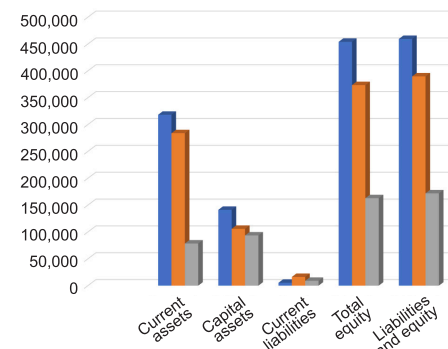
PRISMA is deeply grateful to all our supporters who sustained and encouraged us through this second pandemic year. Thank you to our three local governments: City of Powell River, qathet Regional District and Tla'amin Nation, and to our presenting sponsor BC Ferries, provincial arts funders, corporate sponsors, foundations and individual donors. Through your support in 2020-2021 we met our vision to enrich lives through the language of classical music, performing intimate in-person concerts throughout the qathet region, and reaching across the world through a second season of *PRISMA on the Couch*.

To view PRISMA's complete accountant prepared financials, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera:

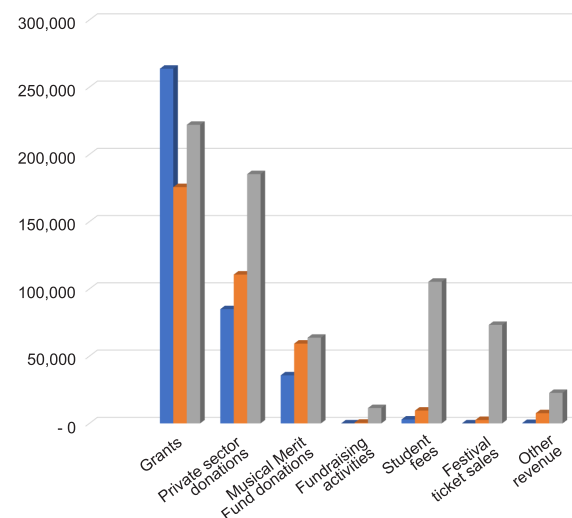


PRISMA is a registered Canadian charity: #840224240 RR 0001

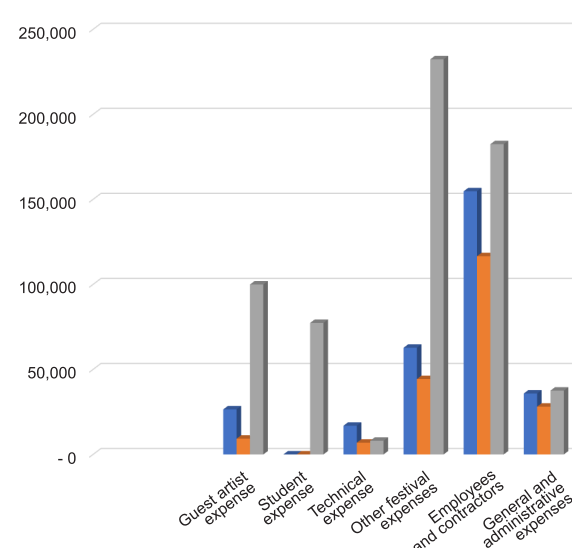
Balance Sheet Comparison – 3 Years



Revenue Comparison – 3 Years



Expense Comparison – 3 Years



■ Year ended September 30, 2021	Total Revenue 387,557	Total Expenses 296,756
■ Year ended September 30, 2020	Total Revenue 366,177	Total Expenses 205,193
■ Year ended September 30, 2019	Total Revenue 683,690	Total Expenses 637,710

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021	YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020
Assets	\$	\$
Cash	234,383	191,975
Restricted cash	28,623	31,591
Accounts receivable	9,637	8,955
Inventory	2,777	3,893
Prepaid expenses	- 0	912
Equipment	65,737	22,923
Instruments	75,410	79,378
	416,567	339,626
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	3,141	17,001
	3,141	17,001
Net Assets		
General fund	261,717	226,728
Restricted fund	151,709	95,897
	413,426	322,625

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021	YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020
Revenue	\$	\$
Government grants	234,203	175,699
Other grants	29,500	- 0
General donations and sponsorships	60,192	95,344
Musical Merit Scholarship Fund donations	35,731	59,306
In-kind donations and sponsorships	24,734	15,752
Student fees	2,900	9,500
Tickets and programs	- 0	2,512
Fundraising programs and sales	- 0	1,326
Wage subsidy	262	6,728
Other	35	12
	387,557	366,177
Expenses		
Artistic	26,504	9,290
Student related costs	1,897	3,190
Advertising and promotion	27,475	19,259
Fundraising and sales expense	4,885	1,125
Administration	18,896	23,517
In-kind donations	24,734	15,752
In-kind grants (facilities)	- 0	- 0
Production related costs	25,860	9,345
Salaries and contracts	154,774	116,583
Donations	- 0	460
Other	11,730	6,673
	296,756	205,193
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	90,801	160,984

For the complete accountant prepared financials, please visit www.prismafestival.com



2021 FESTIVAL & ACADEMY

Due to the pandemic, PRISMA offered a hybrid model for its education and performance activities



Week 1: June 14– 20

For the first time in PRISMA history, we took our academy on the road, spending a week at the University of Victoria (UVic) where the Lafayette String Quartet has been based for three decades. This move allowed us to restore several in-person elements of PRISMA 2021 the way it was originally envisioned, including having a group of students get together to learn a piece.

Six musicians from Victoria joined us in person, while 15 others from elsewhere in British Columbia took part via Zoom for lessons and masterclasses.

