

# PRISMA

PACIFIC REGION INTERNATIONAL  
SUMMER MUSIC ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2023





## We are PRISMA

Every year, the Pacific Region International Summer Music Association (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 orchestra take shape right before your eyes, along with performances by members of leading orchestras from around the world.

Since the very first PRISMA Festival held in 2013, our organization has mentored over 700 students from 38 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.

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

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# President's message

*Words from outgoing PRISMA president Mike Robinson, who moves on after eight years of service on the PRISMA Board of Directors.*

With joy, I reflect on the past eight years and PRISMA's growth and increasing outreach to new audiences and funders. I am declaring my happiness and appreciation to so many for what has been achieved. Simply put, we have become a worldly musical phenomenon, have built strong local audience support (drawing over 5,000 concertgoers annually from BC and beyond), have solidified revenues in qathet's developing cultural tourism market, demonstrated for 11 years (since PRISMA's founding in 2013) that we can operate deficit free, and have begun to build endowment revenues to support our long-term vision.

In 2023 PRISMA's 11th season (June 12 to 24), we drew Guest Artists to qathet from leading orchestras like the New York Philharmonic, Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and Victoria Symphony. PRISMA students travelled from centres like The Juilliard School, New England Conservatory, Eastman School of Music, and the Cleveland Institute. In total, they represented 18 countries.

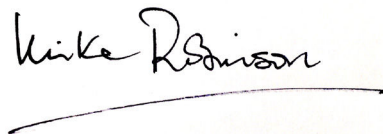
Having participated in eight years of the above planning and delivery as a Board Member, I am struck by the realization that symphonic performance is a highly competitive career, and our visionary PRISMA founding maestro, Arthur Arnold, frequently points out how hard it is to get a job in a professional orchestra. Over 700 students have gone through our academy, many of whom won positions in professional orchestras.

Together, our staff, volunteers (board members included!), sponsors at all levels, and members have enabled all of the qathet communities and cultures to participate in building an international reputation as grassroots supporters of symphonic careers. I have witnessed PRISMA develop into a mature organization professionally led by its talented staff and overseen by a dedicated board of directors.

Going forward, let us all consider how to keep building and supporting PRISMA's enriching vision with global outreach. Let's continue spreading the word and supporting PRISMA's record of delivering classical music that connects people and builds bridges cross-culturally and with financial acumen and flair.

Building our Musical Merit Fund is most important to me now, as potential PRISMA students increasingly desire summer programs that also provide for tuition, lodging, and meals. We should not assume that all PRISMA applicants have the financial means to participate in our programs. Many do not. I have faith that the team at PRISMA will continue to work to ensure future students can attend.

I am ending my volunteer service to the PRISMA Board with a smile and a thank-you for helping me find purpose and new friends in my chosen quiet retirement community of Skelhp. We will see each other in the audience at the 12th PRISMA Festival this summer.



Michael P. Robinson, C.M.  
PRISMA Board Chair

## Cultural Collaborations Committee

Elder Doreen Point (Les.Pet)  
Cyndi Pallen (čine)  
Drew Blaney (Kespahl)  
Arthur Arnold  
Kim Barton-Bridges



# Festival highlights

## Lafayette String Quartet

The Lafayette String Quartet (LSQ) returned to Powell River to teach and perform for the last time at PRISMA before retirement. After almost four decades of working and performing together, the LSQ announced their final performance in August of 2023. Highlights of their June 13 concert included masterful performances of Shostakovich's Preludes and Fugues Op. 87 (1952) No. 1 in C major and No. 15 in D flat major, British composer Nicola LeFanu's String Quartet No. 5 (commissioned by LSQ), and Mozart's String Quintet No. 4 in G minor, K. 516 (1787). Special guest Yariv Aloni joined them for the latter on viola.



## PRISMA For Kids

The by-donation *Melody Makers Kids' Concert & Fun Fair* on June 20 was a hit with both adults and kids. The relaxed evening, curated to encourage kids to explore classical music, featured an introduction to the instruments of the orchestra, musical storytime with special guest Sonia Zagwyn from Powell River Public Library, the Cuore Piano Trio, a percussion extravaganza, and more! And what a joy to see the kids enjoy the fun fair before the concert, complete with a musical instrument petting zoo, face painting, colouring – and, of course, ice cream.

## Did you know?

Since its launch in 2015, P4K has grown to not only include school visits from the maestro throughout the year, but also the creation of classroom resource materials based on the musical repertoire at PRISMA.

## Concerto Competition

PRISMA audiences were treated to performances by 10 Concerto Competition semi-finalists at the Evergreen Theatre on June 14. Our jury of international guest artists chose two competitors to compete in the final round on June 23, with a repeat concert on June 24. The winner was violinist Maya Kilburn (USA), a student of The Juilliard School of Music, who took home a \$1,500 cash prize. She performed Bartok's Violin Concerto No. 2, BB. 117 (I. Allegro non troppo) under the baton of conducting student Michael Djabarov (USA). The runner-up was violinist Evan Pyne (Canada), who took home a \$500 cash prize for his performance of Sibelius' Violin Concerto Op. 47 (I. Allegro Moderato) under the baton of conducting student Isaac Hayward (USA / Australia.) Both finalists also received an invitation to return to PRISMA on a full scholarship.



