

A person is walking from left to right in an art gallery. They are wearing a light-colored sweater and dark pants. In the background, there is a large abstract painting with a red background and white and yellow floral-like patterns. The floor is light-colored.

**UCL**

**CENTRE FOR  
CREATIVITY  
& LEARNING**

**2023**  
**Year in Review**

**The Tett Centre for Creativity  
and Learning is situated on  
traditional Anishinaabe,  
Haudenosaunee, and Huron-  
Wendat Territory.**

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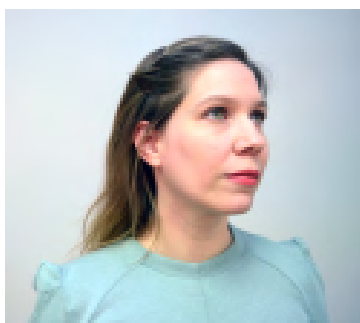
# YEAR IN REVIEW

**2023 was a successful year for the Tett. Financial planning and staff restructuring in 2022 paid off in 2023.**

We were able to improve capacity in the Tett team to increase rental volumes, launch new programming, and increase building traffic and community engagement. The Tett is using capital expenditures to ensure better digital accessibility and to develop a new brand identity fit for our next chapter.

The progress made in 2023 will give us security and momentum as we head into 2024.

# Letter from the Board Chair



Esmé Rottschafer,  
TCCL Board Chair

As we reflect on 2023, we are filled with gratitude for the collective spirit and dedicated people who have guided us through a period of transition and renewal.

Despite the challenges of recent years, our organization continues to prioritize resilience with a forward looking mindset.

Our focus this year has been on laying a stronger foundation for the future. Financially, we are on solid footing but we need to continue to build resilience and capacity to meet growing operational costs and revenue needs. This will allow us to be strategic and plan thoughtfully on how to best utilize our resources against the 5-year plan. Our goal is to thrive and expand the reach and depth of our impact, not just sustain it.

In these uncertain times, making space for the arts has never been more critical. The arts have the power to bring people together, create openness and unity, providing solace, inspiration, and a sense of belonging. By nurturing these connections, we can address the uncertainties of our world with creativity and learning right in our own community.

On behalf of the Board, I thank the City of Kingston for entrusting the operation of the Tett Centre to this organization. We rely on the collaboration and guidance of City staff throughout the year, and recognize with special gratitude the generosity of Colin Wiginton, Past Director of Arts and Culture; Danika Lochhead, newly appointed Director of Arts and Culture; Evan Embacher, Property Specialist, Real Estate and Environmental Initiatives; and Therol Peterson, Manager of Facilities, Facilities Management and Construction Services.

The Tett's Director, Brianne Franklin, and her team deserve a full-hearted thank you for giving so much of themselves in ensuring that the organization meets its programming mandate, builds financial capacity, and creates a safe and welcoming environment. Each team member played a critical role in a successful year.

We also extend our deepest thanks to our current and past board members, whose commitment and collaborative approach meaningfully contributes to the organization.

**Here's to another year of creativity and learning.**

# Letter from the Director



Brianne Franklin,  
TCCL Director

The 9<sup>th</sup> year of operations at the Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning was a wonderful success! It was a busy and enriching year, starting with the launch of our renewed vision and mission in our 5-year Strategic Plan. The plan lays a foundation for our organization to develop and grow guided by our values of collaboration, diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and sustainability.

This year, we welcomed new staff; connected with the community through events and programs; strengthened and developed partnerships; welcomed new Creativity Studio Artists and said farewell to some of our beloved long-time artists; restructured our programming model; and launched a new core program: the Tett Artist Residency!

The Tett Artist Residency provides an opportunity for creative incubation for local emerging artists. We were thrilled with the number of applications received, which indicated the need for a program like this in our community. We selected 4 talented artists for the 2024 residencies, and we look forward to developing this program.

We are extremely grateful to have been awarded an Ontario Trillium Foundation Resilient Communities Fund grant in 2022, with most of the project's activities happening in 2023. This enabled us to hire an Outreach and Development Coordinator, build fundraising capacity, evaluate and adapt our programming and engagement models, and purchase equipment to support program delivery and develop opportunities for revenue generation. This grant helped make the Tett Artist Residency possible and helped us rebuild with renewed strength after the pandemic.

2023 programming highlights include building-wide events such as the Spring Open House and Culture Days; our beloved Kids Creativity Club and Tett Tuesday monthly programs; the "Art of Community" exhibition, curated by two of our previous Creativity Studio Artists, Sasha French and Alice Melo; and the Art of EDI event presented in collaboration with Kingston Arts Council, KEYS Employment and Newcomer Services, and Kingston Association of Museums, Art Galleries, and Historic Sites.

The Art of EDI was especially meaningful, as the Tett worked with local organizations to facilitate learning around diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility. The event included a workshop on EDI-focused hiring practices presented by Natalia Martinelli-Luengo from KEYS, along with a series of performances and presentations exploring topics including accessibility, Deaf culture, neurodivergence, and queerness by Erin Ball, Maxime Beauregard, Mance Granberg, Elizabeth Morris, and Theresa Upton.