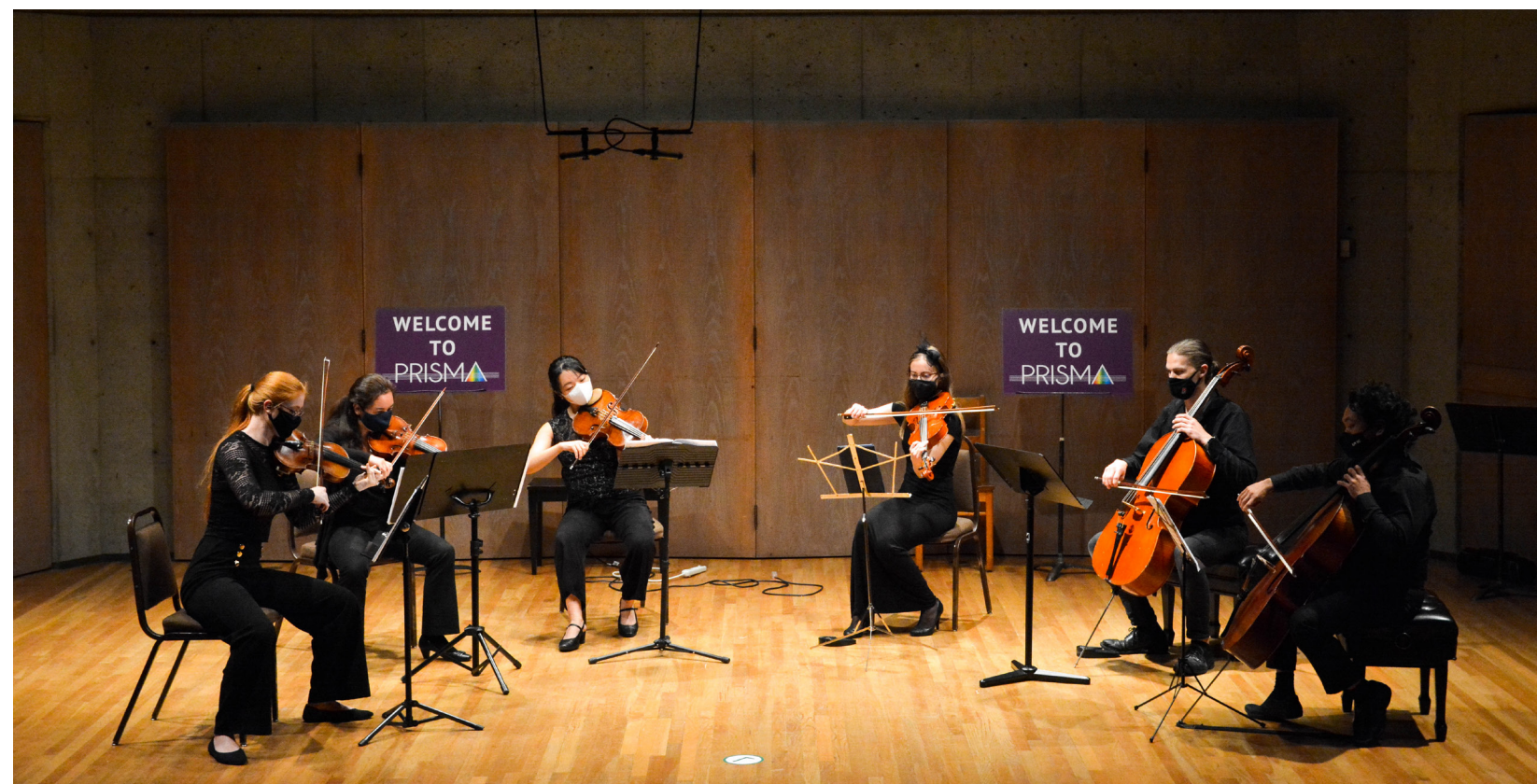
The UVic music building was a hive of activity all week long as our students worked to prepare Julius Röntgen's *String Sextet in G Major* for a livestreamed concert at the end of the week, while the four Lafayette members – Ann Elliott-Goldschmid (violin), Sharon Stanis (violin), Joanna Hood (viola), and Pamela Highbaugh Aloni (cello) – joined forces with artistic director Arthur Arnold (cello) on Franz Schubert's *String Quintet in C Major*.

Over the course of the week, each member of the Lafayette String Quartet – as well as bass instructor Dylan Palmer, on loan from the Vancouver Symphony – worked with students over Zoom on various excerpts and aspects of technique, musicianship, and more. In between the many private lessons being offered, there were daily coaching sessions for the sextet, including one that was livestreamed so audiences around the world could watch their progress.

"I really enjoyed playing in a group. I've missed it so much with COVID... Every teacher had so many good things to add, and for me it's just been very ear-opening."

– Megan Bibby
2021 Student, PRISMA Festival Sextet

After leaving our students with some career advice through our Making a Life as a Musician program, supported by Creative BC, Lafayette closed out the week with a live-streamed concert at Christ Church Cathedral, playing Mozart's "Dissonance Quartet" (*String Quartet No.19 in C major, K.465*) for our global audience.





Week 2: June 21– 26

After arriving back in Powell River and getting settled in at the Evergreen Theatre, the usual home of PRISMA, we reunited with our local film crew and got right to work on producing a busy week of livestream content.

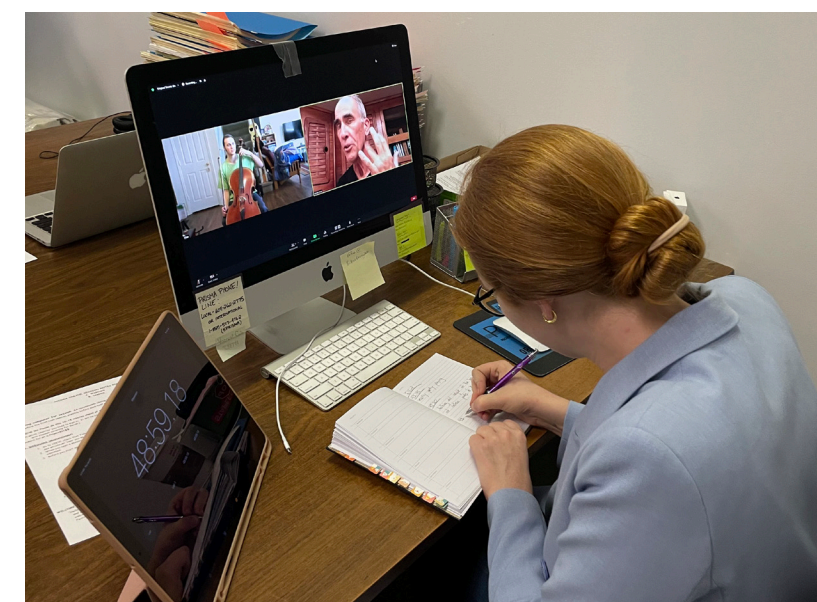
Thanks to a grant from the U.S. Government, PRISMA was also able to offer an American Masterclass series with a faculty comprised of principal players from some of the finest orchestras south (and north) of the border. Spectators tuned in from all over the world to watch David Halen, concertmaster of the St. Louis Symphony; Martin Chalifour, concertmaster of the LA Phil; and world-famous soloist Anne Akiko Meyers work with students from both sides of the 49th parallel. (*And that was just the violin faculty!*) We also welcomed Jonathan Vinocour, principal viola with the San Francisco Symphony; Carter Brey, principal cello with the New York Philharmonic; Katinka Kleijn of the Chicago Symphony; John Lutterman from the University of Alaska-Anchorage; and Timothy Cobb, principal bass with the New York Philharmonic.

