



Annual Report 2021-2022

September 1, 2021–August 31, 2022

Message from Artistic Director



As we emerged from the pandemic, our ability to deliver programming gained momentum. Armed with a new strategic plan that focuses on embracing our community, cultivating creativity and experimentation, and building organizational capacity and resiliency, we hit the ground running. To our relief and delight, we were supported well by our funders and freely sought to fill the world with the wonder and whimsey of theatre.

Through out this season, the joy of in-person theatre experiences did not disappoint even when they were compromised. I can't tell you how proud and grateful I am of our artists as they performed in school grounds instead of gyms, became videographers because there were no audiences to see student performances, yelled through masks, and tested, cleaned, and distanced to deliver programming.

We are truly blessed to have so many extraordinary stakeholders who drive our vision of living in a galaxy that values theatre as an important part of growing up.

Nikki Loach
Artistic Director

Message from Director of Business Operations



In a year where the only certain thing was uncertainty, we felt brave and supported enough to try new things, make contingency plans, and be open to learning and collaboration. Driven by our new vision and strategic plan and guided by our values, we have welcomed new perspectives and supported innovative and relevant TYA play development. I continue to be incredibly grateful for the generosity and enthusiasm of the "Questie" community - thank you to all of the individuals and organisations for your ongoing contributions of compassion, time, expertise, financial support, and connection. Quest Theatre is able to make an impact on the lives of young people in Alberta because of you all.

Peita Luti

Director of Business Operations



Vision

Quest Theatre envisions a galaxy where theatre is valued as an essential part of growing up.

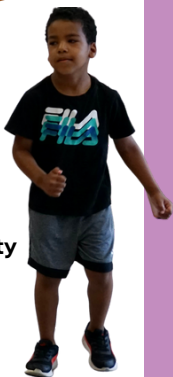
Mission

Quest Theatre creates community through exceptional theatre adventures for young people throughout Alberta



Values

Pursue Creativity
Make it Meaningful
Encourage Community
Act Responsibly
Celebrate Theatre



Affiliations

Quest is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT) and engages theatre artists under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement (CTA), Playwrights Guild of Canada (PGC) and the Associated Designers of Canada (ADC). We are a member of Alberta Playwrights Network, Theatre Alberta and ASSITEJ Canada (International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People)

Fall Tour

Hello :o
Friend...

Created by Nikki Loach,
Léda Davies, Matthew
McKinney, Jason Mancini,
and Meredith Johnson
Masks by Kate
Braidwood, mask
dressing Loïc Lacroix Hoy

Hello Friend illustrates the joy of divergent thinking and celebrates the creative play of one undeterred young kid. A short, whimsical, hunt for friendship, Hello Friend brings wonder and delight to audiences of all ages!

Free school yard and public performances
Oct 22nd to Oct 30th, 2021



Jason Mancini and Matthew McKinney in Hello Friend 2021

Winter Tour

Snow Angel

Created by Nikki Loach
with artistic
contributions from
Peter Balkwill and
support from Young
People's Theatre in
Toronto

Snow Angel is a gentle story that demonstrates how kind acts can have a positive effect on all of us!

School Tour & Presented Performances Feb 28th– Mar 20th, 2022

Including Bert Church in Airdrie, Lougheed Performing Arts Centre in Camrose, Eleanor Pickup Arts in Drayton Valley, Horizon Stage in Spruce Grove, and The Calgary Festival of Animated Objects



(l to r) Matthew McKinney, Nikki Loach, Jason Mancini. Design by Loic Lacroix
Hoy in Snow Angel, Masks by Kate Braidwood, Photo by Trudie Lee Photography

Artists In School



Quest's Artists in School Program provides schools with an unforgettable weeklong theatrical creation experience taught by artists who love to share their passion of theatre with young people.

Schools Visited in the 2021/2022 School Year

- Vilna School, Vilna
- École Kenilworth School, Edmonton
- West Dalhousie School, Calgary
- Our Lady of the Assumption School, Calgary
- Sunalta School, Calgary
- Wild Rose School, St. Albert
- Our Lady of Lourdes School, Calgary
- Annie L. Gaetz School, Red Deer

Drama Camps!

You may think Quest Drama Camps are here to create a great play for parents in one week's time, but we are secretly here to build self-confidence, nurture friendships, encourage community, and celebrate the organic, ridiculous and brilliant creative journey of young people!

Spring Camp: March 21 - March 25, 2022

Summer Camp: July 4 - August 12, 2022



Community Engagement

Quest conducted lots of free programming this year to put wonder and whimsy into our community!