With this Year in Review, we are excited to present a sneak peak at our new brand logo. The new identity system, in development through 2023-2024 will provide a more creative, interactive, and engaging expression of Tett. A special thank you to Tyler Serr for his expertise in expressing our mandate and mission in our brand redevelopment.

On behalf of the entire team at the Tett, thank you to our tenant organizations, artists, partners, donors, supporters, volunteers, neighbours, and friends for making the Tett such a special place. I am beyond grateful to work alongside such wonderful, creative folks. A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated Tett staff team, Board of Directors, and volunteers for their unwavering support of our organization. And finally, thank you to the City of Kingston and each and every visitor to the Tett for participating in the arts, leading with curiosity, and working together to experience, create, and connect.

# Mandate

The Tett Centre for Creativity & Learning is a not-for-profit corporation governed by an independent, community-based board, which is accountable to its membership: the City of Kingston as represented by Mayor and Council.

The TCCL is mandated (and funded in part) by the City of Kingston to operate the City-owned J.K. Tett Centre as an accessible multi-use arts centre that supports cultural vitality throughout the region.



## Vision

A thriving hub of artistic creation, learning, and exchange that engages and inspires every part of our community.

## Mission

To make space for arts exploration, artistic development and creative incubation in Kingston. We do this through a welcoming community hub that brings together spaces, people, ideas, and tools that support creativity and learning experiences.

## Values

- Collaboration (people and organizations)
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (people and programming)
- Accessibility (spaces and programming)
- Sustainability (operational and environmental)

## Strategic Priorities

Build capacity to establish and maintain long-term financial sustainability.

Reach out, redesign and connect to enhance access to spaces, programs, and social engagement

Actively advance EDI(I) within the facility and through programming.

# Tett by the Numbers

2023

VS 2022

**4,866**

Instagram Followers

**+13%****7,202**

Facebook Followers

**+8%****2,892**

Newsletter Subscribers

**+7%****153,766**

Website Page Views

**+16%****45,582**

Website Users

**+5%****81,286**

Website Event Views

**+29%**



# Participation Numbers

ACTIVITY	ACHIEVEMENTS	ENGAGEMENT
<p><b>TETT EVENTS, PROGRAMS &amp; WORKSHOPS</b></p>	<p>Kids Creativity Club (9 sessions)            9 Tett Tuesdays – Creative Accountability Group            Community Engagement Contribution Programming (Creativity Studio Artists artist talks, workshops, open studio visits)            Tett Tuesday “Art of Community” Exhibition            Orange Shirt Day Workshop            Spring Open House (including dance workshops)            Culture Days</p>	<p><b>1500+ Participants</b></p>
<p><b>ANCHOR ORGANIZATION EVENTS</b></p>	<p>Kingston Potters’ Guild Shows + Sales (Spring, Fall, and Odds &amp; Ends)            Kingston Lapidary and Mineral Club Metal Rocks Shows and Sales (Spring and Fall)            Kingston Handloom Weavers and Spinners Annual Sale (&amp; Fall Open Studio Sale)            4 Creativity Studio Artists’ Individual Exhibitions</p>	<p><b>10400+ Participants</b></p>
<p><b>COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS + OUTREACH</b></p>	<p><i>Sounding Board Interactive Community Wall</i> Exhibition, presented in partnership with Heather Poechman            Q-Camps Arts and Sports Camp in partnership with Queen’s Athletics and Recreation Department  <i>PRIDE Quilt</i> Community Wall Exhibition, presented partnership with Kingston School of Art and Limestone District School Board            Art of EDI event in collaboration with KEYS Newcomer and Employment Services, Kingston Arts Council, &amp; Kingston Association of Museums, Art Galleries and Historic Sites            Skeleton Park Arts Festival and ArtFest Kingston – Community Booth and interactive art activities</p>	<p><b>950+ Participants</b></p>



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**Community engagement is at the heart of the Tett. In 2023, we focused on deepening our understanding of community needs and enhancing our community engagement activities.**

We achieved this through initiatives such as establishing the inaugural Tett Artist Residency program; enhancing the Creativity Studio program; engaging in community partnerships to produce events such as Culture Days, the Art of EDI, and Art for All; and participating in outreach activities at events such as the Skeleton Park Arts Festival and Artfest.

*LDSB Pride Quilt created with KSOA on display in the Tett Community Gallery. Photo Credit: Jung-Ah Kim*

# Tett Artist Residency

In the summer of 2023, the Tett launched its inaugural Tett Artist Residency program. This program was created to provide support for emerging artists in Katarokwi/Kingston to build their arts practices and engage with the community.

The program offers 4 artists per year 3 months of studio space in Creativity Studio B, providing artists with dedicated time and space to work on projects or bodies of work. Artists in residence are expected to participate in 6 hours of community engagement activities, such as performances, talks, or workshops. They also have the opportunity to showcase their work at an exhibition coordinated and presented by the Tett. The residency is open to emerging artists across various disciplines, including visual arts, performing arts, literary arts, photography, curation, digital art, and more.

The program launch received a strong, positive response from the community, as evidenced by our social media engagement numbers and attendance numbers at information sessions. We received over 30 applications.