Our itinerary was action-packed with online lessons also taking place each afternoon at the Powell River Academy of Music, connecting our guest artists one-on-one with talented students all over the province.

Each morning, the Evergreen Theatre played host to a rehearsal, as the Lafayette String Quartet and Arthur Arnold continued their work on Schubert's *String Quintet in C Major*, which would be recorded and livestreamed at the week's end.

Pop-up concerts at various locations around the community were a great opportunity to test the piece out on a live audience and spread some musical joy to people of all ages. By the time Friday rolled around, our quintet was ready to perform – and, as a special nod to normal, longtime emcee John Silver was brought in to kick off the proceedings. We were even able to invite 36 guests to join us in the Evergreen Theatre and experience a much-needed return to live music in Powell River.

The following day, we livestreamed another edition of our Making a Life as a Musician program, supported by Creative BC, and soon it was time for our final concert of 2021. This performance featured the Cascadia Trio from Victoria – Lorraine Min (piano), Terence Tam (violin) and Brian Yoon (cello) – and another live audience at the Evergreen Theatre. With one final pop-up at Coastal Breeze Retirement Village on the Sunday morning, we were able to spread even more musical joy.





Pop-Up Concerts

Amidst all the unpredictability of a global pandemic, the PRISMA team had been exploring many scenarios leading up to the 2021 festival for reconnecting safely with a live audience. Pop-up concerts were one of the ways that we made music accessible to the community.

Guest artists performed a total of six impromptu recitals – also livestreamed to Facebook – at a variety of venues including Powell River Town Centre Mall (June 21), the vaccination clinic at Powell River Recreation Complex (June 22), Tla'amin Governance House (June 23), Willingdon Beach (June 24 & 25) and Coastal Breeze Retirement Village (June 26). Our students also performed the previous week (June 18) in Victoria at the BC Ferries headquarters. Brian Anderson, the company's vice president of strategy and community engagement, was on hand to welcome students and commemorate six years of sponsorship.



Healing Circle

On June 23, PRISMA staff and guest artists took part in a healing circle at the Tla'amin Salish Centre, listening to a group of local Elders as they reflected on the atrocities of residential schools – including first-hand experiences of trauma and abuse. It was a deeply impactful experience. We were honoured to have several of those Elders, and others from the community, attend a collaborative concert later that day with the Lafayette String Quartet, Arthur Arnold, and Tla'amin composers Cyndi Pallen (č̓n̓c̓) and Drew Blaney (Kespahl).



“Having that opportunity to share in the Healing Circle and to make music with Drew and Cyndi was extraordinarily moving and meaningful. It was life-changing to hear the experiences of all the courageous and warm-hearted Elders. I took so much away, was deeply affected and think often on that morning...”

“We were all so honored to be invited to be there and are extremely grateful and full of admiration for Arthur and the PRISMA Festival for forging such a wonderful relationship with the members of the Tla'amin Nation and showing the example of how to paddle forward together.”

*– Pamela Highbaugh Aloni
Cellist, Lafayette String Quartet
Associate Professor, University of Victoria*





ONLINE ACTIVITIES

Outreach continued in 2021, as PRISMA built on the success of its 2020 livestream programming

Virtual Masterclasses

Throughout PRISMA 2021, viewers around the world were able to tune in to daily masterclass events hosted on Zoom. PRISMA gratefully acknowledges the support of Creative BC – the funder for our Making a Life As a Musician mentorship series, and the United States government – the funder for our American Masterclass Series.

“... Arthur Arnold and his team have found innovative ways to stay connected with their audiences despite the pandemic... I’m pleased that with the help of a Public Diplomacy Grant, the U.S. Consulate General in Vancouver could ensure the participation of world-renowned American musicians in this year’s festival.”

– D. Brent Hardt
U.S. Consul General in Vancouver

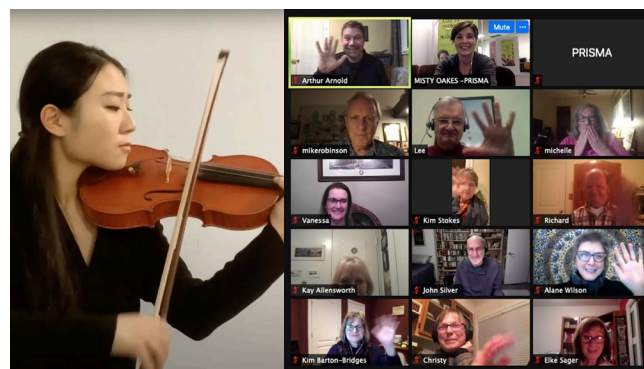
Annual General Meeting

PRISMA members, staff and board came together on Zoom on January 28 for our Annual General Meeting – the first ever online edition. With entertainment on video, voting by polls, and presentations via screen-share, it was truly a sign of the times.



PRISMA on the Couch wins ‘Best of qathet’

Did you know? Season 1 of PRISMA on the Couch was voted ‘Best Virtual Event or Festival’ in qathet Living’s 2021 Readers’ Choice Awards.