## PRISMA on the Beach

The Sunshine Coast is an often deceptive name for the temperate rainforest PRISMA calls home. In 2023, *PRISMA on the Beach* featured rain jackets, umbrellas, and the usual smiles of the audience and artists. After a short wait, sunny skies peeked out between the retreating clouds, signalling the start of the musical performances by Tla'amin singers and drummers and the PRISMA Festival Orchestra, who performed overlooking the scenic Salish Sea.



## Chamber Music Concerts

The Evergreen Theatre was home to two weeks of masterfully performed chamber music works. On June 15 audiences were presented a musical mosaic, featuring *Bits of Beauty* by Tobin Stokes, in which all the guest artists took part, followed by a performance of Tailleferre's *Piano Trio* (1916/17, revised 1987) by the Cuore Piano Trio. After intermission, which was enjoyed in the festival's festive tents with a great selection of refreshments, the Festival Orchestra joined the guest artists for Stravinsky's spirited *Pulcinella Suite* (1920). During the second week's chamber music concert on Thursday, June 22, the audience was brought on an international music journey featuring guest artists and select students in virtuoso chamber music performances by Ewazen, Bottesini, Bongers, and Mozart. Each weekday, the audience was treated to two *Limelight Concerts* straddling the masterclasses.



## Symphony Orchestra Concerts

The 2023 PRISMA Festival Orchestra's debut symphony concert was an evening of *Symphonic Grandeur*, featuring Dvořák's cello concerto with soloist Henry Shapard and Brahms' joyful second symphony.

Bringing PRISMA's 11th season to a close was Mahler's Symphony No. 1, which unfolded with a pastoral introduction that evolved into a birdcall motif. The Allegro section, rooted in the composer's second Wayfarer song, served as the heartbeat of the symphony, intertwining themes in the subsequent movements. The second movement, a Scherzo with the rhythm of an Austrian folk dance, extended beyond the conventional structure, echoing the birdcall theme of the first movement. A lonely double bass started the third movement and introduced a funeral march based on "Frère Jacques", incorporating elements of Jewish Klezmer music, revealing Mahler's complex relationship with his heritage. The stormy finale wove together themes from earlier movements, culminating in a heroic coda with a triumphant reprise of the opening fanfare. Mahler's genius lay in seamlessly juggling these thematic elements, creating a symphony of profound depth and emotion. Audiences left the 11th iteration of PRISMA, moved by the titanic performance by the PRISMA Festival Orchestra.





## PRISMA Festival Orchestra

### Violin

Diana Barbosa Araujo (Mexico)\*  
 Lottie Bezemer (Netherlands)\*  
 Zuzanna Budzyńska (Austria / Poland)\*  
 Pei-Wu Derek Chen (USA / Taiwan)\*  
 Heeyun Cho (Republic of Korea)\*  
 Zoe D'Amico (USA)\*  
 Maya Kilburn (USA)\*  
 Tamzyn Klazek-Schryer (Canada)\*  
 Sumin Lee (Republic of Korea)\*  
 Salome Lomidze (USA/Georgia)\*  
 Alicia Jeanelly Pasa Nugroho (Indonesia)\*  
 Zoe Oda (USA)  
 Esme Peters (USA)\*  
 Evan Pyne (Canada)\*  
 Paola Nava Romero (Mexico)\*  
 Alan Bello Rosete (Mexico)\*  
 Felix Shen (USA)\*  
 Fei Tong (China)\*  
 Kuan-Hao Yen (USA / Taiwan)\*

### Viola

Maddisyn Dixon Whitbourne (Australia)  
 Zoey Dodson (USA)

Grace Dowd (USA)  
 Emma Dunbar (Canada)\*  
 Kyran Klazek-Schryer (Canada)\*  
 Minji Lee (Canada / Republic of Korea)\*  
 Katherine Moran (USA / Canada)\*  
 Syara Robert (USA)\*

### Cello

Deohanz Buenafe (USA)  
 Kay Chen (Canada)\*  
 Vinci Chen (Canada)\*  
 Sarah Cupit (Canada)\*  
 Alonso Flores (Canada)\*  
 Jacob MacDonald (Canada)\*  
 Diana Reid (USA)  
 Jadwiga Roguska (Austria / Poland)\*

### Bass

Alexio Ciorra (USA)\*  
 Mackenzie Gibbons (USA)\*  
 Kevin Nunez Alejandro (USA)\*  
 Jordan Pilla (USA)\*  
 Shohei Yoshihara (Singapore / Japan)\*



## Flute

Liana Bartlett (USA)\*  
Jacob Cruz (USA)  
Dayna Hagstedt (USA)  
Jessica Wu (USA)\*

## Oboe

Daniel Cruz (Colombia / USA)\*  
Laura Lambrech (USA)  
Selina Langfeldt (USA)  
Anne Winkelman (USA)

