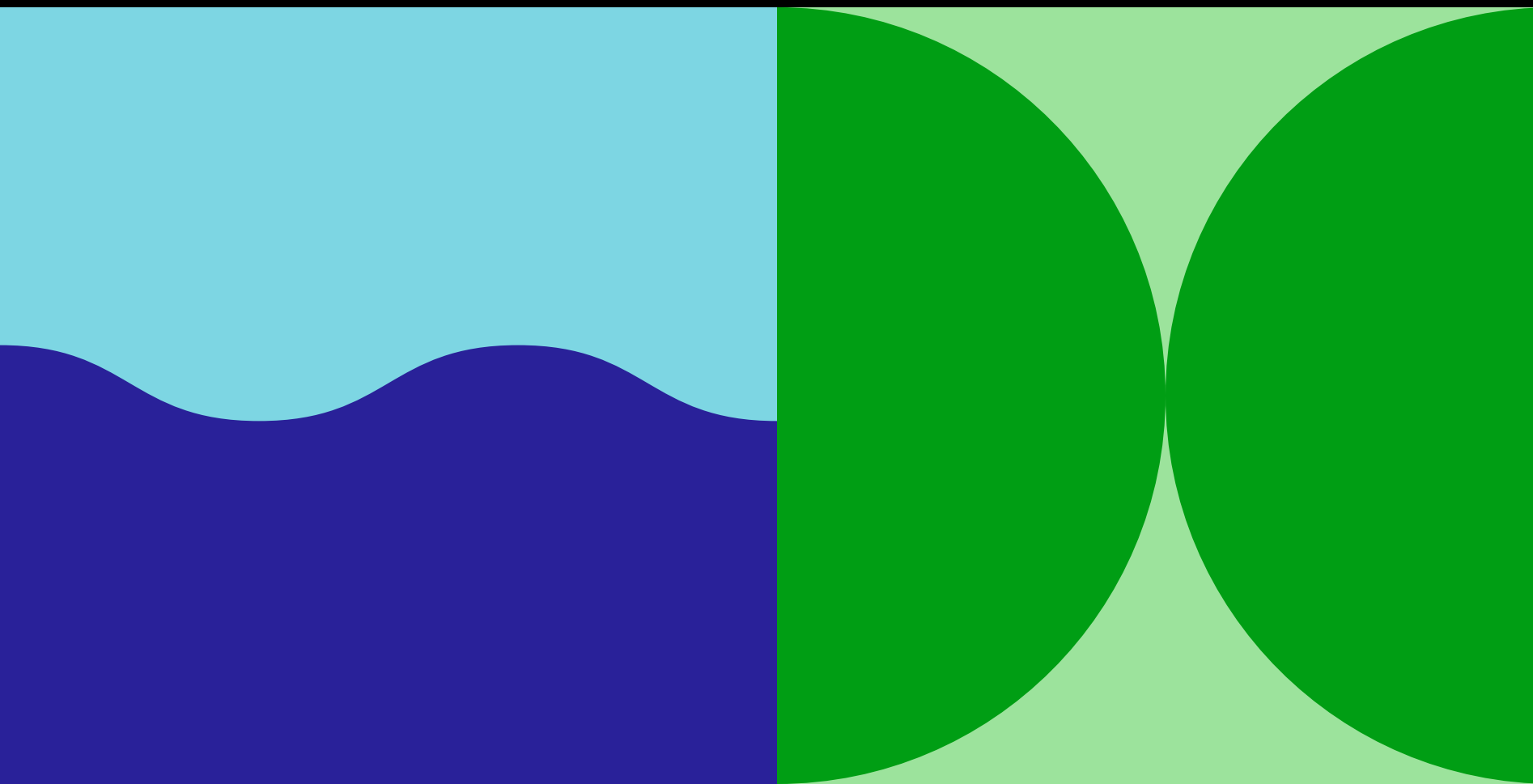


TORONTO BIENNIAL OF ART

March 26—June 5

Case for Support
2022





The Toronto Biennial of Art is an international contemporary visual arts event that is as culturally connected and diverse as Toronto itself. For 10 weeks every two years, the city and its partner regions are transformed by exhibitions, talks, and performances that reflect the local context while engaging with today's most urgent issues.

