

2023/  
2024

# ANNUAL REPORT



**Cover Photo:** Workshop Series 2023\_24, Brenden Gali with Tannis Zimmer, Neilla Hawley, Brooke Hess, Alex Elliott, Dammecia Hall, and Grace Frazer-Sneddon. Photo by Pablo Riquelme.

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# Who We Are + Where We Are

Young Lungs Dance Exchange is a not-for-profit artist-run support organization committed to the development, creation, and presentation of contemporary dance and performance on Treaty 1 Territory, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Young Lungs Dance Exchange (YLDE) acknowledges that we have a responsibility in reconciliation. We give thanks to the caretakers of this territory, both recorded and unrecorded, including the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Anishinew, Dakota, Dene Peoples, and the Red River Métis. A gathering place for dance since time immemorial, we are grateful for the ability to dance and celebrate on this land and for the teachings of Indigenous Peoples, colleagues, Elders, and peers, who share and sustain traditional and contemporary Indigenous knowledge. We are committed to working together to build better relationships with each other and with the land. We believe in sharing resources so that we can collectively honour and uphold treaty responsibilities and practice on the land known as Canada today.



**Image:** Workshop Series 2023\_24, Alanna Kraaijeveld with Julious Gambalan and Margaux Labossière. Photo by Pablo Riquelme.

### **~ Our Vision ~**

Dance holds a vital and valued place in society.

### **~ Our Mission ~**

YLDE supports the evolution of dance in Manitoba through training, research, creation, and presentation initiatives for artists.

### **~ Our Guiding Principles ~**

#### **Vibrance**

YLDE strives to create experiences for participants that are designed with a positive and vibrant energy.

#### **Collaboration**

YLDE works collectively and collaboratively, valuing the sharing of leadership and decision making.

#### **Inquiry**

YLDE responds to the creator's drive to critically question as a response to the present time and to their own artistic vision. As an organization, YLDE is invested in examining our role in communities including the oppressive systems we function within and have historically benefited from.

#### **Inclusivity and Accountability**

YLDE works to build accessible and safer spaces. YLDE strives to engage across culture, experience of racialization, age, gender and ability. YLDE is committed to understanding how we have benefited from white supremacy through investing in strategies for structural transformation, and working towards accountability for the organization.

#### **Care**

YLDE values, respects and honours personal relationships. YLDE strives to ensure those who engage with us are respected.

# Message from the Chair

Young Lungs Dance Exchange continually reminds me of the ability that dance has to transcend barriers and unite us in shared experiences, reminding us of the vitality of human connection. This past season has been marked by exciting change and growth within our organization, founded upon the bonds of the community we serve.

In 2023-2024, we turned to the community to finalize our 5-year Strategic Plan. Aided by LAHRK Consulting Worker Co-Op, our BIPOC focus group, and additional consultation from an Indigenous Consultant Nicole Lamy, we developed initiatives under 4 key objectives:

1. Maintain and Improve Organizational Strength
2. Programming and Visibility
3. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility
4. Relationship Building and Communication

Already, we are making great progress toward our primary objective. By applying for charitable status and successfully pursuing operational funding, we are building toward greater stability and sustainability as well as opening up new avenues for funding and partnerships.

This year's remarkable programming, including our Research Residency and numerous workshops, would not have been possible without our staff. This season saw us bid farewell to Zorya Arrow, whose dedication and multifaceted contributions over many years—serving as Board President, Managing Artistic Director, and Program Manager—have left an indelible mark on our organization. Zorya's passion and commitment is greatly missed. (cont.)

We are thrilled by our talented new leadership on our team. Alex Elliott, our Executive Director, and Gaby Ortiz, our Programming Manager, have been instrumental in bringing our programming to life and laying the groundwork for our future. Their vision and energy have breathed new life into our initiatives. Thank you, Alex and Gaby! You are amazing!

Additionally, we extend our gratitude to Nat Sluis, our former Marketing Coordinator, who helped to amplify our message and spread our connections further afield. We are also grateful for the support of Erica Urias, who time and time again has helped us put our best foot forward with beautiful graphic design, web, and social updates.