The 4 artists selected for 2024 are: Baiqing (Audrey) Chen, Meenakashi Ghadial, Sheldon Traviss, and Sophia Fabilli (consecutively).

Community engagement plans for our 2024 residents include workshops in traditional Iroquois pottery, collage-making for families, augmented reality, playwriting, and audition techniques. Many artists will also host studio visits or performances.

The diverse talents and creative visions of these artists aligns with the ethos of the Tett Artist Residency. This residency program is a testament to the Tett's commitment to addressing community needs by offering emerging artists the support and space they need to thrive.



# 2024 Resident Artists



Baiqing (Audrey) Chen is a digital media artist who combines physical objects with digital technologies to create immersive experiences.



Meenakashi Ghadial is a visual artist who specializes in representational oil painting on metal.



Sheldon Traviss is an artist of Mohawk descent who specializes in graphite and digital drawing, ceramic, and wood sculpture.



Sophia Fabilli is an award-winning playwright, screenwriter, and educator.

# Creativity Studios

The Creativity Studios at the Tett fill a crucial need within Kingston and the wider arts community by providing affordable, high-quality, community-based arts studios that align with our mandate. These studios offer a one-year renewable license for emerging professional artists working across various mediums and art practices. Artists collaborate in a cohesive environment, emphasizing learning and sharing through the arts.

Artists work alongside the Tett's Program and Communications Coordinator to organize and facilitate community engagement activities, for 2.5 hours per month. These activities may include artist talks, workshops, demonstrations, performances, open studios, and off-site promotion of the Tett Centre.

In 2023, Creativity Studio artists offered a range of community engagement activities that resonated well with the community. These activities included facilitating Tett Tuesday Open Studios; curating the Tett Tuesday annual community exhibition; hosting highly sought-after workshops; participating in building-wide events by offering activities or studio visits; and leading Creativity Studio Sessions providing focused mentorship.



Natalie Bohnen-Twiddy welcomes visitors to her studio for Culture Days. Photo Credit: Shanique Peart



Pengyuan Wang painting during the Tett Open House.  
Photo Credit: Jung-Ah Kim

### **In 2023 a number of new artists brought their diverse practices to the Creativity Studios.**

Studio A – **Alice Melo**, Acrylic and Watercolour Painting

Studio B – **Erin O’Neill** (to March 2023), Abstract Painting

Studio B – **Lisa Leskien**, Acrylic and Oil Painting

Studio C – **Pengyuan Wang**, Painting and Calligraphy

Studio D – **Bethany Garner**, Textile Artist

Studio E – **Natalie Bohnen-Twiddy**, Oil Painting

Studio F – **Adele Webster** (to September 2023), Contemporary Landscape Painting

Studio F – **Emily Wu**, Illustrations, Paper Mache

Studio G – **Michelle Reid** (to September 2023), Oil Painting

Studio G – **Jean Jamieson-Hanes**, Acrylic paintings, Abstraction

Studio H – **Sasha Jimenez French** (to August 2023), Visual Art and Movement

Studio H – **Will O’Hare**, Photography



# Community Programming

Culture Days. Photo Credit: Shanique Peart.

## Kids Creativity Club

One of our most popular and most well-loved programs, Kids Creativity Club is a monthly drop-in artmaking program for families with children aged 10 and under. Participants enjoy a variety of hands-on creative arts activities with local artists and volunteers.

## Tett Tuesdays

On the second Tuesday of the month, the Tett and community artists get together for an evening of creativity, conversation, and connection. This free community program helps participants to build confidence in the arts and promotes wellness through creativity. Tett Tuesdays provide a platform for community building and peer-to-peer mentorship, where artists can share skills and resources, ask questions both big and small, and develop collaborations.

## Art of Community

The 2023 *Art of Community* exhibition offered a curated selection of works by Tett Tuesday participants, showcasing the variety of media and styles explored by this ever-evolving group of local artists. The exhibition offered a space for encouragement, peer-to-peer mentorship, and skill-sharing for artists. A special thank you to former Creativity Studio artists Alice Melo and Sasha Jimenez French, who curated the 2023 exhibition.





# Partnership Activities

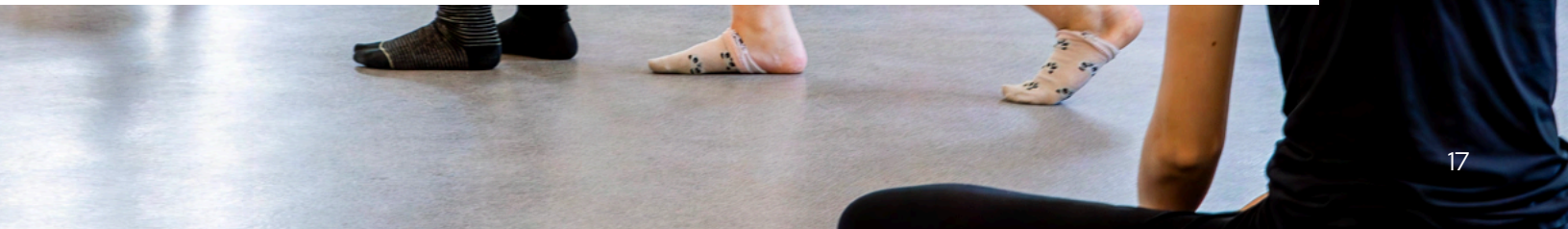
**The Tett actively collaborates with various organizations to host partnership activities aimed at fostering community engagement and promoting artistic initiatives.**