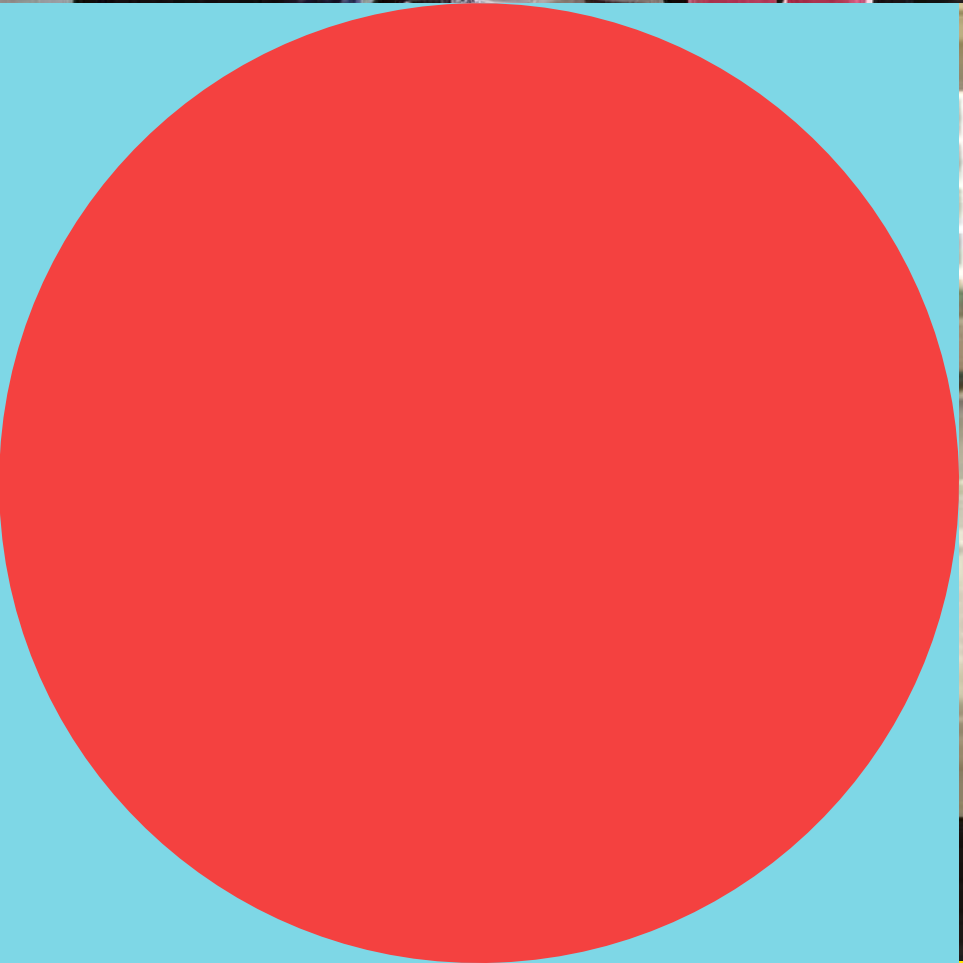
With the objective to make contemporary art available to everyone, the Biennial's free, city-wide programs aim to remove barriers, bridge communities, inspire learning, contribute to global conversations, and amplify calls to action.

Top: School group visit at Biennial site 259 Lake Shore Blvd. E. Shown: Embassy of Imagination + PA System, *Sinaaqpagiaqtuut/The Long-Cut*, 2019, mixed-media installation.

Bottom left: Ramin Haerizadeh, Rokni Haerizadeh & Hesam Rahmanian, *Lo'bat*, 2017-19, embroidery on parachute with electrical motors, print on fabric, cameras, artificial flowers, locks of hair.

Bottom right: Isuma, *One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk*, 2019.

FREE INCLUSIVE ACCESSIBLE CITY-WIDE



The inaugural Toronto Biennial was a huge success

Students, educators, critics, enthusiasts, and the general public came from across the GTA, Canada, and around the world to experience our first-ever edition. Amplifying the city's vibrant and dynamic communities, the 2019 Biennial was free to the public, and engaged and supported impactful contemporary artists representing Toronto's cultural pluralism.

