

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Craft Ontario recognizes that our work, and the work of our members, takes place on traditional Indigenous territories across Ontario. We acknowledge that Craft Ontario is located on the traditional Indigenous territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and most recently, the territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit. This territory is part of the Dish with One Spoon Treaty, an agreement between the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

Today, Ontario is still home to Indigenous people and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work and meet on these lands. Furthermore, we know that we have work to do in advancing reconciliation and de-colonization.

We express our gratitude for the resources we are using, and honour all the First Nation, Métis and Inuit people who have been living on the land since time immemorial.



MISSION

We champion craft

VISION

Making craft a meaningful part of life and building a connected community of creators and supporters

MANDATE

We deliver on our Mission and achieve our Vision by:

CONNECTING individuals and communities with craft

GROWING craft artist careers through opportunities to network, learn, present, and access markets

PROMOTING craft as a professional career and its cultural and economic importance

INSPIRING participation and achievement through recognizing excellence

Front cover: Oil Lamp 01 by James Clarke-Hicks + Isabel Ochoa.
Unglazed cone 6 porcelain and stainless steel,
Liquid Deposition Modeling, 25cm x 25cm x 48cm
Left Image: Channel by Juliana Scherzer. Machine stitched
preserved leaves, thread, 109cm x 22 cm

2022 IN REVIEW

At Craft Ontario, we feel a deep sense of accomplishment and pride in what we were able to do as we continued to navigate the impacts of the pandemic, and commit ourselves to a full year of programming in 2022. While constantly adapting to what we could expect in terms of engagement, we accomplished our goals, and set a firm base for moving forward.

We could not have delivered crucial programming, support and advocacy throughout the year without investment and engagement from our generous funders, donors and communities across the province and country. Our deepest thanks go to everyone who contributed their resources, time, and expertise to Craft Ontario.

Our incredible staff team made the year possible through their hard work and dedication, and the oversight and guidance of our committed Board of Directors has enabled the visioning of new directions that will be implemented in the upcoming renewal of our strategic plan and operational goals. Everyone's collective contributions based in care and stewardship have been a true gift – thank you!

Janna Hiemstra
Executive Director

Virginia EichhornChair, Board of Directors

2022 was a year full of activity - we welcomed new staff, implemented policies and procedures to increase diversity and engagement in programming, connected supporters with presentations and events, researched and put structures in place for expanded fundraising efforts, began new partnership relationships with benefits already evident in 2023 programming, implemented new digital tools, and so much more. 2022 was the year that we were able to get back up, understand new patterns of interaction and relationships, and build on refreshed energy to plan for the future.

We are grateful for all that we have been able to achieve, and our final thanks go to all of our members for making Craft Ontario an organization to be proud of, and one that we can continue to collectively change and grow for the better.



Engaged a network of over **30,000** people and organizations to promote and support craft



Published **32** writers and artists in Studio magazine from across Canada and launched new online editorial content at **studiomagazine.ca**



Hosted **I3** exhibitions and features that promoted the work of **40** artists and supported their careers



Recognized achievement through **I5** awards of excellence, **8** community awards, and **I** award for outstanding service and community building



Represented over **250** craft artists in the Shop - both in person and online - by connecting their work with collectors and visitors, and paying over **\$175,000** to artists



COLLABORATE

Craft Ontario continued to deliver member services and benefits throughout the year, including online professional development training to support craft artist careers and help members access funding through coaching and workshops. In order to further build a network of support for craft artists, the year focused on partnerships to expand relationships, and extend impact across the province.

On a local level, Craft Ontario worked with the OCADU Material Art & Design program to feature graduating students' work, connected with the DesignTO Festival and the West Queen West Art Crawl to promote craft to the public, and established a new award with the Gladstone House to deliver a one-year display and \$1000 award for members. On a provincial level, and with projects that had international reach, Craft Ontario partnered



craftontario We are proud to announce changes to our membership structure! After much research and review, highlighted membership changes include

A pricing structure designed to meet people where they are,

- Language changes that create a sense of belonging from the Introduction of low administrative fees to increase access to

Craft Ontario programs without a prior membership requirement - Membership price reductions that consider people's access to

The goal is to invite everyone to feel welcome as a Craft Ontario

pictured: Craft Ontario Shop, Gallery and Offices - Find us at





craftontario Shifting Ground: A Making & Thinking Symposium November 11 – 12, 2022 Ticket LINK IN BIO

This symposium is full of amazing programming and speakers. Don't miss the keynote address! Attend virtually or in person!