We deeply appreciate the efforts of volunteers who make our organization thrive. Our board of directors contributes invaluable wisdom and guidance, and I am grateful for each and every person who has joined us. In particular, we thank Eugene Baffoe and Sam Penner, who are departing from the board for new adventures.

Our journey hasn't been without challenges; we've faced grant rejections and navigated conflicts, yet we've emerged stronger. Each hurdle has reinforced the strength of our community and presented learning opportunities. By fostering trust and communication, we continue to thrive together.

Looking ahead, our next season will be a time of reflection and celebration as we commemorate 20 years of our organization's impact. We are excited to share our plans for this milestone season soon. Thank you for being part of our journey!

Sincerely,  
Kayla Jeanson





# Introduction

Young Lungs Dance Exchange's 2023-2024 season, and 19th year of engagement, marked a pivotal moment for our organization. We were awarded Operating Funds from the Manitoba Arts Council, as well as project funding from Canada Council for the Arts, and program support from the Winnipeg Arts Council. Our annual Research Residency was conducted in the spring, followed by a public presentation with artist talks, and we hosted seven workshops and an outreach series. Every event had ASL Interpretation in physically accessible venues with gender inclusive washrooms.

As an organization, we finalized our Strategic Plan to guide our activities from 2024-2029, guided by LAHRK Consulting Worker Co-Op, our BIPOC focus group, and additional consultation from an Indigenous Consultant, Nicole Lamy.

The season began with the hiring of Interim Director Zorya Arrow, who oversaw all programming from July to November, including a hiring process for a new Managing Artistic Director, a Research Residency Coordinator, and a Marketing Coordinator. In November, Alex Elliott was hired as Interim Managing Artistic Director, Gaby Ortiz as Research Residency Coordinator, and Nat Sluis as Marketing Coordinator. After five months in their positions, Alex's title changed to Executive Director, and Gaby's to Programming Manager. We also continued working with Torrin Swanson from Collective Technologies for tech support, and Lesage Accounting for Bookkeeping and Accounting.

# Programming

## Research Residency

The Research Residency is presented annually in the form of a public presentation of movement-based research conducted by jury-selected artists. The Research Residency is consistently in demand and offers an important platform for the creation of new works and risk-taking in the creative process.

In the fall of 2023, YLDE received twenty project applications (local, national, and international) for the 2024 Research Residency. Our peer-reviewed jury consisted of three multidisciplinary artists, two of them are BIPOC artists. The jury selected three projects for what was our 14th run of this artists-in-residence program. In this way, YLDE was able to actively support artists through providing financial and creative opportunities to local artists, and connecting with our international communities as well.

The three selected artists, Maura García, Elena Basford, and Anaïs Bossé & Odéah Roy engaged in residencies with collaborators and mentors from February-April 2024.

Another element of the Research Residency is both a written, and a lens-based essay responding to the three research projects composed by two commissioned artists. In 2024, YLDE was fortunate to have essayists; Gislina Patterson (written) and Azka Ahmed (visual). Both research artists and essayists presented their work at the final event titled *Serpentine Whispers*, attended by one hundred members of the public. Both essays are available for viewing on the YLDE website (<https://younglungs.ca/essays-archives/>).



Image: Research Residency 2024, Elena Basford. Photos by Pablo Riquelme.

M.A.D.

For Marie-Anne Dufosset

the wrong body was born  
out of a wrong body &  
a wrong body before that

the body was so wrong it spoke  
french  
it slept at night & rose in the morning  
it got sick & got better  
the body wanted it wanted  
if it had not been wrong you see  
it would not have wanted  
anything

i was born in the wrong body  
i let the devil mark it in three places  
actually i asked her to  
actually i begged her not to  
actually i faked it  
actually  
i can't remember  
wrong body stands upright  
needs water, nutrients,  
exercise  
wrong body rides the bus  
or drives a car  
wrong body goes to work  
drinks tim hortons coffee  
kicks the can down the road

the body was wrong it had to be  
burned  
& the body the body came from  
& the bodies the body  
touched

for five weeks  
you sat at the window  
with your head shaved  
fingernails pulled out  
wanting  
hoping  
for rain

- Gisлина Patterson's 2024 Research Residency Essay, in response to research by Elena Basford



Image: Research Residency 2024, Maura García with Victoria Perrie and André Bessette. Photos by Pablo Riquelme.