\$29M

in Visitor Spending
Economic Impact

\$15M

in Direct Impact on
Toronto GDP

297K

Unique Visitors

93%

of visitors agreed that we
should continue to showcase
the arts through the Biennial

91%

of visitors discovered
new artists

81%

of visitors thought the
Biennial increased access
to the arts

161

Artists, Participants
& Performers

82

Creative, Promotional
& Venue Partnerships

29

Commissions

153

Public Programs,
Performances & Events

100s

of Artworks

1000s

of Student & School
Group Visits

“This Biennial was about radical inclusion, with a focus on Indigenous participants and community experience.”

—Artist Survey

70

Places of origin from around the globe, including Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Iran, Mexico, Thailand, Turkey, and the United States, as well as First Nations and Inuit communities

The inaugural Biennial welcomed artists, participants, and performers from more than 70 places of origin, including 29 Canadian and international First Nations and Indigenous communities. Almost half of the Biennial’s participants were BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour), reflecting Toronto’s status as one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world.

The Toronto Biennial of Art is building a 2022 exhibition program that will continue to support BIPOC artists, and fund commissions that represent a multiplicity of perspectives to challenge the status quo.

Note: Data shown on the right are from the 2019 Biennial.

68 %

of artists and collectives are Canadian, and 45% are locally-based

23 %

of artists self-identify as Indigenous

42 %

of artists self-identify as people of colour

58 %

of artists self-identify as women or non-binary

The 2019 edition was met with overwhelming critical reception from arts and culture publications, as well as the mainstream media. Local and international outlets and broadcasters from 24 countries published a total of 313 Biennial-related editorial items in anticipation of and during the inaugural event. The Biennial cultivated audiences across digital, print, broadcast, and outdoor advertising channels, and drew almost 300,000 visitors to its inaugural event.

Overall, the Biennial's earned media, owned media, partnerships, and advertising resulted in 531,080,271 gross impressions.

Top left: The New Red Order (NRO), *Never Settle*, 2019, multimedia installation.

Bottom: 2019 Biennial artist Curtis Talwst Santiago & Canadian Art Senior Editor-At-Large Yaniya Lee in conversation.



531M

Gross Impressions

"The Best Public Art of 2019"

—Artsy

"Toronto Biennial of Art Emphasizes Homegrown Talent in its Ambitious Debut"

—David D'Arcy, *New York Observer*

"From colonization to industrialization, the exhibition tackles complex local issues with international ambition."

—David Balzer, *Frieze*

"It is just as the Biennial suggests: the more you look, the more you'll find. And there is so much looking to do."

—Chris Hampton, *Toronto Star*

"Toronto Biennial is bringing the world to Toronto and Toronto to the world"

—Kate Taylor, *The Globe and Mail*

"Finally, a Biennial That Does Justice to Indigenous Narratives"

—Maximiliano Durón, *ARTnews*



What Water Knows, The Land Remembers



TBA 2019, titled *The Shoreline Dilemma*, was the first chapter of the two-part biennial, tracing various interconnected narratives and ecologies of an ever-changing Lake Ontario shoreline. These connections revealed systems of resistance against and movement away from industrial colonial culture, uncovering polyphonic histories embedded in and around the shoreline.

Extending the interconnections of those locations and expanding the notions of the central question from 2019, “What does it mean to be in relation?”, the curators envision expansive forms of kinship – with each other, their collaborators, and the more-than-human, a belief that humans are in deep relation with other living beings.

The second chapter of the Biennial, *What Water Knows, the Land Remembers*, will explore locations near above-ground and hidden tributaries that channel water into Lake Ontario, as well as the ravines that shape the city’s geography.

From top left to bottom right:
Candice Hopkins, Senior Curator;
Tairone Bastien, Curator;
Katie Lawson, Curator

The 2022 Biennial is an opportunity to invest in the recovery of Toronto through arts and culture—bringing creativity, community and connection back to our city when we need it most.

Now, more than ever, we need the inspiration and connection that art brings us. By supporting free, art exhibitions and programs across Toronto, you will be investing in the renewal and regeneration of our city. You will also be providing critical support to artist communities, which have faced significant hardship due to the pandemic.