## Clarinet

Yu-Wen Huang (Taiwan)  
Abigail Martin (USA)  
Andrew Nguyen (USA)  
Erin Sercel (USA)

## Bassoon

Shelby Capozzoli (USA)\*  
Caleb Hutchings (USA)\*  
Samuel James (USA)  
Miles Mateus (USA)

## Horn

Sarah Bell (Canada)  
Julia Isabel Crawford (USA)  
Tyler Goldsmith (USA)\*  
Esther Orlov-Mayer (USA)  
Eric Russell (USA)\*  
Sebastián Villegas (Chile)\*

## Trumpet

Mark Barr (Canada)  
Kyra Hulligan (USA)\*  
Carlos Richter (USA)  
Joseph Sanchez (USA)\*

## Trombone

Mauricio Fortuna (USA / Mexico)\*  
Ken Kagawa (USA)  
Marquis Wincher (USA)\*

## Tuba

Tom Yaron Meyerson (USA / Israel)\*

## Percussion

Alexander Beel (USA)  
Thomas (Alex) Staten (USA)  
Kevin Tan (Singapore)\*  
Aiden Trinkner (USA)\*  
Marika Tsuchiya (USA / Japan)

## Harp

Katelyn Croft (USA)\*

## Conducting

Michael Djabarov (USA)  
Isaac Hayward (USA / Australia)

## Student Ensemble in Residence: Cuore Piano Trio

Zuzanna Budzyńska (Violin)\*  
Jadwiga Roguska (Cello)\*  
Szymon Ogryzek (Piano)\*

# Guest Artists

## Conductor

Arthur Arnold

## Trumpet

Marcus Goddard

## Violin

Terence Tam  
Carla Leurs  
Herbert Greenberg

## Trombone

Gordon Cherry

## Tuba

Paul Beauchesne

## Percussion

Bill Linwood

## Viola

Hung-Wei Huang

## Cello

Henry Shapard  
Brian Yoon

## Harp

Alyssa Katahara

## Bass

Dylan Palmer

## Piano

Tina Chang

## Flute

Janet Arms

## Lafayette String Quartet

Ann Elliott-Goldschmid (Violin)  
Sharon Stanis (Violin)  
Joanna Hood (Viola)  
Pamela Highbaugh-Aloni (Cello)  
*with Yariv Aloni (Viola)*

## Oboe

Pauline Oostenrijk

## Clarinet

Alain Desgagné

## Bassoon

Marc Goldberg

## Horn

Leelanee Sterrett  
Oliver de Clercq

\* indicates MMF scholarship recipient





# Academy highlights

*PRISMA offers much more than concerts for its audiences. Each year, our curriculum features public masterclasses and limelight concerts, giving attendees a glimpse into the inner workings of the orchestra.*

## Orchestra Rehearsals

All accepted students played and performed in the PRISMA Festival Orchestra conducted by Arthur Arnold, former music director of the Moscow Symphony Orchestra. The students rehearsed daily in the orchestra, logging over 35 hours (121 hours when counting chamber music rehearsals) by the time the festival was complete. In 2023, the PRISMA Festival Orchestra prepared two full symphony concert programs and performed at a free outdoor community performance known as *PRISMA on the Beach*.





## Making a Life as a Musician

“Musical Chairs,” an engaging Q&A roundtable event, saw the active involvement of guest artists and students. Since 2019 this initiative has enabled PRISMA to tap into the extensive knowledge and years of experience of our guest artists in the realm of classical music. Whether it’s wellness advice or insights into orchestra etiquette, students are encouraged to pose any question they may have, fostering an open and inclusive dialogue.



## Audition Training

During excerpt classes, students received training on the audition process, a competitive endeavor necessary to win a job in a professional orchestra. Students took part in blind/mock auditions behind a screen to improve their skills and gain more experience with the extremely important process of auditioning.



## Lessons, Sectionals & Masterclasses

The 78 PRISMA students received multiple one-on-one lessons, as well as coaching in groups known as sectional rehearsals. Furthermore, they took part in masterclasses in front of an engaged and supportive audience. Their instructors were 24 internationally-renowned musicians from premier orchestras and conservatories who taught a combined 115 hours of lessons.

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## Limelight Concerts

On weekday afternoons, a select group of talented students and esteemed guest artists came together to showcase their artistry through captivating solo repertoire and chamber music performances. This programming offered audiences of all ages an immersive journey behind the scenes. The unique experience allowed attendees to delve into the intricacies of the performers' craft, fostering a deeper appreciation for the world of classical music.

Fun fact: these afternoons are free for PRISMA members and youth under 18, and only \$5 for the general public.

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## Student Ensemble in Residence (Cuore Piano Trio)

Formed in 2017 in Warsaw, Poland and now based in Vienna, Austria the Cuore Piano Trio, composed of Zuzanna Budzyńska, Jadwiga Roguska, and Szymon Ogryzek, swiftly rose to prominence as a leading chamber music ensemble. Notable for their innovative programming and numerous international accolades, including first prizes at prestigious competitions like the Fanny Mendelssohn International Music Competition.