Holiday Cellobration

On December 19, PRISMA organized an online meetup over Zoom – our second annual Holiday Cellobration. Multimedia director Andy Rice hosted from Canada, while artistic director Arthur Arnold signed on from the Netherlands, sharing stories and playing festive carols on his cello. There was even a surprise video tour of his neighbourhood in the city of Maastricht. This was the second year for the event, which aims to chase away the COVID blues and connect people through a shared love of music.



PRISMA on the Couch: Season 2

In July and August, staff and special guests took a trip back into the PRISMA vault for Season 2 of PRISMA on the Couch. Even after producing 10 episodes in 2020, there were more stories to tell and more music to share – including highlights from the 2021 festival.

Episodes aired every Friday from July 23 to August 27, making the bold move outdoors, with each new installment being filmed at a different scenic location in the qathet region. (One was even hosted from the back of an 18-foot powerboat!) Our film crew, comprised of Claudia Medina, Angela Kendall and drone pilot Ryk Tataryn, truly outdid themselves on this project and we are incredibly grateful for their work.

PRISMA on the Couch once again succeeded in its mission to reach people all over the world, drawing online viewers not just from British Columbia and Canada but from 33 other countries worldwide. As of press time, views on social media had exceeded 45,000 and continue to grow. Re-runs have continued to air regularly on cable television (Shaw Spotlight – Channel 4 in Powell River and the Comox Valley) and now count for an estimated 35,000 additional views.

Equal parts educational and entertaining, the series is a great way to get a feel for what we offer in-person every June. Enjoy interviews with alumni and guest artists, go behind the scenes in our virtual classroom, and watch never-before-seen concert footage from the PRISMA archives. It’s truly the next best thing to being with us in person! (Access links can be found on the next page.)





Episode 1: Westview Harbour

Aired July 23, 2021

The kickoff to our second season of *PRISMA on the Couch* re-united co-hosts Arthur Arnold and Andy Rice for an hour of festival highlights and archival performances. The neighbourhood postman even stopped by to hear Beethoven, Schubert, and Rachmaninov...

To watch Episode 1, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera:



Episode 2: tišosəm (Tla'amin)

Aired July 30, 2021

Guest co-host, PRISMA board member and Tla'amin citizen Cyndi Pallen (čune) joined Arthur Arnold to present this episode from the sunny shores of tišosəm. Together, they recapped PRISMA's recent visits to the Tla'amin Nation and showcased musical collaborations.

To watch Episode 2, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera:



Episode 3: kʷuθaysqən (Shelter Point)

Aired August 6, 2021

In this episode our hosts and their couches crossed the Strait of Georgia, landing at Shelter Point Park on Texada Island. Highlights from PRISMA's American Masterclass Series were featured, plus conversations with several of our esteemed guest artists.

To watch Episode 3, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera:

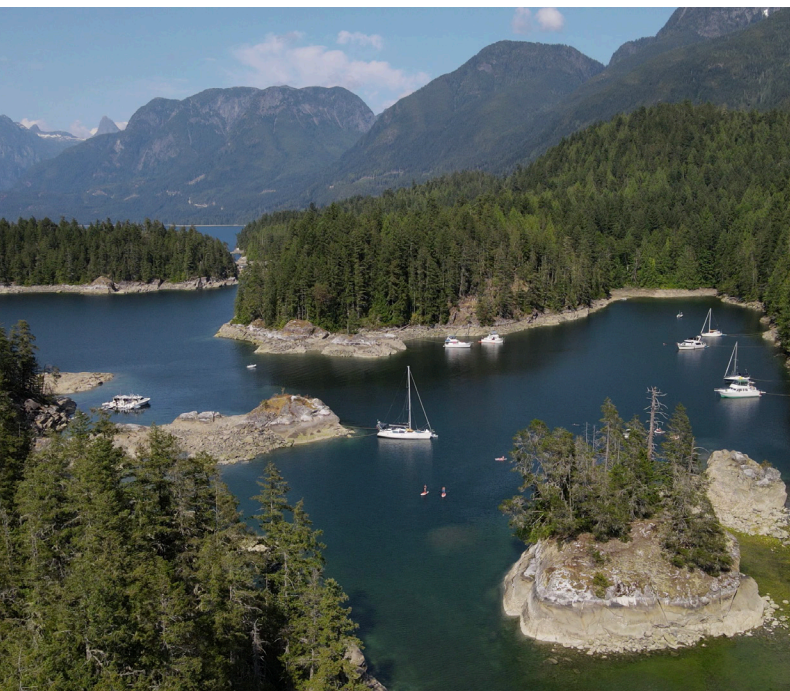




Episode 4: λα?αμεν (Lund) Aired August 13, 2021

The hustle and bustle of Lund Harbour was the perfect backdrop for an action-packed episode featuring the works of Shostakovich, Strauss and Shubert. Vancouver Symphony Orchestra music director Otto Tausk joined the maestro for a chat while kayaking in the Ragged Islands.

To watch Episode 4, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera:



Episode 5: Desolation Sound Marine Park Aired August 20, 2021

For this special episode, we left our couches on land and hit the open water! Amidst the breathtaking beauty of multiple anchorages in Desolation Sound Provincial Marine Park, hosts Arthur Arnold and Andy Rice highlighted the works of Brahms, Haydn and Strauss.

To watch Episode 5, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera:



Episode 6: ?ah?jumix™ (Willingdon Beach) Aired August 27, 2021

Guest co-host Tara O'Donnell joined Arthur Arnold to present the final episode of our series, which featured a look at our Making a Life as a Musician program and PRISMA's community outreach initiatives. Plus, works by Mahler, Hatzis and Berlioz.

To watch Episode 6, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera:





COMMUNITY IMPACT

PRISMA values its local partners, building meaningful collaborations through a shared love of music



School Visits: PRISMA for Kids

PRISMA for Kids is our investment in the upcoming generation of musicians and music fans, and school visits are an integral part of this outreach program. Over the course of 2021, with COVID safety protocols in place, PRISMA artistic director Arthur Arnold was able to visit Kelly Creek Community School, Texada Elementary, Westview Elementary, Edgehill Elementary and Assumption Catholic School to share music with over 350 primary students. Highlights were featured in Episode 6 of PRISMA on the Couch, Season 2.