- **Story Making with Pepper the Dragon cSPACE Farmer's Market**
- **Adventure on the High Seas cSPACE Farmer's Market**
- **Youth Engagement Squad (Y.E.S!) - The Wandering Oodles at cSPACE Farmer's Market**
- **The Pirate Workout at VIVO Calgary**
- **cKids Club Experiment at cSPACE**



Play Development

Most Imaginary Worlds

Created by the Point of View Ensemble
Scripted by Col Cseke
with development support from Inside Out Theatre
and Quest Theatre



Roll For Initiative

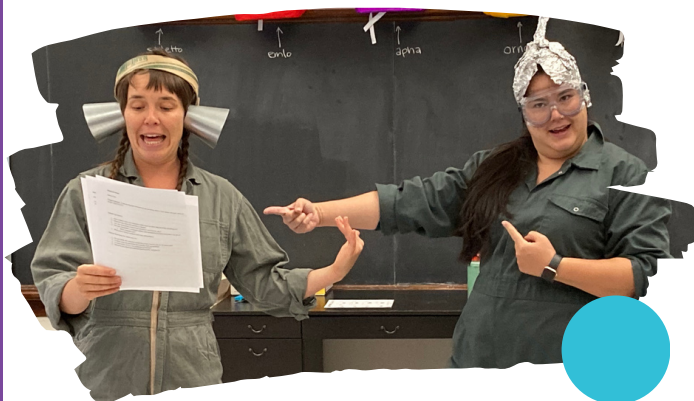
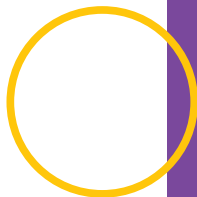
by Kunji Ikeda
A Cloudsway Dance Theatre Production
with development support from Quest Theatre

The Empathy Project

(working title) by Ali DeRegt

Imagine Action

by Judith Mendelsohn



It was my son's first time doing a Quest camp and he just loved it! The games he talked about were different and more fun than other games he had played at other programs. The staff and other kids were always friendly and all seem to love being there. All the comments during the week were positive. It's reassuring when you pick up your kid at the end of the day seeing him smile and hearing about all the fun he had. He is looking forward to doing it again!

- Summer Camp Parent



Thank you to Quest for leading our annual "Shakespeare Week". The energy and enthusiasm you bring really inspires our school community, especially in this year of Covid restrictions when we performed "Maskbeth". Somehow, amazingly.

We did it!

**- Fred Antoniwi,
École Kenilworth School**



Our son loved camp so much and he can't wait to do it next summer! - Summer Camp Parent



I've experienced a new emotion... It was a little bit of joy and a sense of belonging. - 8 year old Camper



**We are so grateful for Quest Theatre! Due to Covid we had to re-book numerous times and were so amazed by the support of Claire and the Quest team! It was worth the wait to be in person!! The artists were wonderful with our students and our staff. We appreciated their flexibility throughout the week and absolutely loved that our students got to experience the Quest Program. Huge gratitude to Dani, Judith, Andy, and Truus! We got to see our students engage in a new experience that many had not had the opportunity to explore before. There are MANY budding actors at Wild Rose Elementary School thanks to Quest Theatre!
- Wild Rose Elementary School**



WOW!!!

Stats

- 58 professional theatre performances**
- 9987 audience members**
- 391 registrants for Drama Camps and Classes**
- 6 subsidized Artists in School Programs**
- 4814.8 kilometers travelled across Alberta**
- 46 artists hired**
- 28 kids received camp bursaries**
- 1363 volunteer Hours**
- 94% overall satisfaction rate from our clients**

35//50 Pledge

The 35//50 Initiative began as a letter asking Alberta theatre institutions to commit to equitable employment of 35% Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour and 50% gender-variant folx or women by 2025.

23//57*

Board: 17//67

Staff: 43//100

Play Development: 41//41

Production: 0//36

Arts Education & Community Engagement: 21//63

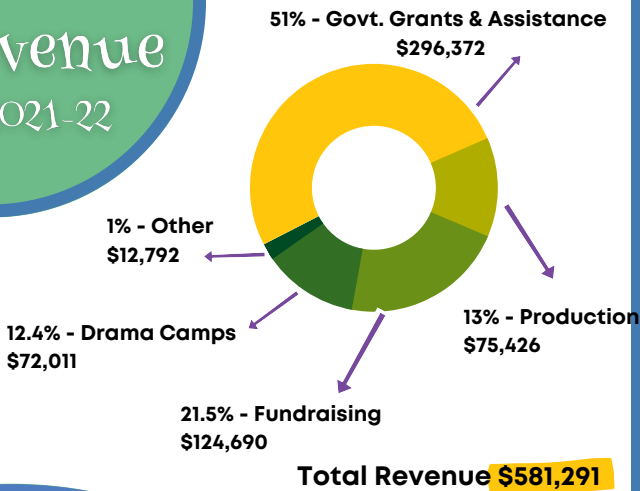
*With equal weight in all categories, across various lengths of commitments, Quest engaged 23% Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and 57% gender-variant folx or women from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022.