Image: Research Residency 2024, Anaïs Bossé and Odéah Roy. Photos by Pablo Riquelme.



## **Workshop Series**

Home/Body, Home/Land Workshop with Jaime Black-Morsette, September 2023

Oblique/Switch Workshop with Meagan O'Shea, October 2023

MOVE + SWEAT + PARTNER Workshop with Alex Elliott and Emma Dal Monte, December 2023

Climate Circle Workshop with hannah\_g, January 2024

What deserves to be kept Workshop with Brenden Gali, February 2024

Devising Dance & Text Workshop with Emily Solstice Tait and Tanner Manson, March 2024

Inspire by Fighting Monkey Workshop with Alanna Kraaijeveld, June 2024

## **Outreach + Other YLDE Activity**

Throughout the 2023-2024 year YLDE hosted a multitude of activities, including:

- Cultivating a Daily Practice with Zorya Arrow, September and October 2023
- Performance by Jamie Black-Morsette, November 2023, Funds Donated to Search the Landfill
- Film Screenings: Anatomalia created by Meagan O'Shea, Linnea Swan and collaborators; Trama by Gabriela García Ortiz; within and without by Sarah Struthers; and Moon River by Misha Horacek, October 2023
- Process Mapping with LAHRK Consultants, January 2024
- Strategic Plan for 2024-2029 finalized with LAHRK Consultants and the YLDE BIPOC Focus Group, February 2024
- YLDE Annual General Meeting, November 2024

**Image:** Performance by Jaime Black-Morsette *The water in me* - 2023\_24. Photo by Calvin Lee Joseph.



**Image:** Workshop Series 2023\_24, Emily Solstice Tait and Tanner Manson with Jo Dixon, Aria Evans, Claire Friesen, and D-Anne Kuby. Photo by Pablo Riquelme.





Throughout the year, YLDE continued to correspond with our mailing list of over 550 subscribers, sending out newsletters with our upcoming activities, updates and community events, and boosting our online presence while broadening our social media audience with our original online content.



Image: Workshop Series 2023\_24 Dammeia Hall with Art City Youth. Photo by Pablo Riquelme.

# 2023-2024 Contributors

## **Contributing Artists**

Jaime Black-Morsette

K.C. Adams

Zorya Arrow

Meaghan O'Shea

Gabriela García Ortiz

Sarah Struthers

Misha Horacek

Stand Up Dance

Alexandra Garrido

Laura Vriend

David Brick

Alex Elliott

Emma Dal Monte

Hannah Godfrey

Brenden Gali

Joanna Hawkins

Emily Solstice Tait

Tanner Manson

Maura García

Victoria Perrie

André Bessette

Elena Basford

Anaïs Bossé

Odéah Roy

Gislina Patterson

Azka Ahmed

Alanna Kraaijeveld

## **Staff**

Zorya Arrow (Interim Director, July-August 2023, and Program Manager, September-November 2023)

Alex Elliott (Interim Managing Artistic Director, November 2023-May 2024, and Executive Director, June 2024-Present)

Gaby Ortiz (Research Residency Coordinator, December 2023-April 2024, and Programming Manager, May 2024-Present)

Nat Sluis (Marketing/Outreach Coordinator, December 2023-August 2024)

## **Contracted Staff**

Erica Urias (Graphic Designer and Social Media Manager, July-November 2023)

Kait Evinger (Graphic Designer and Marketing, October-November 2023)

Joanna Hawkins (Sign Language Promotion 2023-2024)

Jordan Wynychuk (ASL Interpreter 2023-2024)

Calvin Lee Joseph (Photographer, 2023)

Pablo Riquelme (Photographer, 2024)

Lasha Mowchun (Videographer, 2024)

## **Technical Support**

Torrin Swanson, Collective Technologies - Digital Systems Design

## **Bookkeeping and Accounting**

Lesage Accounting

## **Board Members**

Chair: Kayla Jeanson

Vice Chair: Nicole Shimonek

Secretary: Sam Penner

Treasurer: Yuri Karube

Members at Large: Eugene Baffoe, Brooke Hess, Aria Evans, Sarah Struthers, Ntara Curry, and Laura Vriend

**Partners**

Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers, Salsa Explosion, Christopher Sobczak, aheartinc., LAHRK Consulting Worker Co-Op, Angela Fey & Jérôme Marchildon, Winnipeg Film Group, Video Pool Media Arts Centre, Drop In Dance Winnipeg, Artspace, Théâtre Cercle Molière, Synonym Arts Consultation, The Forks, and Arts Accessibility Network Manitoba

**Funders**

Canada Council for the Arts, Manitoba Arts Council, and Winnipeg Arts Council

**Sponsors**

Assiniboine Credit Union

Thank you all for supporting Young Lungs Dance Exchange!