## Tett Tree of Life

In the fall of 2023, the Tett participated in Ontario Culture Days, collaborating with Creativity Studio Artists and our anchor arts organizations. Visitors were invited to engage with the Tett organizations and studio artists to create small artworks, such as postcards with brief messages and drawings of their hometowns, copper ornaments, Chinese zodiac lucky charms, and memory bags with notes for loved ones. These creations were then added to the Tett Tree of Life installation in the Malting Tower, accompanied by a dance performance by the Kingston School of Dance and a musical performance by Yakothéhtón:ni - Jennifer E Brant, creating a vibrant celebration of community and creativity. The Tett Tree of Life structure later facilitated a partnership with Kingston Home Base Housing that supported local youth in need by providing warm accessories.

## Art for All

The Tett partnered with our neighbour the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts to host Art for All, a fundraising event that included a fundraising exhibition and balloted art sale. This event showcased a diverse range of artworks and raised funds for collaborative programming between The Isabel and the Tett Centre, further enriching the cultural landscape of the community.





Sounding Board: A Community Conversation, led by community artist Heather Poechman. Photo Credit: Jung-Ah Kim

# Community Exhibitions

The Tett Community Wall hosted two projects that showcased collaborative spirit and creativity in Kingston. *Sounding Board: A Community Conversation*, led by community artist Heather Poechman, was an interactive art installation that evolved into an artistic rendition of a community bulletin board. As it traveled to different locations throughout Kingston, the public were encouraged to contribute their family recipes, personal stories, drawings and more, with the installation serving as a hub for community connection and shared experiences. The second project, the *LDSB Pride Quilt*, was a collaborative initiative between the Kingston School of Art and equity related clubs and interested individuals and families across the Limestone District School Board (LDSB). This project invited participants to create quilt squares expressing what PRIDE means to them using visual arts as a medium. The completed quilt was carried in both the Napanee Pride parade and the Kingston Pride parade. It continued to be displayed in a traveling exhibition throughout the summer, with the Tett Community Wall being one of the venues.

# The Art of EDI

Another notable partnership was our Art of EDI event, presented in collaboration with the Kingston Arts Council, KEYS Employment and Newcomer Services, and the Kingston Association of Museums, Art Galleries, and Historic Sites. This collaborative event centered around the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) and included workshops, performances, and Q&A sessions to provide the arts community in Katarokwi/Kingston with the learning needed to create a more inclusive and diverse arts environment. This one-day event modeled various elements of event accessibility and included a workshop on EDI-focused hiring practices presented by Natalia Martinelli-Luengo from KEYS, along with a series of performances and presentations exploring topics including accessibility, Deaf culture, neurodivergence, and queerness by Erin Ball, Maxime Beauregard, Mance Granberg, Elizabeth Morris, and Theresa Upton.

# Outreach Activities

Throughout the year, the Tett actively engaged with the local community through various outreach activities, including participation in events such as the Skeleton Park Arts Festival and Artfest. At these events, Tett staff and volunteers worked together to offer art activities to visitors, and provide information about Tett programs and what we do.





# Anchor Organizations

**Community building is at the heart of what we do at the Tett, and the arts organizations, artists, and cafe work together to create a vibrant arts community. Tett staff work closely with each anchor organization to develop collaborative, accessible arts programming and new ways for visitors to experience and engage onsite.**

2023 was a wonderfully busy year, with increased engagement and attendance across the board. The Tett, anchor organizations, and artists brought the community together for open house events, gallery exhibitions, joint shows and sales, and drop in programming in 2023.

Tett anchor organizations continue to innovate and thrive, making the Tett Centre an amazing destination to explore, connect, and find inspiration. Please visit their websites for more details.



# Joe's Music Mill

With over 1000 registered borrowers, Joe's Music Mill offers a library of musical instruments and brings music, education, and mentorship to schools and community programs.



Photo courtesy of Joe's Music Mill

## 2023 Highlights

- Established a weekly pop-up Instrument Lending Library and Ukulele Jam at the Rideau Heights Community Centre in June 2023.
- Raised over \$10,000 for Joe's Music Mill through the HomeGrown Live music festival, which included concerts at 13 venues.
- Hosted a successful "Playathon" Fundraiser in October 2023. Prizes for participants included guitar lessons with Rob Baker of The Tragically Hip.
- Embarked on a re-branding exercise, with a launch date of spring 2024.

# Kingston Lapidary & Mineral Club

Founded in 1962, the Kingston Lapidary and Mineral Club provides a positive environment for local rockhounds, lapidary enthusiasts, and silversmiths.