Contributing Artists

- Adrian Houghtin**
Alan Johnson
Aldona Barutowicz
Alexa Elser
Ali DeRegt
Alissa Grams
Amelia Newbert
Andy Weir
Branden Boyd
Caitlyn Milot
Cheryl Andrews
Christian Daly
Claire Bolton
Col Cseke
Constantine X. Anastasakis
Damon Lawson
Dani Driusso
Daniel Fong
Deedra Salange Ladouceur
Delia Barnett
Ebony Gooden
Ellis Lalonde
Emily Parkhouse
Emma Braggar
Eric Wilkinson
Genevieve Pare
Griffin Cork
Jason Mancini
Jenifer Stewart
Jeremy Park
- Jonathan Lewis**
Judith Mendelsohn
Kai Hall
Karen Johnson Diamond
Kat Armstrong
Keith Boniol
Keshia Cheesman
Kodie Rolan
Kunji Ikeda
Lara Schmitz
Lauren Conn
Lizzie Rajchel
Loic Lacroix Hoy
Matthew McKinney
Meredith Johnson
Mia Pagliaroli
Michelle Brandenburg
Peter Balkwill
Riki Entz
Roberta Phillips
Scott Roberts
Shea Heatherington
Spencer Streichert
Stacey Kotlar
Steph Bessala
Tim Williams
Troy Emery Twigg
Truus Verkley
Zoe Arthur

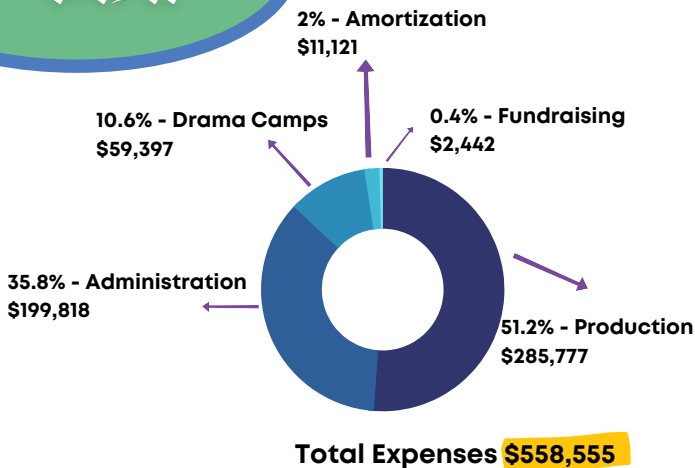
Revenue

2021-22



Expenses

2021-22



Special Thanks

Troy Emery Twigg.....Cultural Advisor
Kelsey Souchereau.....Graphic Designer
Heather MacLeod.....Teacher Advisory
Michael Wright.....Teacher Advisory
Lougheed Centre.....Recording & Distribution

Youth Engagement Squad

Adrian, Freya, Micah,
Vienna (Kit), Alex,
Ryann, Leah, Hakan, Elisabeth, Hayden,
Christine, Keydon, Julia, Elliot, Sophia

Administrative Team

Nikki LoachArtistic Director
Peita LutiDirector of Business Operations
Serenella Sol ArguetaAdmin & Marketing Coordinator
Helena Deng.....Tour & Education Coordinator
Claire BoltonProgram Coordinator
Ali DeRegt.....Artistic Associate
Alexis KroonBookkeeper



Board of Directors

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Tanya Anand.....Co-Vice Chair
Claudina Morgado.....Co-Vice Chair
Isabelle Hergott.....Treasurer
Daniel Hawkwood.....Secretary
Kari Griffith.....Director
Joel McNichol.....Director
Laura Mack.....Incoming Director
Cleopatra Kierstead.....Incoming Director
Andrea Montgomery.....Outgoing Director
Jalal Jetha.....Outgoing Director
Eden Simari.....Outgoing Director



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Calgary Shaw Charity Classic Foundation
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FFCA S.E. Campus
Isabelle Hergott
Jessica Wallace

THANK
YOU!



Jevon Hills
Joel McNichol
Kari Griffith
Martin & Kathy Lundmark
Nikki Loach
Nova Lea Thorne
Pete Balkwill
Rogers Communications
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Serenella Argueta
Tanya Anand
Todd Hawkwood
Yolande & Monty Schnieder

Government Funders



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Adventures Await...

Next Season at a Glance

Artists in School Program – 2022/23 School Year

Hello Friend Fall Tour Oct 3 – 23, 2022

Most Imaginary Worlds Spring Presentation May 4 - 6, 2023

Spring Drama Camps – Mar/Apr, 2023

Summer Camps – July 10 – Aug 18, 2023



How Can You Support Quest?

- 1 **Donate to our Play for All Fund!**
- 2 **Volunteer for us!**
- 3 **Sponsor one of our Programs!**
- 4 **Join our Board of Directors!**
- 5 **Attend our Performances!**
- 6 **Sign up for our newsletter!**
- 7 **Follow us on social media!**
- 8 **Register for a camp!**
- 9 **Tell a Friend!**



Volunteer



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DONATE

Contact Us



Ph: 403-264-8575

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www.questtheatre.org

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