Young Lungs Dance Exchange  
Winnipeg, Manitoba // Treaty 1 Territory  
younglungs.wpg@gmail.com  
younglungs.ca

**Independent Financial Statements**  
(Attached below)

# Young Lungs Dance Exchange

## Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2024

	TOTAL
<b>Assets</b>	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalent	
1000 ACU Bank Account	13,862.61
1010 Petty Cash	200.00
1020 Savings	115,145.55
12000 Undeposited Funds	0.00
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalent</b>	<b>\$129,208.16</b>
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
1200 Accounts Receivable	11,125.00
<b>Total Accounts Receivable (A/R)</b>	<b>\$11,125.00</b>
1250 GST Receivable	0.00
1310 Prepaid Expenses	415.80
Uncategorized Asset	0.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$140,748.96</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$140,748.96</b>
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	
2000 Accounts Payable	0.00
<b>Total Accounts Payable (A/P)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
2200 Deferred Grant Revenue	125,000.08
25500 GST/HST Payable	0.00
GST/HST Payable	0.00
<b>Total 25500 GST/HST Payable</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Accrued Liabilities	1,500.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$126,500.08</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$126,500.08</b>
Equity	
Retained Earnings	16,076.82
Profit for the year	-1,827.94
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$14,248.88</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$140,748.96</b>

# Young Lungs Dance Exchange

## Profit and Loss

July 2023 - June 2024

	TOTAL
<b>INCOME</b>	
4100 Grant Revenue	
4101 Canada Council	40,000.00
4105 Manitoba Arts Council	11,250.00
4110 Winnipeg Arts Council	15,000.00
<b>Total 4100 Grant Revenue</b>	<b>66,250.00</b>
4200 Fundraising Revenue	
4210 Fundraiser	1,498.50
<b>Total 4200 Fundraising Revenue</b>	<b>1,498.50</b>
4300 Programming Revenue	
4301 Admissions	2,064.10
4310 Workshop Revenue	233.33
<b>Total 4300 Programming Revenue</b>	<b>2,297.43</b>
4400 Sponsorships	500.00
4501 Interest revenue	183.02
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$70,728.95</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$70,728.95</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
5100 Artist Fees	
5101 Artist fees - Research	12,000.00
5104 Artist Fees - Workshops	6,303.50
5108 Artist Fees - Other	4,055.00
<b>Total 5100 Artist Fees</b>	<b>22,358.50</b>
5200 Production Fees & Expenses	
5201 Concessions/Hospitality	1,168.39
5202 Documentation	2,618.30
5204 Equipment Rental	721.65
5206 Contractor Fees	5,700.00
5208 Jury	1,350.00
5215 Travel & Accommodation	377.51
5220 Venue/Studio Rental	3,302.41
5221 Accessibility	1,530.00
<b>Total 5200 Production Fees &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>16,768.26</b>
5300 Marketing Expenses	3,919.00
5500 Admin Expenses	
5510 Bank Fees	254.25
5523 Office Supplies	409.29
5524 Meeting Expenses	241.17
5525 Memberships	230.00
5530 Misc.	357.22
5545 Legal & Professional	2,219.20
<b>Total 5500 Admin Expenses</b>	<b>3,711.13</b>
5550 Admin Salaries & Fees	25,800.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$72,556.89</b>
<b>PROFIT</b>	<b>\$ -1,827.94</b>



Image: Workshop Series 2023\_24, Emma Dal Monte and Alex Elliott with Tanner Manson, Grace Frazer-Sneddon, Odéah Roy, Dood Handford, and Claire Samson. Photo by Nat Sluis.