Keynote speaker: Denise Bolduc, ShapeShifters

As with the evolution and diversity of the land, waters and animal beings, Indigenous practice also continues to evolve, shift, shape and reshape within the landscape. Relationality is at the core and more often, the commonality is shaped by our direct interaction with land and the stories it holds. This presentation is a reflection on connectivity. It will be a sharing and a consideration of the roots of long-term relationality and how land informs a diversity of practice.





Liked by oliviamaesinclair and 92 others

with ArtsUnite and the Art Gallery of Burlington to deliver online craft and design presentations through Studio magazine, as well as with UofT Scarborough to develop an in-depth research article on aging in craft. These events sought to bring important public awareness and discussion to the current realities of craft practice. Craft Ontario further worked with Ontario Culture Days through the ONRamp symposium to explore how creative practices are necessary for making cultural space in urban areas such as Peterborough and North Bay, and the challenges

faced by craft artists, including gentrification and rising costs. A key partnership took place with Harbourfront Centre to deliver the Shifting Ground Symposium, which explored making and culture, land and materials, social activism, and intersectional practice. All of the recorded panels are now available for free to the public on Craft Ontario's vimeo channel.

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After much consultation and community feedback, Craft Ontario launched a revised membership structure that delivers a pricing structure designed to meet people where they are financially, language changes that create a

sense of belonging from the start, new access fees for engaging with programming opportunities, and discounts that consider people's resources and individual circumstances. These changes have received extensive positive feedback, and are helping to rebuild Craft Ontario's membership base after the detrimental economic effects of the pandemic, as well as foster an increase in engagement with new members and communities.

Images, left to right: Member Kim Ross in her studio; Mythos feature coordinators Nithikul Nimkulrat, Annie Tung, and Aleena Derohanian; Dickson by Jeanne Letourneau. Glass and wood, 16 x 26 x 4 inches







CULTIVATE

Throughout the year Craft Ontario further delivered exhibition, retail and publication programming to meet the Cultivate strategic goal to strengthen craft practice through presentation and education. A full roster of five exhibitions provided curation, professional development and networking opportunities, a basis for building member careers by increasing recognition, and contextualized contemporary craft practice for the public:

Liminal Monuments: embroidered textile works by Claudia Gutierrez that explored Latinx identity, ancestral iconography, and commemoration.

Moving in Circles: sculptural ceramic works by Zimra Beiner that engaged with the global movement of goods, the complexity of ceramic production, and material hierarchies.

In the Presence of Change: a twoperson exhibition featuring the work of fibre artist Fiona Duthie and glass artist Amee Raval that explored themes of resilience and transformation.

Reflections on Growth: a presentation of sculptural ceramic works by artist Michelle Mendlowitz that reflects the relationships we have with our bodies.

Second Life: mixed media work by Vanessa Yanow that explored collaboration through the craft object itself, and crossed boundaries between the past and present, young and elderly, and traditional techniques and conceptual practices.







The Shop continued to deliver exceptional service and educate the public about craft, operating as one of the key ways in which Craft Ontario promotes member work, supports member income through sales, and advocates for craft as a unique cultural practice. Features and online shop initiatives continued to be a critical focus, along with building programming and outreach strategies developed during the pandemic. Features included rughooking by Alisa McRonald, jewellery by Tiny Loft Studio, ceramic work by Dianne Lee, Mythos, a showcase of graduate work from the OCADU Material Art & Design program, drawings by Aoudla Pudlat, the 2022 Cape Dorset Print Collection; woodwork by Eric Tardiff and ceramics by Annika Hoefs.

MICHELINE ROI:

"The reputation of Craft Ontario and its Shop brings a broader customer base than I could find on my own. My work is seen by collectors, casual shoppers, and visitors to town. Being a part of the CO shop comes with a community of support—the feedback I receive from the staff and customers gives me valuable insight for my craft practice—feedback on design, price, and quality has been invaluable to my professional development."