The charismatic trio captivated audiences both on stage and on social media, quickly becoming a fan favorite. From their concert aboard a BC Ferries sailing, performances at the Evergreen Theatre, to their social media takeover of the PRISMA Instagram account, they garnered adoration. The trio received chamber music lessons and a masterclass from Lafayette String Quartet members as well as from other string guest artists.



# Tla'amin connections

PRISMA is thankful to have received support, both financial and artistic, from the Tla'amin Nation as a sponsor of the festival since its inception. Each year, Elders, dancers and singers open PRISMA with a blessing and welcome song in the ᑲᐱᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ (Ayajuthem) language, and send our students home with wisdom and teachings at the festival's end. True friendship has developed over the years between PRISMA and Tla'amin, and we are immensely grateful for this connection and collaboration.

Elder Doreen Point (Les.Pet), PRISMA board director Cyndi Pallen (čine) and Tla'amin Cultural Heritage Manager Drew Blaney (Kespahl), as well as PRISMA vice president Kim Barton-Bridges and artistic director Arthur Arnold form a cultural collaboration committee to guide collaborations between Tla'amin and PRISMA. They meet several times per year.

PRISMA has also established regular musical collaborations with members of the Tla'amin Nation, working in conjunction with local Indigenous composers to arrange traditional songs for orchestra, and facilitate opportunities for these composers and other members of the Tla'amin Nation to perform their songs for the community. These have been important reciprocal experiences for Indigenous and non-Indigenous musicians, including our visiting PRISMA students and guest artists, both on and off the stage.

In 2023, the Tla'amin Nation with the PRISMA Festival Orchestra performed "Xatlnomich" (Drew Blaney) which means "I love you" in ᑲᐱᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ and traditionally accompanies a forbidden love story connecting the Tla'amin peoples to their neighbours to the South, the shishálh (Sechelt) Nation.

They also performed a moving rendition of "Elders Honouring Song", which Blaney wrote in his early teens after Tla'amin Elder Dr. Elsie Paul was awarded an honorary doctorate from Vancouver Island University.

According to Blaney, opportunities for Tla'amin singers and drummers like himself to come together with classical musicians at PRISMA create cross-cultural bridges. "Being able to share a piece of our culture in this setting, we're able to tell a story through that and through that to reach a larger audience that might not otherwise take in that part of our culture," he said. "It's something that we can bring not just to the qathet region but elsewhere across North America and worldwide. Being able to share our culture this way with this group is something that we've envisioned to expand."

As for future collaboration between PRISMA and the Tla'amin Nation, Blaney hopes to utilise the power of education and social media to reach even bigger audiences. "Education is huge and marketing through social media and sharing teaching around music, and through our connections, is something we would like to see, too," he said.

"A lot of our songs have a story that goes with them, that's very similar to classical music... you know, the way it's shared," said Blaney, drawing parallels between the oral teaching tradition of his own people's songs and the generational wisdom passed on between teachers and students at PRISMA. "Every piece is a story that you're telling in a musical way, and I think that is beautiful. There are definitely a lot of parallels there. Having somebody conduct the orchestra... we have lead singers here that will conduct the singing groups as well. There are quite a few similarities."

PRISMA is excited to continue and expand the fruitful musical relationship with the Tla'amin Nation and grow the list of orchestrations of the traditional songs each year. This ongoing project connects cultures through music and creates a new musical legacy that plays a part in changing the Eurocentric narrative of classical music by adding Indigenous-created/led works to the canon of performable works for orchestra.

The hope, one day, is that there will be enough orchestrations to be able to record an album together.









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Patricia Catcher  
Don Cavers  
Susan Charlton  
Jane Cherry  
Dr. Heather F. Clarke  
Alice Dice  
Max & Winnie Ferrier  
Madeleine & Fraser Field  
Bruce Finlay  
Ruth Gibson  
Richard Hoath  
Arlene Howard  
Susan Jackson  
Patricia Jones  
Charlotte Kahlon  
Ernest Kassian  
Sharon Kates  
George & Marla Keiss  
Rita Knutson

James Kulczycki & Michael McMaster  
CaroleAnn Leishman  
Paul Lavigne & Petra Ebner  
Helen Mackenzie  
Cheryl & Paul Miniato  
Russel & Linda Morrison  
Shea Nassichuk  
Pieter & Roché Rossouw  
Elke Sager  
Tracy Satterfield  
Janice Slingsby  
Tobin Stokes  
Gloria Stone  
Connie Treen  
Barbara Trottier  
Shana White  
Ulli Wolff

### Solo

Anonymous x 2  
John Allan  
Kati Bahadori  
Kim Beno  
Claudia Boelcke  
Paul Clements  
Lyn Cooper  
Mark Cooper  
Susan Cooper  
Mary Cummings  
Linda De Vries  
Wendy Drummond  
Connie Ferschweiler  
Diana Filer  
Rae Fitzgerald  
Mark Fleshman  
Jo-Ann Frost