Photo Credit: Shanique Peart

## 2023 Highlights

- Grew membership by over 100 members, with 570 members at the end of 2023
- Offered 9-12 courses each month, including a junior program for youth ages 8-12; courses included silversmithing, wire wrapping, fold forming, hollow beads, chain maille, wax casting, cuttlebone casting, soldered bracelets, and faceting.
- Fostered community partnerships by teaching courses with the Juvenis Festival, the Heritage Fair in association with Miller Hall at Queen's University, Culture Days, and the Tett/Queen's collaborative Summer Camp.
- Offered four open studio times weekly and hosted the annual Gem Storm show and sale at St. Lawrence College.

# Modern Fuel

Modern Fuel Artist-Run Centre facilitates the presentation, interpretation, and production of contemporary visual, time-based, and interdisciplinary arts.



Photo courtesy of Modern Fuel

## 2023 Highlights

- Hosted 9 solo and 3 group art exhibitions, including 2 exhibitions for the organization's approximately 90 members.
- Launched the Archives Website, which preserves Canadian contemporary art history, adding the experimental and alternative practices of hundreds of artists to the national canon.
- Hosted free programming including 6 sessions of the professional development series "Making Art Work," and 5 sessions of the open mic style "Local Muse" performance series.
- Hosted the "Long Days Residency," a shared studio residency program for 5 participating artists in August 2023.
- Welcomed Maddi Andrews as Executive Director in November 2023.



# Theatre Kingston

Theatre Kingston collaborates with local theatre practitioners to build a strong cultural voice in the region, and provides audiences with high-calibre theatre.

Blood River  
Photo courtesy of Theatre Kingston



## 2023 Highlights

- Produced 3 Canadian plays, including 2 by local female playwrights: EEN by Rosemary Doyle and Blood River by Chloe Whithorn.
- The 2023 TK FRINGE featured 18 different plays, giving over 100 artists the ability to create new work. Kingston artists, many of them new to producing, produced 12 of these plays.
- Produced 206 performances in total.
- Received grants from the Ontario Arts Council, the City of Kingston Arts Fund, and the Regional Tourism Organization.
- Partnered with Improv Kingston to increase the number of classes offered in the TK Studio space.

# Kingston Potters' Guild

One of the oldest pottery guilds in Ontario, the Kingston Potters' Guild supports the artistic development of its members and students in the art and craft of ceramics.



Photo Credit: Jane Kirby

## 2023 Highlights

- Grew membership to 94 members with a waitlist for prospective members.
- Opened the permanent public art installation "Renewal" in the foyer of the Richardson bathhouse in June. The beautiful mosaic was conceived, designed, and produced by members of the Guild and was the result of over 6 years of work by over 40 people.
- Initiated the year-long Guild mentorship program, which supported 9 selected ceramicists in developing their artistry under the guidance of an experienced mentor. This culminated in an exhibition of mentees' work in the Tett Gallery in October.
- Offered 18 regular classes, 3 specialty classes, and 2 weekend workshops, with a total of over 200 participants.
- Hosted 3 successful shows – the "Odds and Ends Sale" in February, the Spring Show and Sale, and the November Holiday Show.

# Kingston Handloom Weavers & Spinners

The Kingston Handloom Weavers and Spinners celebrates and shares the knowledge, skills, and values of spinning, weaving, and related fibre arts.



Photo Credit: Jung-Ah Kim

## 2023 Highlights

- Celebrated their 75th anniversary year with an exhibit in the Tett Gallery featuring items from many decades of spinning and weaving. Celebrations also included a spinning wheel clinic; an afternoon tea celebrating the awarding of 8 lifetime memberships to long-term members of the guild; a new member gathering; and spinning demonstrations.
- Engaged over 123 members, including 27 new members.
- Offered 27 workshops and hosted a weekly open studio both in person and virtually.
- Acquired a brand new 4 shaft jack loom as a memorial donation to the guild, as well as 2 new spinning wheels.
- Hosted their annual Show and Sale in November, with sales totaling over \$25,000, as well as a window display and holiday sales on weekends throughout December.

## ANCHOR ORGANIZATIONS

# Kingston School of Dance

With over 65 weekly classes and 365 registered dancers, the Kingston School of Dance (KSD) delivers dance education of the highest standard to promote technical, musical, and artistic development..



Photo Credit: Jamstone Productions

## 2023 Highlights

- Hosted the K-town Showdown Dance Battle, bringing renowned choreographers in the styles of Ballroom Vogue, waacking, and popping to Kingston and sharing these underrepresented dance forms with the community.
- Offered free weekly dance classes to newcomer youth in partnership with KEYS
- Hosted 9 performances, including the KSD Cabaret Fundraiser "ARRIVE in time," the "Dastan" Youth Dance Performance in partnership with the Juvenis Festival, and a performance of the Kingston Youth Dance Ensemble for Culture Days.

# Kingston Arts Council

Through communications, programming, and advocacy, KAC promotes the creation, development, and appreciation of the arts in Kingston and supports artistic growth and engagement for arts organizations and artists at all levels of their careers.



The Art of EDI  
Photo Credit: Shanique Peart

## 2023 Highlights

- Expanded and improved online resources, including revamping their ArtsBuzz Newsletter and Arts Job Board, and introducing two new resources: the Grants Board and the Opportunities Board.
- Administered \$619,255 in funding through the City of Kingston Arts Fund, awarding 12 Operating Grants and 16 Project Grants.
- Reintroduced UNIT 115 exhibitions in the KAC office, in collaboration with local artists.
- Co-hosted the one-day Art of EDI event, providing arts workers with the opportunity to learn about equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.
- Welcomed Nicole Daniels as Executive Director in March 2023.