CLAUDIA GUTIERREZ:

"Gaining a connection to a new network of artists outside of my immediate environment has been a major benefit to becoming a Craft Ontario member. Finding other artists working in craft and aligning my work with these creatives by exhibiting at Craft Ontario's space was a true milestone for me and my practice."













Top images, left to right: Dancing Bear by Tuk Nuna; Blown glass Xylem Tumblers by Brad Copping, Natural dyed wool-silk blend Cozy Scarf by Tania Love Bottom images, left to right: Michelle Mendlowitz Reflections on Growth exhibition opening reception; Claudia Gutierrez Liminal Monuments exhibition detail (photo by Jocelyn Reynolds); Craft Ontario Shop interior (photo by Brian Scenic).







Studio works towards building a considerable archive of documentation of Canadian creators; engaging directly with historical and contemporary social issues through Canadian craft and design; supporting and championing Canadian artists and their work; and, deliberately and conscientiously working towards inclusion and representation.

Over the course of 2022, Studio delivered two exceptional print issues that celebrate craft and design across the country, and

worked to increase its impact through partnership and presentations, including beginning work on an educational anthology to help further grow a diverse audience that seeks to understand the value in supporting craft.

Content included the 2022 Saidye Bronfman award recipient Brigitte Clavette, an essay by Gardiner Museum curator Sequoia Miller about the ceramic practice of Eddy Firmin, an in-depth look at the paper-based work of Montreal based Pauline Loctin, Matt Lambert's inquiry into how curatorial approaches can engage with craft, an interview with Corrine Hunt, and an exploration of work by the Mikmaw collective, the 'Quill Sisters', who use porcupine quills to re-imagine a traditional craft practice.

Images: Studio discussion *Encounters: Challenging Limits*; Studio Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter issues; *Eagle Mask* by Corrine Hunt. Red cedar wood, abalone shell, aluminum and acrylic paint, 41 x 41 x 38 cm (Photo courtesy of Coastal Peoples Fine Arts Gallery); *Frappologie* by Anie Toole. Linen, cotton, wood, 2.5 X 2.5 X 2.5 cm; *Stink Bugs!* by Jess Bischoff. Anodized niobium, steel rubber, 6cm h x 4.5cm w x 1.2cm d.

CONNECT

Craft Ontario further succeeded in its third strategic goal to Connect by growing its audiences, both online and in person. This included celebrating the achievement of thirteen exceptional members through the annual Craft Awards program. In addition to featuring award recipient work onsite, Craft Ontario delivered three online presentations where each craft artist generously shared about their practice and work. Susan Card was recognized as the 2022 recipient of the John and Barbara Mather Award for lifetime achievement, and eight Community Awards were given out

through partnership with Organization members.

The Craft Awards program is only made possible through the support of many generous donors, and thanks for the 2022 program go to: the Copeland, Gregor, Mather, Mayhall, McPherson, Shanks, Walker, and Yung families, as well as FUSION: Ontario Clay and Glass, Gladstone House, The Pottery Supply House, Tuckers Pottery Supplies Ltd., and Lacy West Supplies Ltd. Special thanks to the 2022 jurors: Chung-Im Kim, Daniel

Gruetter, Liane Vaz, Marc Egan, Marlene Kwandibens, and Silvia Taylor!



Craft Ontario received continued support from donors, patron members and stakeholders, including a year-end auction and campaign, resulting in just over \$90,000 raised in support of annual programs. Craft Ontario is deeply grateful for each and every donation! Without our donors and funders, we couldn't do what we do in support of craft.





ANIE TOOLE:

What I most enjoyed was participating in, hearing about, and discovering the practice of fellow award recipients, whose work and concepts are thoughtful and accomplished. Sharing this space with them motivates me as I approach new work in the studio."