Katya Buck Gustavson  
Carol Hamilton  
Lyndamae Harris  
Anne Harrison & Wayne Armistead  
Monique Harwood-Lynn  
David Hysert  
Colleen Johnston  
Marie Knowles  
Ian Mackenzie  
Heather Maximea  
Daphne McGuire  
Lynn McIntosh  
Chris McNaughton & Arlette Raaen  
Eleanor Montour  
Anita Morgan  
Michael Murphy  
Joyce Ozier  
Hindaleah Ratner  
Pat Scriven  
Barbara Simonson  
Marianne Smisko  
Barb Smith  
Beverly Sparks  
Jo Thomas  
Jeannie Thompson  
Monty Tyrwhitt-Drake  
Marguerite Unger  
Elizabeth Vreede  
Carolyn Walton-Kay  
Judy Watts  
Eileen Willis  
Amy Yakimyshyn  
Patricia Zellinsky

*An additional note of gratitude to all who have joined us since this list was compiled.*



# Financial summary

For the year ended September 30, 2023, PRISMA revenues are \$798,862, and expenses are \$799,689, resulting in a deficit of \$827. Net assets are \$406,128, including \$294,309 in the general fund and \$111,819 in restricted funds. The restricted funds break down as follows: \$38,616 BC Community Gaming Funds; \$44,304 Musical Merit Funds; \$28,900 BC Arts Council Arts Impact Grant. The Arts Impact Grant will be expensed in the 2023-2024 financial year to fund education for board and staff in awareness for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB), key concepts crucial for building a fair and equitable workplace and society. Funds will also be used to create an updated HR policy manual as part of our strategic plan.

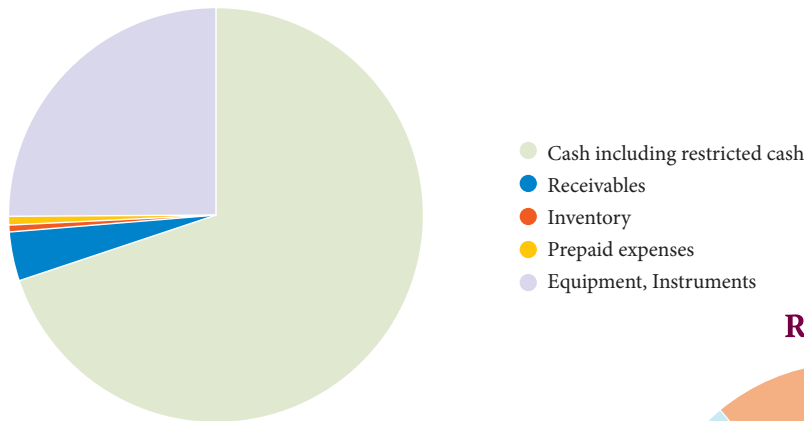
As we expand the festival and academy, we continuously monitor annual budgets, cash flow and various funds. It is interesting to look back to our first festival year, ending September 30, 2013, when revenues were \$222,074 and expenses were \$188,768. Since then, we have added the Musical

Merit Fund (MMF) and the PRISMA Endowment Fund (PEF). The MMF is a restricted donor fund that ensures we can accept students on their musical merit rather than their ability to pay the necessary costs of tuition, meals and accommodation. This year, 55 talented students received financial support. The PEF, held with the Charitable Gift Funds Canada Foundation, helps secure the festival's future by supplying an annual operating grant. This year, donors, including Toni and Hildegard Cavelti and The Mary and Doug Henry Foundation, helped PRISMA contribute \$31,000 to the PEF. We are thrilled that the fund now has a balance of \$136,689.

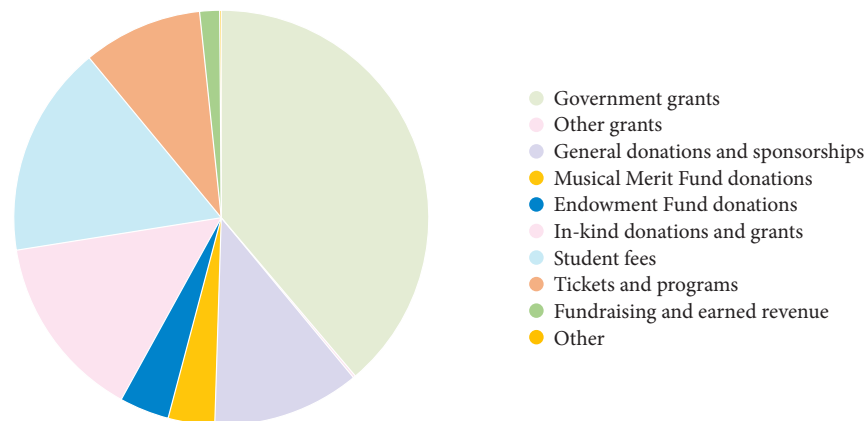
Special project grants in 2022-2023 helped us to purchase sound baffles for rehearsal rooms at the Recreation Complex and pipe-and-drape supplies for use in various applications at the festival, including the Willingdon Beach bandshell backdrop and audition screens for student workshops.