# Juniper Cafe

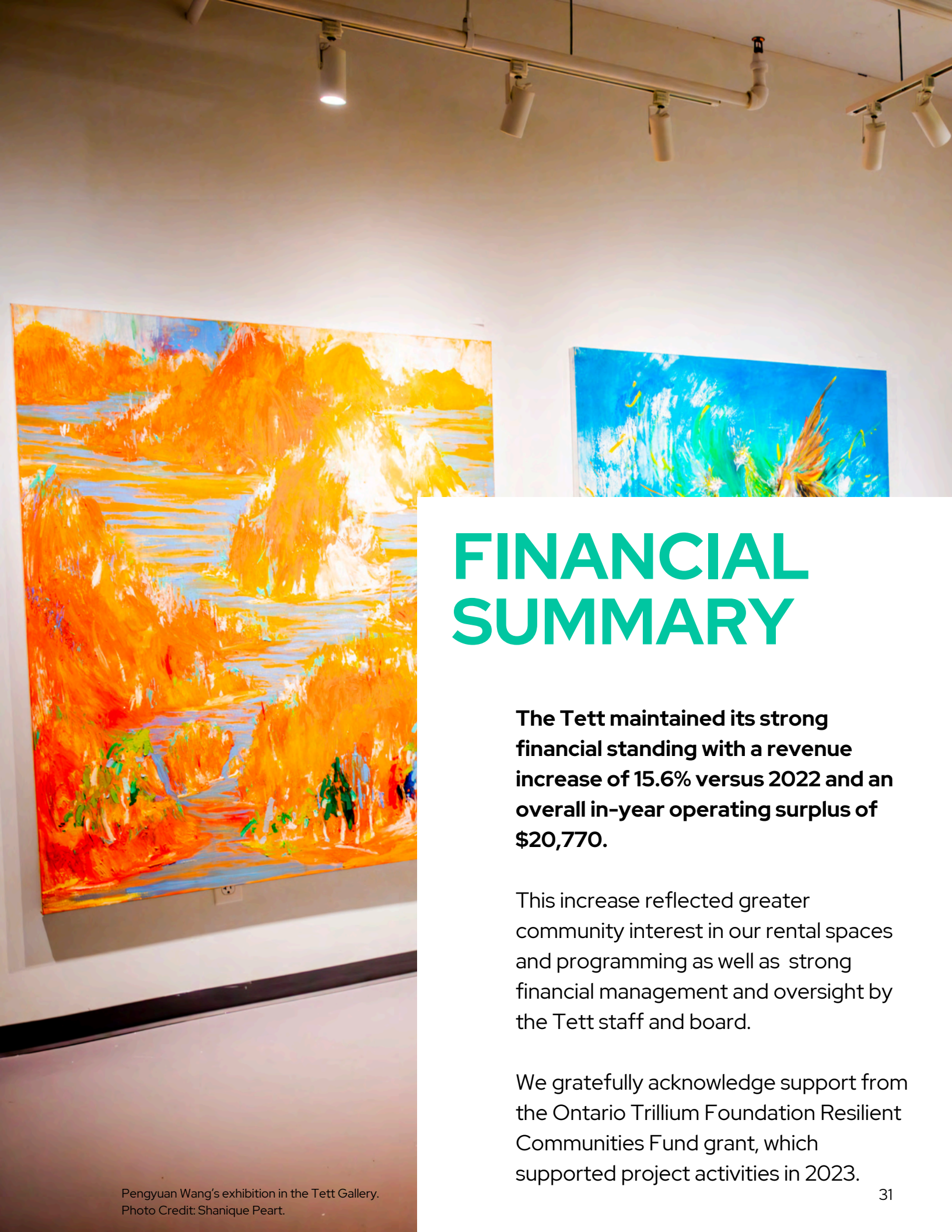
With a direct pedestrian entrance and a waterfront patio, the Juniper Cafe provides food and beverage services and is an important point of social connection within our heritage arts hub.



Photo Credit: Jung-Ah Kim

## 2023 Highlights

- Employed 8 full-time and 14 part-time staff through the year; processed an average of 200 transactions daily.
- Invested in staff with the improvement of employee benefits and the provision of team training.
- Opened a new location in Cataraqui Woods.
- Supported local businesses and farmers whenever possible in selecting ingredients.
- Sponsored or supported arts events, including events hosted by the Tett Centre and its organizations, the KCFF, Queen's TedX, the Kingston Squarefoot Show, and the Kingston Holiday Market.



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**The Tett maintained its strong financial standing with a revenue increase of 15.6% versus 2022 and an overall in-year operating surplus of \$20,770.**

This increase reflected greater community interest in our rental spaces and programming as well as strong financial management and oversight by the Tett staff and board.

We gratefully acknowledge support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation Resilient Communities Fund grant, which supported project activities in 2023.

## Overall revenues rose by 7.6% with rental volumes increasing by 16%.

Subtenant rent increased in line with inflation, and rental rates for our Tett rental spaces increased by 3%, following our structured annual increase plan, (aligned with other organizations and venues in the sector).