The 2022 Biennial will feature a world-class group of commissioned and invited participants who will contribute to exhibitions, programs, and residencies including: **Aycoobo (Wilson Rodríguez), Judy Chicago, Shezad Dawood, Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Ange Loft with Jumblies Theatre & Arts, Jumana Manna, Abel Rodríguez, Susan Schuppli, Syrus Marcus Ware, Derya Akay, Ghazaleh Avarzamani, Andrea Carlson, Jeffrey Gibson, Hanyaterra | Jatiwangi Art Factory, Marguerite Humeau, Timothy Yanick Hunter, Tsēmā Igharas and Erin Siddall, Janet Kigusiuq, Tanya Lukin Linklater, Amy Malbeuf, Victoria Mamnguqsualuk, Anne Zanele Mutema, Joar Nango, Eduardo Navarro, Aki Onda, Jessie Oonark, Paul Pfeiffer, Dana Prieto, Augustas Serapinas, Buhlebezwe Siwani, and Denyse Thomasos.** They join the following list of previously announced 2022 Biennial artists: **Nadia Belerique, Brian Jungen, Waqas Khan, Mata Aho Collective, Eric-Paul Riege, and Camille Turner.**

Biennial artists will be featured at sites across Toronto and within its surrounding communities, enabling visitors to explore, learn and reconnect to the city and its complex histories through art.



Top right: Judy Chicago, *Pink Atmosphere*, 1971

Middle: Nadia Belerique, *Barrel Study*, 2020.

Bottom: Camille Turner, *Afronautic Research Lab*, Newfoundland, 2019.



Outreach and access are central pillars of all of TBA's activities, aiming to ensure that exceptional experiences with art are available to and meaningful for everyone.

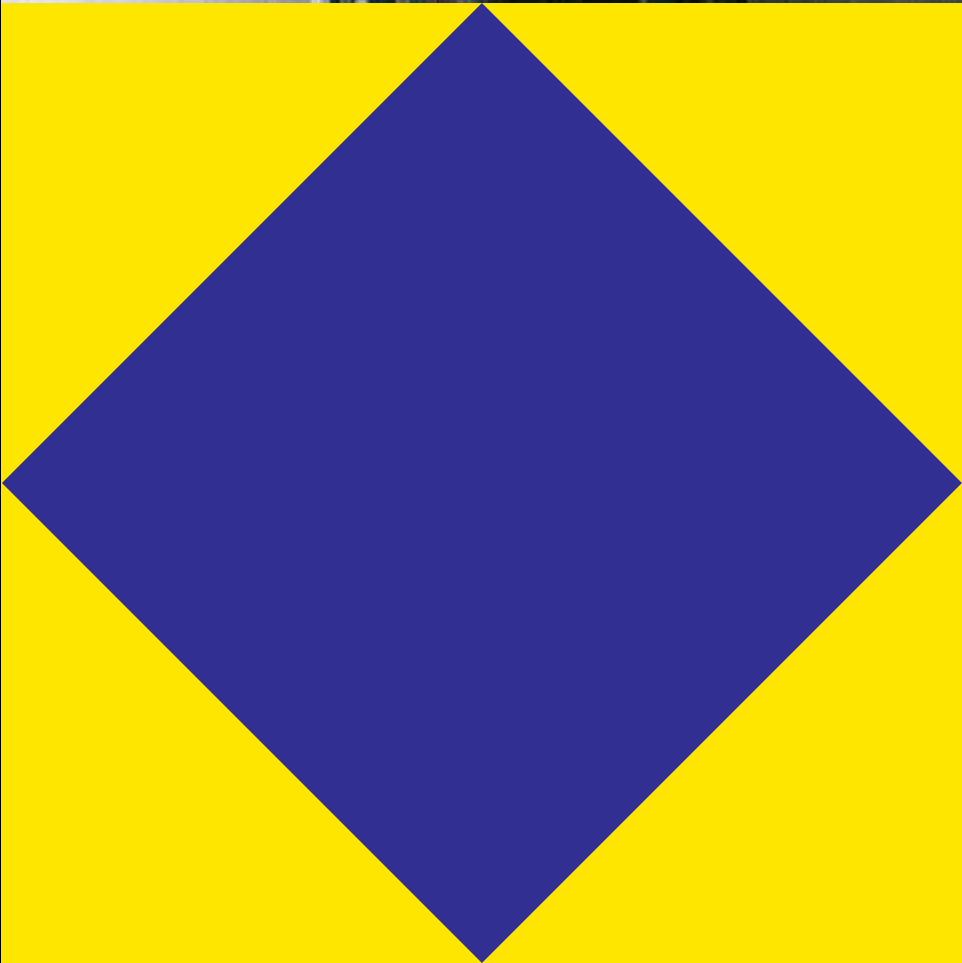
The disconnection and isolation we have all faced makes it more imperative to find new, safe ways to enable everyone to connect to, engage with, and learn about art.