PRISMA is grateful to all three local governments, the many granting agencies that fund us with operating and project grants, and to all corporate sponsors, foundations and private donors who support us financially year after year.

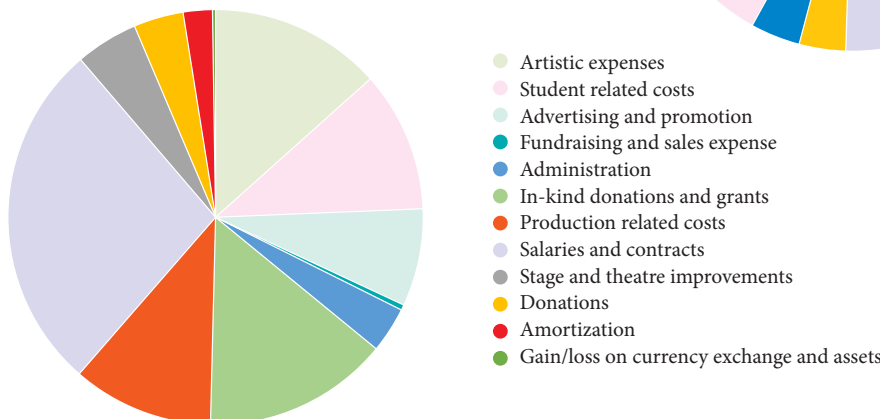
## Net Assets



## Revenue



## Expenses



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023	YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022
Cash including restricted cash	299,616	256,183
Receivables	16,393	27,732
Inventory	2,282	4,541
Prepaid expenses	2,891	-
<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>321,182</b>	<b>288,456</b>
Equipment, Instruments	107,606	129,798
<b>Capital Assets</b>	<b>107,606</b>	<b>129,798</b>
<b>Assets</b>	<b>428,788</b>	<b>418,254</b>
Accounts payable	22,660	11,298
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>22,660</b>	<b>11,298</b>
General fund	265,334	299,349
Restricted fund	102,177	74,640
BC Gaming fund	38,617	32,967
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 406,128</b>	<b>\$ 406,956</b>

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023	YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022
Government grants	310,065	193,781
Other grants	1,500	-
General donations and sponsorships	91,875	95,487
Musical Merit Fund donations	28,974	35,314
Endowment Fund donations	31,000	25,000
In-kind donations and grants	115,720	96,966
Student fees	131,920	120,904
Tickets and programs	74,433	66,587
Fundraising and earned revenue	12,388	11,063
Other	987	13
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>798,862</b>	<b>645,115</b>
Artistic expenses	107,070	104,937
Student related costs	87,625	84,404
Advertising and promotion	60,770	41,516
Fundraising and sales expense	3,358	2,177
Administration	28,435	28,758
In-kind donations and grants	115,720	96,966
Production related costs	88,033	58,854
Salaries and contracts	218,563	196,473
Stage and theatre improvements	39,053	-
Donations	31,000	25,000
Amortization	18,158	15,464
Gain/loss on currency exchange and assets	1,904	(2,965)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>799,689</b>	<b>651,585</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues over Expenses</b>	<b>\$ (827)</b>	<b>\$ (6,470)</b>

For the complete accountant prepared financial statements, please visit [www.prismafestival.com](http://www.prismafestival.com)