We continue to work to support our community and remain accessible and affordable, especially for arts-focused and not-for-profit renters.

Expenditures for the year increased by \$44,352 or 9.6% year-on-year. This was due to the welcome addition of new talent through government grants (Ontario Trillium Foundation and Canada Summer Jobs), and overall cost increases.

The City of Kingston (through the Department of Arts and Culture Services) provided the Tett Centre with financial support in 2023. The Municipal Contribution of 2023 constituted 22% of our total revenue.

\$52,780 earmarked for regular repair and maintenance in accordance with the Master Lease between the City and the Tett Centre.

\$21,630 was placed in a capital reserve for future improvement and maintenance.

\$33,917 of the Municipal contribution was used to help support full-time staff in meeting the goals of the organization and fulfilling its mandate as a community arts hub.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all of our donors who continue to support Tett Centre's activities, programs, and initiatives.

Thank you MNP LLP, CMD CPA, and Balanced Accounting for financial services in 2023.

## Forward Guidance

1. In order to grow and offset increasing operating costs, TCCL is focusing resources into strengthening fundraising. In anticipation of our 10th anniversary in early 2025, our Fundraising Working Group will work to direct fundraising efforts (including granting) to aid the Tett in reaching the goals set out in our 5-year Strategic Plan.

2. The Tett Board of Directors has approved a balanced operating budget presented by the Finance and Audit Committee for 2024 that improves our capacity for growth.

3. Base rent for Subtenants will increase by 2% and additional rent component (CAM) for subtenants by 3%.

4. The annual budget provides for the transfer of approximately \$10,000 to capital reserve to use for the replacement of furniture and fixtures.



# Rentals Overview

2023 was an incredibly successful year, with increased space activation and rentals revenue generation reaching new heights. We welcomed renters into our four multi-purpose rental spaces for 189 different arts-focused, not-for-profit, and regular rentals, including but not limited to: art workshops, conferences, gallery exhibitions, shows and sales, weddings, student projects, graduation ceremonies and celebrations, markets, performances, meetings, training sessions, speaker series, celebrations of life, rehearsals, and more!

These rentals spanned over a total of 561 days of use across our four spaces, reflecting renewed interest in the Tett. Total revenue associated with rental spaces in 2023 was \$128,273, an increase of 38% from a total of \$92,930 in 2022.

The Tett Centre is a necessary venue for community organizations and local artists, and we work hard through our rentals program to provide affordable rental space for community artists and arts organizations. Moving forward, we are focusing on further activating our spaces, creating more opportunities to welcome folks to the Tett, and providing renters with better resources.

We graciously thank Susanna Gordon, Tett Rentals Coordinator, for her stewardship of the rentals program, and her efforts in making the Tett a special place to be. Susanna's customer service and attention to detail helps to facilitate the rentals that so wonderfully activate the Tett's unique spaces.

Thank you as well to Brandon Elderhorst, Tett Facility Assistant, for his support both at events and behind the scenes, problem solving and working directly with clients; and to Lois Thomas, Tett Custodian, for her dedication in keeping our rental spaces, and the whole building, sparkling.

# Rentals Overview

**Our 4 multi-purpose rental spaces provide a vital revenue source that enables our charitable organization to continue providing accessible arts-focused programming and operating as an arts hub for the community.**

The table below shows the number of rentals separated by type of rental client. The type of rental determines the base rental rate. The Tett Centre offers a 25% discount to rental clients who meet eligibility requirements.

	MALTING TOWER		REHEARSAL HALL		TETT GALLERY		ACTIVITY ROOM		TOTAL # OF RENTALS	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
<b>AF &amp; NFP</b>	38	42	45	47	18	22	28	57	128	<b>168</b>
<b>REG</b>	11	14	3	6	0	0	1	1	16	<b>21</b>
<b>TTL</b>	49	<b>56</b>	48	<b>53</b>	18	<b>22</b>	29	<b>58</b>	144	<b>189</b>

**AF** = arts-focused: workshops, performances, presentations, exhibitions

**NFP** = not-for-profit organizations, post-secondary student-run events

**REG** = weddings, memorials, corporate meetings, conferences

# Financial Statement

## Statement of Operations

REVENUE (2023, audited)		EXPENDITURES (2023, audited)	
Rentals	\$ 333,672	Salaries and Benefits	\$ 255,943
Programming	\$ 6,116	Professional Services, Maintenance, and Repairs	\$ 91,263
Contributions, Municipal	\$ 118,000	Capital Contribution and Rent	\$ 33,966
Trillium Grants, Provincial	\$ 43,491	All Programming and Events	\$ 17,286
Other Contributions/Grants	\$ 4,164	Advertising and Promotion	\$ 3,896
Donations	\$ 19,406	Utilities, IT and Telephone	\$ 67,905
Other Revenue Incl. Interest	\$ 1,707	Office + Miscellaneous	\$ 22,302
		Amortization	\$ 13,225
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 526,556</b>	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 505,786</b>