“I am always amazed at how deeply young children can feel and respond to music. When one child commented to Arthur in the forest that the music was ‘dark’ I realized that Arthur had not just allowed this seven-year-old to experience music today but he was opening up a whole lifetime of music appreciation to this boy.”

“The gift that we were given in this COVID year was not just a gift for today – it is one for the future. Thank you so much to the whole PRISMA team and to Arthur especially.”

– Jenni Brander
Teacher, Kelly Creek Community School

“It was magical ...just like he was making magic in the trees.”

“When I closed my eyes all I could feel was the music.”

“I was the most calm I have ever been.”

“There was fast music and then there was (sic) slow bits – those were the rain drops.”

“The music was transcending.”



Connections restored

If I've learned anything over the past two years it's to never underestimate the incredible, connective power of music.

Time and time again during this pandemic – both through my own music-making, and the music of others – I've been reminded of this. Even at our local vaccination clinic, where, as an official volunteer my duty of enforcing the 15-minute post-jab wait quickly changed to playing cello to entertain those who I'd been tasked to keep track of.

Often it worked a little too well, with people sometimes staying for an hour or more. On several occasions, a supervisor would make their way over to gently suggest a relinquishing of seats to free up space for the next queue.

After a year's deprivation of live music, there was no denying that something was now being restored within these folks. And for me too, to perform in person again and not for cameras and microphones, the emotions were tangible – particularly as the vaccination clinic was occupying the very same theatre space that is home to our annual festival.

As the year went on and restrictions on public gatherings ebbed and flowed, it didn't matter whether I was playing in a seniors home, or for a lonely man in the forest. Music connected us every time.

When the time came for PRISMA in June, connectivity remained the motto. The first week of PRISMA 2021 took place at the University of Victoria, thanks to our artists in residence, the Lafayette String Quartet. Quite serendipitously, the six students from UVic who were accepted to PRISMA happened to form a balanced ensemble: two violins, two violas and two cellos – a sextet for which the Dutch composer Julius Röntgen (1855–1932) wrote a piece. Fifteen other students, located elsewhere in BC, received daily online lessons from the Lafayette members.

During the second week of PRISMA, held in Powell River, the online lessons and rehearsals continued. The PRISMA office was a hive of activity, and a colourful spreadsheet with dozens of pre-arranged Zoom meetings guided our staff through the intricate daily itinerary. Not only did we teach 21 students from all over the province, but thanks to a public diplomacy grant from the U.S. Consulate General in Vancouver we were able to provide free masterclasses for dozens of additional Canadian and American students and alumni. Their instructors were famous soloists and principal musicians from some of the top orchestras in America, whom I was fortunate enough to interview for Episode 3 of our *PRISMA on the Couch* broadcast series.

Every afternoon, the Lafayette String Quartet and I would visit different locations in the community to perform live pop-up concerts, announced daily on social media. One at Willingdon Beach on June 24 was a definite highlight. The concert felt like a miniature version of our annual PRISMA on the Beach event, summoning adults and kids who happened to be within earshot – including a few of our festival regulars who had seen the post on Facebook and scrambled to grab their lawn chairs.

Another profound experience was when PRISMA musicians and staff were invited to the Tla'amin Nation to take part in a healing circle where a large group of Elders shared their residential school experiences. This moving opportunity connected us deeply and it gave the live performance that followed with Cyndi Pallen, Drew Blaney and the five string players so much more meaning. Dr. Elsie Paul opened that pop-up concert with a welcome prayer and we all enjoyed being together and sharing music as totems towered above us.

Midway through the festival, we received notice that the Provincial Health Order had been amended to allow for public gatherings of up to 50 people. (By this point, we had accepted a fate of live-streamed concerts only for 2021.) The PRISMA team got a collective glimmer in its eye and quickly mobilized to accommodate a small live audience at the Evergreen Theatre for two in-person performances.

Both were incredibly overwhelming and moving, with a palpable energy and excitement swelling in the room. On the livestream recording you can actually hear a collective whoop of joy when our longtime emcee John Silver took the stage to introduce the musicians – a little surprise we'd cooked up to mark the occasion and restore a sense of normalcy for attendees. One member remarked afterwards that the last event she had attended pre-pandemic was a PRISMA performance, and this particular evening was her first concert since.

Now, we are in the midst of organizing PRISMA 10, commemorating a decade of entertainment and connection as well as music education at a very high level, right here in Powell River. It fills me with delight to imagine that we will be performing for you again this summer – I feel positive we will get together and connect through live music again!



Arthur Arnold
PRISMA Artistic Director



Media Outreach

In partnership with the Peak Publishing Ltd., one of our generous local media sponsors, we were grateful to be able to tell many PRISMA stories this year – from maestro Arthur Arnold playing at the vaccination clinic to the return of *PRISMA on the Couch*. Local coverage also included articles in *qathet Living Magazine* and a radio ad campaign on CoastFM.

Over the provincial radio airwaves, maestro Arnold made appearances on CBC Radio's *On the Coast* with Gloria Macarenko and *All Points West* with Kathryn Marlow in May, chatting about the connective power of music, our PRISMA for Kids program with School District 47, and the 2021 PRISMA Festival.

On television, PRISMA found major coverage through the Shaw Spotlight community access channel, an important catalyst in bringing *PRISMA on the Couch* to thousands of homes throughout British Columbia during the summer months. Our activities were also featured on CBC News Vancouver's "Our Vancouver" segment.

Local Suppliers

PRISMA is proud to have collaborated with dozens of Powell River-based businesses in 2021 through our events, grant expenditures and regular operations.

Sign manufacturing, printing, videography, print media and food services were just a few of the areas in which we were able to utilize the talents and expertise of local suppliers and keep dollars in the community.