2022 CRAFT AWARD RECIPIENTS

SAYDEE CHANDLER

Dorothy Elaine McPherson Memorial Award in Mixed Media

KIM ROSS

FUSION Design Award

CLAUDIA GUTIERREZ

Gladstone House Award

NURIELLE STERN

Helen Copeland Memorial Award in Ceramics

ANIE TOOLE

Helen Frances Gregor Award

DAN DRISCOLL

James H. McPherson Award in Woodworking

JESS BISCHOFF

Lacy West Supplies Ltd. Jewellery Grant

FRANCIS MUSCAT

Lily Yung Memorial Award

FLORA MAY

Melinda Mayhall Memorial Award in Indigenous Craft

JEANNE LÉTOURNEAU

Pattie Walker Memorial Award

JULIANA SCHERZER

Shanks Memorial Award in Textiles

SAMITSANG

The Pottery Supply House Clay or Glass Supply Award

JAMES CLARKE-HICKS + ISABEL OCHOA

Tuckers Pottery Supplies Ltd Clay Supply Grant

COMMUNITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Carol Grant, presented by FUSION: Ontario Clay and Glass; Jason Schiedel, presented by Waterloo Potters' Workshop; Jess Bischoff, presented by George Brown College; Yumiko Katsuya, presented by Ottawa Guild of Potters; Kim Alvarado, presented by Haliburton School of Art + Design; Ekata Ma, presented by OCAD University; Frieda Pereira, presented by Potters' Guild of Hamilton and Region; and Carol Cleater, presented by Ingersoll Creative Arts Centre.



Images: 2022 Craft Award recipients at the exhibition and presentation Ceremony; *Core Sample Ring* ('Unearth' Series) by Jess Bischoff. 18K yellow gold, 18K palladium white gold, 14K white gold, sterling silver, 3.3cm h x 1.5cm w x 3.2cm d; *Fable: Tyger* by Nurielle Stern. Porcelain, stained glass, polymerized gypsum, steel stand.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2022 continued to be impacted by the effects of the pandemic. In a three year-over-year financial performance comparison of 2020, 2021 and 2022, the injection of COVID subsidies played a key role in covering the gap of decreased revenues in both 2020 and 2021, and those subsidies are conspicuously absent in 2022. Thankfully the prior-year COVID cash injection prevented any reductions in programming and staffing.

Overall, there is a \$93,680 deficit at year-end, which includes a \$12k uncontrolled investment loss from the Ontario Arts Foundation Endowment fund, missed revenue targets in retail, a \$50k drop in program revenues as a result of a one-time award program donation in 2021, and an increase in project grant expenses. The 2022 audited financial statements can be reviewed here, and are available upon request.

The \$100k surplus from 2021 subsidies helped to manage the 2022 cash deficit, and was a

one-time pandemic occurrence that created a swing in revenues that makes 2022 look even more challenged. The reality is that 2022 returned to pre-pandemic annual operating levels from both a cash and accumulated

deficit perspective. The current position moving into 2023 is manageable as the organization has the necessary means to continue its operations.

One impact of the pandemic for Craft Ontario's strategic consideration is the gleaned insight that lies in the risks associated with brick-and-mortar programming and investments versus a more hybrid combination of in-person and virtual delivery. This insight is contributing to how Craft Ontario is strategizing current and future financial goals.

Katy BakerBoard Treasurer





2022 SUPPORT

Our deepest thnks go to everyone that supported Craft Ontario in 2022. Your gifts, time, and dedication provide craft artists with opportunities to learn, exhibit, sell and be recognized and celebrated for their work.

Because of you we can champion craft!

FEDERAL, PROVINCIAL & MUNICIPAL PUBLIC SUPPORT

Ontario Arts Council Arts Service Operating Grant
Toronto Arts Council Visual Arts Operating Grant
Canada Council for the Arts - Arts Across Canada Public Outreach
Canada Council for the Arts - Jean A. Chalmers Fund for the Crafts
Government of Canada - Canada Summer Jobs
City of Toronto - Commercial Facade Improvement Program
Ontario Trillium Foundation - Resilient Communities Fund

PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORT

Love Family Foundation
The Henry White Kinnear Foundation
Irma J. Brydson Foundation
Nancy's Very Own Foundation
WHO GIVES Fund - Ruth Mandel

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Bernard Cummings

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FRANCIS MUSCAT:

"Receiving an award reaffirmed my commitment to my practice, and I was encouraged to keep doing what I do!"

STAFF

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Right Image: *Gellie* by Frances Muscat. Flame cut glass, tinted acrylic adhesive 36 x 16 x 16 cm

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The Potters Guild of Hamilton and Region

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Toronto Potters

Waterloo Potters' Workshop

^{*}Indicates position held for part of the year



Craft Ontario is a not-for-profit member-driven organization in service of professional craft.
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