## Statement of Cash Flow

SUMMARY	2023	2022	2021
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 526,556	\$ 455,641	\$ 418,709
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 505,786	\$ 461,434	\$ 446,897
OPERATING SURPLUS	\$ 20,770	\$ (5,793)	\$ (28,188)
+ amortization adjustments	\$ 8,626	\$ 9,260	\$ 7,243
+ change, non-cash capital	\$ (37,822)	\$ 72,861	\$ 2,728
+ cash flow, inv. activities	\$ (3,844)	\$ (7,804)	\$ (15,132)
+ cash flow, financing	\$ 0	\$ 1,984	\$ 6,959
Increase in Cash & Equiv.	\$ (12,270)	\$ 70,508	\$ (26,390)
Cash & Equiv., start of year	\$ 256,566	\$ 186,058	\$ 212,448
Cash and Equiv. year-end	<b>\$ 244,296</b>	<b>\$ 256,566</b>	<b>\$ 186,058</b>

**The Ontario Trillium Foundation: Building Resilient Communities Fund** grant allowed the Tett to build our fundraising capacity, develop outreach and engagement models, and adapt programming and operations to support our mission, vision, and strategic priorities. Moving forward, we will leverage resources developed from this project grant to assist in revenue generation and community engagement moving forward, approaching 2024 with renewed strength.



# Donations

**Donations totaled  
\$19,406 in 2023**

The Tett Centre is grateful for the generous donations made to our charitable organization through the year at our events, drop-in programming, through Canada Helps, and directly in our office.

Our donors become part of a dynamic community that believes that everyone deserves access to a welcoming space that nurtures creativity. Continued support from individuals, businesses, and organizations in Kingston enables us to continue being a welcoming and vibrant community hub and inclusive arts destination for years to come.

Donations received in 2023 support the Tett's creative arts programming, including programs such as Kids Creativity Club, the Tett Artist Residency, Tett Tuesday, community outreach initiatives, partnership activities such as Culture Days and the Art of EDI, and more.

We acknowledge and honour our annual supporters by featuring them on a dedicated donor plaque displayed in the main stairwell.



# LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

**The Tett operates through the dedication of a small staff, a volunteer board of directors, community and organizational collaboration, generous volunteers, and our one member, the City of Kingston.**

## Tett Team

**Brianne Franklin**, Director

**Nicole Daniels**, Program and Communications Coordinator (to March 2023)

**Jung-Ah Kim**, Program and Communications Coordinator (March 2023 to present)

**Susanna Gordon**, Rentals Coordinator

**Lois Thomas**, Tett Custodian

**Brandon Elderhorst**, Facility and AV Assistant

**Jake Torrie**, Outreach and Development Coordinator (March to September 2023)

**Emily Shostal**, Summer Program Assistant (July to August 2023)

**Jane Kirby**, Marketing and Communications Coordinator (from March 2024)

## Board of Directors

**Esmé Rottschafer**, Chair (and Secretary from Dec 2023 to May 2024)

**Kent Williams**, Vice-Chair (to Dec 2023)

**Cory Angeletti-Szasz**, Vice-Chair (from Jan 2024)

**Sanjiv Kapoor**, Treasurer (to Dec 2023)

**Bruce Geddes**, Treasurer (from Dec 2023)

**Susan Bourette**, Secretary (to Nov 2023)

**Janieta Eyre**

**Barbara Hammond** (to Nov 2023)

**Zoha Khalid**

**Emily Skoggard**

**John Risk**, Secretary (from May 2024)

**Tyler Serr** (from April 2024)

### BOARD AFFILIATES

**Kait Allen**, Subtenant Organization Affiliate (to Oct 2023)

**Maddi Andrews**, Subtenant Organization Affiliate

**Colin Wiginton**, COK Affiliate, Director Arts and Culture (to Nov 2023)

**Danika Lochhead**, COK Affiliate, Director Arts and Culture

## Our Member

Since December 17th 2019, the Corporation of the City of Kingston, represented by its Councillors and Mayor, is the Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning's one (1) Member:

Councillor **Don Amos**

Councillor **Ryan Boehme**

Councillor **Paul Chaves**

Councillor **Vincent Cinanni**

Councillor **Conny Glen**

Councillor **Jimmy Hassan**

Councillor **Jeff McLaren**

Councillor **Gary Oosterhof**

Councillor **Lisa Osanic**

Councillor **Gregory Ridge**

Councillor **Wendy Stephen**

Councillor **Brandon Tozzo**

Mayor **Bryan Paterson**

The Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning is an independent, charitable arts organization that operates a historic, City-owned building as a dynamic arts hub.

We create and coordinate accessible programming and events for all levels of experience and abilities that support the cultural vitality throughout the region.

The J.K. Tett Centre is home to 9 resident arts organizations, 8 individual artist studios, 4 multi-purpose rental spaces, and a beautiful waterfront café.

370 King Street West  
Kingston, ON K7L 2X4

[www.tettcentre.org](http://www.tettcentre.org)  
@tettcentre

CENTRE FOR  
CREATIVITY  
& LEARNING

TETT

**MODERNFUEL**  
artist-run centre

**Joe's**  
MUSIC MILL

*Juniper*  
CAFE



kingston  
arts council

**TETT** CENTRE FOR  
CREATIVITY  
& LEARNING