OUR SUPPORTERS

We gratefully acknowledge the volunteers, members, donors & sponsors who make PRISMA possible

Members & Donors

Legacy Gifts

Monty Tyrwhitt-Drake
Mary & Doug Henry Foundation
Rudy Van Der Maeden Foundation
Harry & Louise Lundquist
RBC Dominion Securities
(Brian Balfe, Don Somers)
Gift Funds Canada:
PRISMA Endowment Fund

Maestro's Circle

Deux Mille Foundation
Illahie Foundation

Encore Club

Brendan & Heather Allen
The Chapman Family
Heron Family, *in memory of Michael*
Mike Robinson & Lynn Webster
Sharon Thomas
Michelle Zarin

Benefactor

Anonymous (2)
John and Susan Bruin
Patrick Brabazon & Jane Cameron
Dona Campbell & Brian Walker
Bryce & Kim Code
Chris Coppin
Linda Lea Harvey
Mary Henry
Sherry Sakamoto
Paul Schachter & Denise Reinhardt
Terry & Lorainne Stokes
Alane Wilson & Terry Noreault

Patron

Anonymous (2)
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Kim & Charles Barton-Bridges
Doreen Berrington & Lee Coulter
David Campbell
Nancy & Alex Hollman
Christien Kaaj & Martijn Poelen
Mary Kallal
Darryl & Fern Magnus-Brown
Michael & Liz Matthews
David & Janet May

Johanna & Randy Moore
Irene O'Connor
Barry & Jeanette Scott
Karl & Christy Siegler
Kim Stokes & Arthur Arnold
Randolph Thompson
Marguerite Unger

Friend

Anonymous (2)
John Allan
William & Kay Allensworth
Richard Armstrong
Hector & Donna Beauchesne
Steve Beck
Terri Beck
Richard Benson
Anne & Mike Bonkowski
Susan Charlton
Laverne Dalziel
Susan Dawkins & Steven Grover
Sean & Ruth Dees
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Carol Sheehan & John Heintz
Susan Jackson
Michael Keating
Jean & Stan Lubin
Patricia McDonald
Anne Akiko Meyers
Eleanor Montour

Norma Murphy
Cedwyn & Margaret Phillips
Rachel Rocco & Yvonne Peters
Stephen Powell
Judy Slingsby
Adrian & Lot Sparham
Iris Stefan
Dawn & Geoff Stubbs
Pat Thompson
Ulli & Michael Slade

Classic

Anonymous
Katya Gustafson
Nell Dragovan
Rae Fitzgerald
Deanna Fichel
Leslie Forrester
Lyndamae Harris
Marie Knowles
Meriko Kubota
Diane & David McKendrick
Eleanor Montour
Misty Oakes
Joyce Relyea
Elke Sager
Julie Silvestrini
Marianne Smisko
Wendy Spreeuw
Helen Theilmann
Jo Thomas
Jeannie Thomson
Patricia Van Schaik
Cindy Villani
Patt & Peter Wilson



Longtime supporters Brendan and Heather Allen honoured with 2021 PRISMA Fellowship

Keeping with a three-year tradition of awarding fellowships to its key builders and supporters, Pacific Region International Summer Music Association (PRISMA) was pleased to announce Brendan and Heather Allen as its Class of 2021 inductees.

The presentation took place at PRISMA's Annual General Meeting, held virtually on January 28. A pre-recorded video segment that was played for attendees showed PRISMA artistic director Arthur Arnold stopping by the Allen's home in Powell River to deliver a commemorative photo print and certificate.

"In the line of legendary PRISMA fellows who have supported us in an incredible way, I am thrilled to present this award to a couple who is very dear to my heart," said Arnold. "Every year you can find Brendan helping to set up our PRISMA facilities with the volunteer crew, and for years Heather has written all the thank-you cards that PRISMA sends to its donors after a contribution has

been received. Both have helped students attend PRISMA financially through their ongoing donations to our Musical Merit Scholarship Fund, and they have also volunteered as homestay hosts for pianist Edwin Kim during the PRISMA Festival."

It's an exemplary track record of service that hasn't gone unnoticed by PRISMA President Mike Robinson either.

"The Allens are all round supporters of PRISMA, and their artistic citizenship typifies the best of Powell River," he said. "They are ideal recipients of the PRISMA Fellowship."

But as grateful as PRISMA is for the Allens' generosity, the couple insists it is them who is getting the better end of the bargain.

"Having PRISMA enriches all our lives," said Heather. "We're very grateful – especially to you, Arthur."

"You've created an amazing phenomenon," added Brendan.

The Allens join Class of 2019 inductees Sharon Thomas, Brian Balfe and Paul Schachter and Class of 2020 inductee John Silver in receiving the honour of PRISMA Fellowship.

"I've always been somebody who is eager to roll up my sleeves to build the kind of community that I want to live in, and so that's what I see about this community – particularly the arts and culture sector, the artists, the people who enjoy the arts. It's really a very can-do spirit, and that's what makes things like PRISMA happen."

– **Tara O'Donnell**
Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture – City of Powell River

Musical Merit Fund Contributors

Did you know? Some of the most gifted musicians at PRISMA have faced the greatest financial obstacles. Our Musical Merit Fund (MMF) is the key to making our academy accessible to deserving students who meet or exceed the competitive enrolment requirements but cannot otherwise afford the cost of tuition, meals and lodging.

The MMF is an essential part of PRISMA's growth strategy and requires a multi-year commitment at your support level of choice. As a PRISMA donor, you are part of a growing family that supports international music excellence and shapes the careers of young orchestral musicians.

The following individuals and foundations have demonstrated a commitment to the future of classical music, bringing PRISMA closer to its goal of having the entire orchestra covered under a full scholarship:

Anonymous
Brendan & Heather Allen
Dona Campbell & Brian Walker
Deux Mille Foundation
The Chapman Family
Lyn Cooper & Susan Cooper
Chris Coppin
Linda Lea Harvey
John Heintz
Mary Henry
Nancy & Alex Hollman
The Heron Family
Illahie Foundation
Michael & Liz Matthews
Irene O'Connor
Sharon Thomas
Rudy Van Der Maeden Foundation
Michelle Zarin

*In memory of Alan Blazek, Bruce Conte,
 Mike Finnigan, Larry Harlow, Mick Brigden,
 Brian Rohan, Chucky Lopez, Rocco Prestia, Victor Paz*

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 Lamont & Company Public Accountant
 Tempco
 Save-On-Foods
 Powell River Academy of Music

Community Friends
 The Chopping Block
 Royal LePage
 The Brick
 Coastal Breeze Retirement Village
 32 Lakes Café and Bakery