The 2022 Biennial will feature a number of outreach and engagement programs that enable the public, especially youth, to safely engage with artist works and programming through in-person, virtual and hybrid events and tools including:

- Intergenerational workshops introducing artistic methods and forms of personal expression related to connection, care, community and approaches to mental health
- Resource Stations offering student and youth visitors welcoming and accessible spaces to

read, reflect and create meaningful encounters with art in neurodiverse and playful ways

- Mobile Arts Curriculum offering specially-commissioned tools, resources, interactive activities and research materials for engaging youth, families and educators for remote learning
- Youth Storytelling program focusing on the empowerment that comes with connecting personal narratives with the hidden histories and under-represented experiences opened up by art
- TBA Online will offer digital and web-based interactions through live-streamed talks, walks and exhibition tours, podcasts, interpretive resources and an interactive archive



Top: Jumbles Theatre & Arts with Ange Loft performance. Commissioned by the Toronto Biennial of Art and produced by Jumbles Theatre & Arts. Made possible with the generous support of the RBC Emerging Canadian Artist Program. Courtesy of Toronto Biennial of Art.

Bottom right: Diane Borsato, *Mushroom Foray*, 2018. Courtesy of the artist.

We need your support.

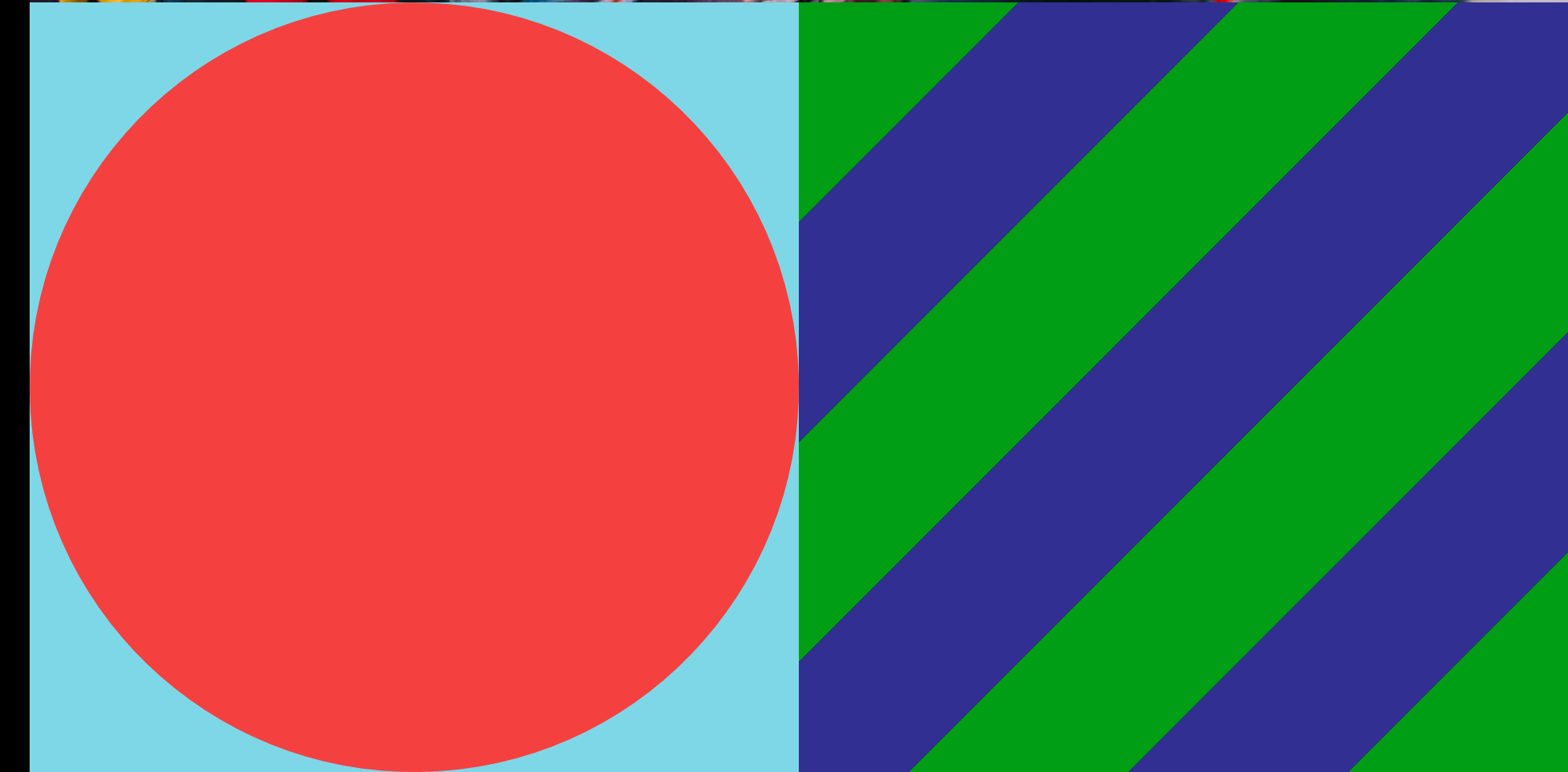
In 2022, arts and culture, particularly free public festivals, will play a critical role in the city's collective recovery by bringing artists, people, and communities together again.