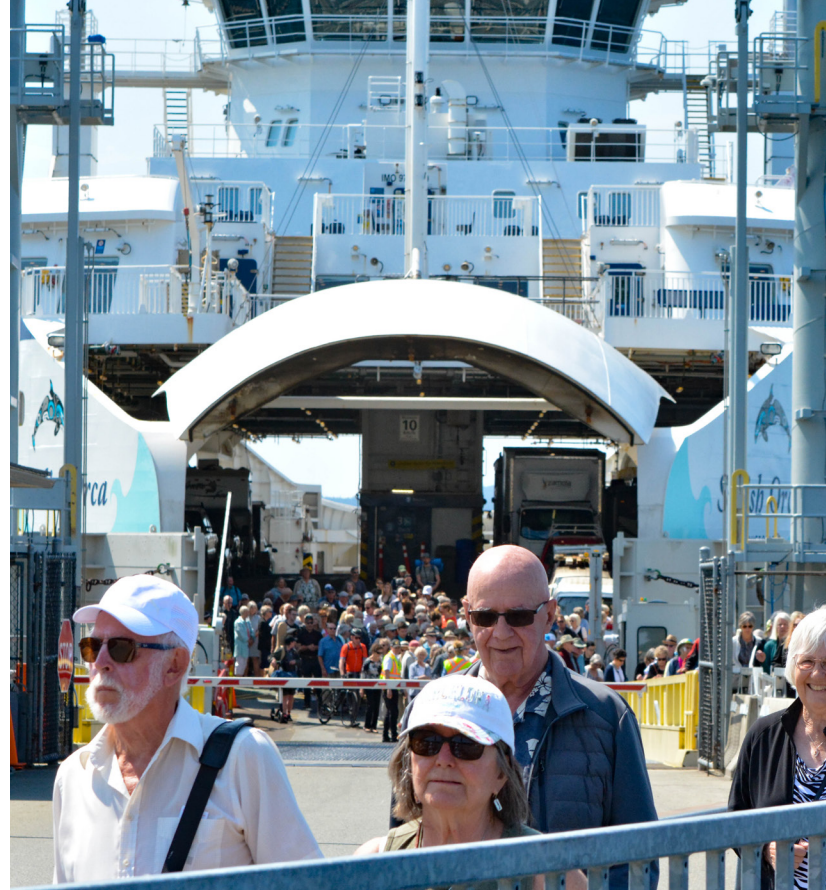
# Music tourism

Powell River's scenic and remote location, combined with strong local support, is what makes the PRISMA Festival & Academy truly one-of-a-kind in the world. Our event encourages regional/rural tourism to extend visitation beyond the short peak seasons and offers a noticeable boost for restaurants, hotels and other businesses in the qathet region.

With the accepted economic multiplier of 2:1, PRISMA brings an estimated 1.6 million dollars into our community.

## Sail to the Symphony

*Sail to the Symphony* is PRISMA's annual tour and lunch package for Vancouver Island residents, offered in conjunction with a matinée performance, enjoyed by qathet region locals and visitors alike. On Saturday, June 24, hundreds of concertgoers from Vancouver Island made the scenic journey thanks to our presenting sponsor, BC Ferries. Upon arriving, they experienced Mahler's Symphony No. 1. Plus, the thrilling final round of our Concerto Competition and a performance by our 2023 first and second prize winners!



## Tourism Award

In 2023 we were honoured to receive the Powell River Chamber of Commerce Business Award for Tourism! Recognizing an outstanding visitor experience that “actively encourages the growth of Powell River & Area as a destination,” this achievement is a testament to the unwavering support from our community and the dedication of our team. Thank you for being an integral part of our success as we continue to make a positive impact in Powell River's vibrant tourism landscape.

## PRISMA PROBUS Appreciation

*“I just want to touch base with you to let you know what a wonderful experience the PRISMA Sail to the Symphony was for me and my Probus Group from Nanaimo. It was my first time to attend and I will definitely go again. What a lovely day. The performance was excellent. What talented young musicians. The lunch was delicious as well, especially the salmon.”*

*My compliments to the organizing committee and all the volunteers. I hope to return to Powell River in the future to explore the area. I had not been there for years.”*

Linda Madson  
Probus Nanaimo North



5000+ ATTENDEES

60+ PIECES PLAYED

30+ COMPOSERS REPRESENTED



## Supporter Spotlight

### Michelle Zarin's PRISMA Pilgrimage

Michelle Zarin's journey began in New York, where she pirouetted through the world of ballet before heading west in the 70s to orchestrate her path into the heart of the music business. From the bustling streets of Los Angeles to the vibrant beats of San Francisco, she made an indelible mark on the music industry, managing some of the most famous West Coast recording studios where the likes of John Lennon, Fleetwood Mac, Santana, and many more household names congregated.

Decades later, at her home in Las Vegas, where Michelle had retired, she first stumbled upon PRISMA in 2016. A chance digital encounter on social media led her to a performance by the Moscow Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Arthur Arnold. In the YouTube video of Tchaikovsky's "Pas de deux" from the Nutcracker suite, Arnold's emotive conducting struck a chord within her soul.

While reflecting on that fateful moment, she said, "I'm very emotional about music. In the very beginning, Arthur looked at the cellos. And he's got a smile on his face. When do you see a conductor smiling? He put his hand out in a fist and shook it at the cellos with a smile; it was loving how he did it. It was inspirational. He grabbed me at that moment, right in the very beginning. Before it was over, I had tears in my eyes. It was a combination of Tchaikovsky, my life, and Arthur Arnold."

Yearning to immerse herself further in this newfound passion, Michelle made her inaugural pilgrimage to Powell River in

2017 for PRISMA. Despite physical challenges – navigating with a walker, battling arthritis, and relying on oxygen – her determination never wavered. The Beach Gardens Resort became her sanctuary from the bustle of Las Vegas, offering a change of scenery and solace amidst the symphonies echoing through Powell River's landscapes.

Over five transformative years attending PRISMA, Michelle's bond with PRISMA and Powell River has deepened. Arthur Arnold's guiding presence became a source of comfort and inspiration, especially during moments of vulnerability like her hospitalisation after last year's event.

Speaking of her PRISMA experience, from a lifetime dedicated to supporting artists, Michelle marvelled at PRISMA's holistic approach to music education. "The people they bring in to give masterclasses are with the students all the time," she said. "They help the students a lot in different ways. Students learn about the business, they get help with auditions, they get help to prepare, to be part of a section, and to be a leader."

Zarin's annual journey from the bright lights of Las Vegas to the serene shores of Powell River encapsulates the transformative power of music and the enduring legacy of PRISMA. As she eagerly anticipates attending PRISMA in 2024, her greatest wish remains simple yet profound – for Arthur Arnold's baton to continue conducting the symphony of PRISMA, ensuring that its melodies and teachings will reverberate for generations to come.