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 BC Community Gaming
*We acknowledge the financial support
 of the Province of British Columbia*
 City of Powell River
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 Destination British Columbia
 Powell River Council for Arts, Culture & Heritage
 Powell River Community Forest Ltd.
 Powell River Community Foundation
 qathet Regional District
 School District 47
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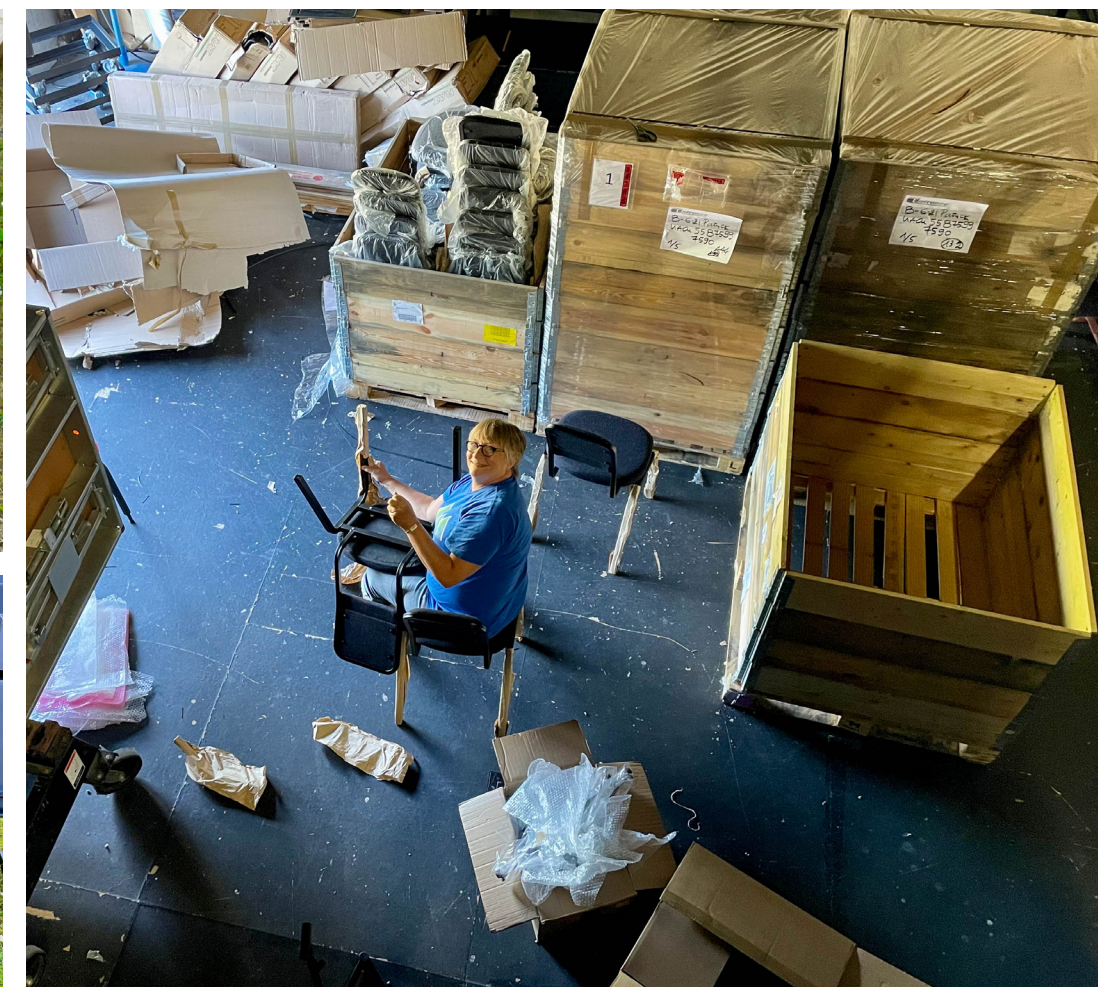
Funding provides new equipment

After lengthy shipping delays, several pallets of new musical equipment arrived in June 2021, courtesy of BC Arts Council and Powell River Community Forest Ltd. Generous grant support from both of these organizations, awarded during our previous fiscal year, made it possible to purchase specialty seating for musicians including orchestra chairs, stands, stools and acoustic shields.

This marks a big step forward in terms of efficiency and comfort for our staff, volunteers and students. In the past, members of the PRISMA team had spent many hours “chair-wrangling” to locally source and transport chairs of varying condition and suitability. Given that our students spend approximately 45 hours rehearsing and another 8 hours performing on stage at the Evergreen Theatre, it is crucial that the equipment available to them is not only purpose-built but wholly reflective of a professional orchestral environment.

Having quality furniture for instrumentalists as part of the Evergreen Theatre's on-site resources, and available for use by other groups in the community, will greatly increase the versatility of the facilities. This sentiment was echoed in support letters provided to the grant jury from the Powell River Festival of the Performing Arts, Powell River Academy of Music, Powell River Community Band and City of Powell River.

Also purchased were two portable tents for use as auxiliary green room spaces adjacent to the Rotary Pavilion at Willingdon Beach during performances at PRISMA on the Beach. We look forward to putting them to good use in 2022.



PRISMA receives three-year contribution agreement from City of Powell River

by Paul Galinski // Peak Reporter
November 6, 2021

A three-year contribution agreement with the Pacific Region International Summer Music Association (PRISMA) has been approved by City of Powell River council.

At the November 4 council meeting, council agreed to increase its annual grant-in-kind to PRISMA to reflect increases in fee schedules for Powell River Recreation Complex.

Councillor CaroleAnn Leishman said she had been involved with PRISMA basically since its inception. She said her mother, former councillor Myrna Leishman, was also a supporter of PRISMA.

“It was one of our annual activities we enjoyed going to, such as the concerts, together,” said Leishman.

“This organization really highlights how important arts and culture can be for a community and they’ve done an incredible job putting Powell River on the map as a cultural capital, bringing musicians and artists from around the world, and putting on a really class act.”