Your investment in building the 2022 Toronto Biennial of Art helps:

1. Maintain free and accessible exhibitions and programs at Biennial and partner venues
2. Maintain, expand, and provide physical access in all forms across Biennial venues and transportation
3. Expand the Biennial's existing reach to cultivate a more diverse local and national audience
4. Expand school group, education and learning initiatives

5. Host programs and workshops, including a mobile initiative to reach a broader range of students from school boards across the GTA
6. Extend the Biennial's commissioning program and collaborations to further support artists' work and practices

We kindly ask that you **consider renewing your generous support** or join the amazing group of visionaries who helped bring Toronto's first Biennial to life.



Peter Morin (shown) and Tania Willard of BUSH Gallery, with guest artist Lisa Myers, *Beach(fire) Blanket Bingo* on Toronto's Ward's Island, 2019

FOUNDING DONORS & SUPPORTERS

The inaugural Biennial would not have been possible without the generous support and civic leadership of its patrons, corporate communities, and government funders. Their foundational investments were instrumental in helping us realize an ambitious project that elevates Toronto as an international centre for contemporary art.

FOUNDING SIGNATURE PATRON (\$1M+)

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FOUNDING PREMIERE PATRON (\$250,000+)

TD Bank Group

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GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS

Canada Council for the Arts

Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund

Ontario Arts Council

Toronto Arts Council

City of Mississauga

City of Toronto

CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Collaboration and long-term exchanges are central to the Biennial's vision. Our creative partnerships have continued beyond the inaugural event, giving way to sustained research and projects that will persist between Biennial editions. Thank you to our creative partners, whose commitment and confidence was integral in launching the 2019 Biennial.

CIVIC

City of Mississauga
City of Toronto
Culture Days
HMCS York
Waterfront Toronto

PUBLIC SPACES

The Bentway
Evergreen & Don River
Valley Park
Ontario Place
Small Arms Inspection Building
Toronto Sculpture Garden
Toronto Union

TORONTO EVENTS

Art Toronto
ImagiNATIVE Film & Media
Arts Festival
Nuit Blanche Toronto
Summerworks
Performance Festival
Toronto Art Book Fair

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Art Gallery of Ontario
Art Gallery of York University
Art Museum at the
University of Toronto
The Museum of
Contemporary Art Toronto
Canada
Myseum of Toronto
National Gallery of Canada
The Power Plant
Contemporary
Art Gallery
Ryerson Image Centre

INTERNATIONAL

DAAD (German Academic
Exchange Service)
Office of Contemporary Art
Norway
A Tale of a Tub (Rottendam)

COMMUNITY & CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

Among Friends Community
Mental Health Organization
Akimbo
Canada Music Centre
Canadian Art
CBC
C Magazine
Fogo Island Arts
Gladstone Hotel
Harbourfront Centre
Ireland Park Foundation
Jumblies Theatre & Arts
Sketch Working Arts
West Baffin Eskimo
Cooperative
Workman Arts
Young People's Theatre

ARTIST-RUN CENTRES

FADO
Gendai
Trinity Square Video

EDUCATION

Humber College
University of Toronto—
John H. Daniels Faculty of
Architecture, Landscape,
and Design
OCAD University
Ryerson University

TORONTO BIENNIAL OF ART

THE TORONTO BIENNIAL OF ART TEAM

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Ilana Shamoon
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2022