# In recognition of our 2023 PRISMA Fellow

Annually since 2019, the Pacific Region International Summer Music Association (PRISMA) has awarded honorary fellowships to some of its biggest supporters. Inductees are recognized publicly and presented with a certificate and commemorative photo print as small tokens of our gratitude. In 2023 we recognized Jeanette Scott with a well deserved fellowship.

## Jeanette Scott

In its fifth year of bestowing fellowships upon key builders and longtime supporters, the Pacific Region International Summer Music Association (PRISMA) chose to highlight the contributions of Dr. Jeanette Scott. Scott was presented with a certificate and commemorative print at PRISMA's Annual General Meeting on February 7, 2023.

A former educator with a 35-year career in the public school system followed by multiple terms as a trustee and chair of the qathet School District, Scott was instrumental in stewarding and growing the PRISMA for Kids (P4K) program.

Since its launch in 2015, P4K has grown to not only include school visits from the maestro throughout the year, but also the creation of classroom resource materials based on the musical repertoire at PRISMA – all culminating in a morning instructed orchestra rehearsal and a free evening Kids' Concert & Fun Fair that take place during the festival every June.

"Jeanette organized the relationship between school music programs on Texada Island, the qathet mainland, and PRISMA," said PRISMA president Mike Robinson. "This set the stage for PRISMA visits to schools, and for school visits to PRISMA proper. Also, Jeanette was a strong PRISMA Board member, who led discussions about her interests in strategic planning sessions, and during regular meetings."

Whether it was compiling educators' resources, contributing to committee meetings, or wrangling busloads of children

during school visits, Scott's hands-on efforts have helped PRISMA to create unique opportunities to foster a broader appreciation for the arts within the community and inspire the next generation of musicians and music supporters.

"What Jeanette has contributed to PRISMA is invaluable," said co-founder and artistic director, Arthur Arnold. "She has been the driving force behind the documentary, *Two Counties – One Spirit* in 2015, has shared her knowledge and experience to further enhance PRISMA for Kids and has supported our beautiful festival as a board member extraordinaire, never afraid to share her honest views. It is a privilege to count Jeanette among my dear friends."

Scott joins the ranks of nine other PRISMA Fellows: Sharon Thomas, Brian Balfe and Paul Schachter (2019); John Silver (2020); Brendan and Heather Allen (2021); Lee Coulter, Michael Matthews and Liz Matthews (2022).

"I was most appreciative of the recognition that I was given at the last AGM," said Scott. "Since my first stint as a volunteer a decade ago, I have found myself engaged in various roles within this organization that I believe to be a cultural asset to our community. I love to sense the positive energy and enthusiasm that are evident at every concert. I have been particularly pleased to have been involved in the PRISMA for Kids program since its inception in 2015 with the Anne Frank exhibit and concert. Since then it has continued to grow and to make orchestral music accessible to students throughout the qathet Regional District."





## Looking forward...

Hello, PRISMA fans and supporters. How exciting to look forward to our 12th season in 2024!

I am thrilled that Hungarian viola master Máté Szücs, former solo violist of the Berlin Philharmonic, is returning to PRISMA for the first-week program. I have built this program around dance, which in itself is quite unique, as you have to know something about me that you might not know; there are two things I don't do in life - I don't dance and I don't hang wallpaper. I'm quite sure I'm not at risk of hanging wallpaper in the concert hall, but I have been told that I dance on the podium, which I obviously have to disagree with. Back to this exciting program - we start with Kodály, Dances of Galánta, the entire work underlined with Hungarian folk music. Following this, Szücs will play the solo part in a Canadian composition by Ronald Royer - Rhapsody for Viola, and Royer's orchestration of the Romanian Dances from Bihor for viola and orchestra by Farkas. After the intermission, more dancing with Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story* and Ravel's famous Boléro.

I write this from Paris, where I just visited my old friend and conducting teacher, Diego Masson, with whom I studied opera for three summers in Dartington, UK. He is going to try to come to PRISMA this summer! If so, I might just ask him to conduct Boléro - a famous French work led by a renowned French conductor.

The PRISMA for Kids (P4K) program will start very soon in the schools and will culminate in the open rehearsal and the P4K concert, specially designed for youth. Music education is so very important.

One of the highlights, to which I look forward to a lot, will be the continuation of the collaboration with our friends from the Tla'amin Nation during *PRISMA on the Beach*.

Throughout the two weeks, you will have the opportunity to hear a remarkable selection of daily chamber music concerts and music for small ensemble by our distinguished guest artists and talented students.

We will end the season with Gustav Mahler's big and challenging work, his 5th Symphony, which features its famous Adagietto.

We live in a place where nature meets culture, and have shown that together, we can produce and maintain the PRISMA Festival & Academy, rooted in our beautiful community.

Sincerely,

Arthur Arnold  
Artistic Director, PRISMA Festival & Academy



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

PRISMA 2024 is June 17-29  
[www.prismafestival.com](http://www.prismafestival.com)

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