“It’s not an event, it’s a school, it’s a happening. It’s a multi-month process and it’s really important. I’m grateful we are able to assist these types of organizations to continue to do the good work that they are doing.”

Leishman said PRISMA is definitely worthwhile, so she was happy to support the motion, which council carried unanimously.

According to the contribution agreement, on an annual basis, PRISMA will receive an annual grant of \$15,000. The grant-in-kind for use of city facilities and services will increase from \$30,000 per year for use of city facilities and services, to \$35,000 per year. The agreement also stipulates up to \$3,500 for transit passes for students,

and up to \$1,000 for Willingdon Beach for the annual PRISMA on the Beach concert.

The annual grant-in-kind will have a value of up to \$39,500 for use of city facilities and services. The new agreement will begin on January 1, 2022, and terminate on December 31, 2024.

At the October 19 committee of the whole meeting, city director of properties, development and communication Scott Randolph said the current agreement, which started January 1, 2019, is set to expire at the end of this year. He said the contribution agreement with PRISMA was deemed to be beneficial to the community’s cultural sector and economy.

“PRISMA is a premier cultural event and organization in this community,” said Randolph. “It plays a significant role in expanding the city’s and the region’s international standing as a cultural destination.”

Mayor Dave Formosa said he supports PRISMA wholeheartedly.

“These cultural events aren’t really big moneymakers, but they are huge cultural makers,” said Formosa. “I’m proud of PRISMA and I support this.”

Randolph said there are a number of covenants in the agreement, including PRISMA submitting an annual report to the city, outlining outcomes of any events, and an economic impact analysis and summaries of how city services were used. The association is to submit annual financial statements at year end for analysis.

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It could only happen here...

How local enthusiasm and over a century of cultural investment paved a path for PRISMA

Imagine setting out today with the intent of creating an international music festival based in a small British Columbia seaside town with no dedicated budget, no paid staff, no endowment, no volunteer board of directors, no general public awareness of your plans, and no international reputation to build upon? Who in their right mind would embark upon such a task? What would be the odds of even partial success? How would you handle the potential of failure, something almost certain to occur? The mere thought of such a venture is frightening!

The answer to all of the above is really tied to the quality of the idea, the presence of a small group of inspired ideologues to push it forward, a modest amount of pre-existing international music festival connectivity, and the host community’s pre-existing potential to realize cultural dreams normally associated with big cities and their egocentric philanthropists.

To be fair, Canada has a number of cultural festivals that build on broad-based citizen enthusiasm, and rely heavily on unique community values that are generations old. Think of the Christmas-time Mumming, Regattas and Bakeapples in Outport Newfoundland and Labrador; the Festival d’été de Québec in Quebec City; the Festival du Voyageur in Winnipeg; the Midway Lake Music Festival in Fort McPherson; and the Calgary Stampede. All of these are uniquely local festivals, and all have grown with their host communities. All are also known outside of Canada for a variety of local reasons and idiosyncrasies.

This local energy and capacity is also present in Powell River, in some measure because the old Mill Town culture starting in 1908 with the founding of the Powell River Company by two American entrepreneurs, Dr. Dwight Brooks and Michael Scanlon. The company’s Townsite included cultural as well as physical planning, and ever since, Powell River has earned its place as a bona fide Cultural Capital of Canada. In fact it was so-dedicated in 2004. Powell River performers have won an Academy Award, Juno Awards for music, along with many Orders of Canada.

Today our community hosts the International Choral Kathaumixw, presented every second year by the Powell River Academy of Music (PRAM), drawing up to 1,000 choristers from around the world, and annually the Powell River Festival of the Performing Arts, the Powell River Film Festival, and for the past nine years, the Pacific Region International Summer Music Association (PRISMA), drawing talented music students from around the world to form the PRISMA Festival Orchestra.

PRISMA as an idea took form in maestro Arthur Arnold’s head when PRAM’s pre-existing Symphony Orchestra Academy of the

Pacific (SOAP) was forced to close after the global financial crisis occurred in 2008/9. Out of these ashes arose an international student-centred vision, with an independent mandate to form an annual publicly performing symphony orchestra, tutored by guest artists from an array of global music faculties. Our inaugural class of PRISMA students, starting in June of 2013, saw the immediate value of their participation – they were subsequently able to state in their resumes that they had played in a symphony orchestra!

Locally, the growing public buzz about and around PRISMA generated a growing following of citizen members and volunteers, local businesses and business organizations like Rotary, regionally active philanthropists, and most interestingly, the financial and public service involvement of all three levels of local government: the City of Powell River, the qathet Regional District, and the Tla’amin Nation. In addition, major grant support is also provided by the Province of British Columbia and public corporations like BC Ferries, PRISMA’s presenting sponsor since 2016.

PRISMA’s volunteers, ranging from symphony venue ushers, to student homestay providers, drivers, stage hands and board members are a loyal group, and they augment a professional cadre of staff and contractors who provide international-grade professionalism to all facets of operations. And in addition to qathet region supporters, a growing bond is forming with Vancouver patrons who block-book hotel venues and in increasing numbers buy tickets, meals and related tourism experiences while taking in a long weekend of symphony performances. In addition, Vancouver family foundations are providing support, and also send representatives to performances. Parallel interest is also growing in the Courtenay-Comox region, thanks in part to the annual Sail to the Symphony tour package co-organized with PRISMA’s founding sponsors, Balfe/Somers Wealth Management of RBC Dominion Securities.

Over the past four years a PRISMA Honorary Fellowship designation has been created to celebrate the core efforts of the founding board members and organizational builders. Brian Balfe, Sharon Thomas, Paul Schachter, John Silver, and Brendan and Heather Allen have so far been acknowledged for their visionary contributions, and more are to follow. All of them embody the spirits of creativity, music and place that characterize PRISMA at its core – and which enable its growing presence in the community that gave it life.

Mike Robinson, C.M.
Chair, PRISMA Board of Directors



Mailing Address

Suite 9 - 4313 Alberta Ave.
Powell River, BC
V8A 5G7

Office Address

#26 - 7100 Alberni St.
Powell River, BC
office@prismafestival.com

1-855-577-4762 (1-855-5PRISMA)

PRISMA 2022 is June 13-25
www.prismafestival.com