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Keynote Speakers

Janice Price



Janice Price became President of The Banff Centre on March 16th, 2015. She most recently served as CEO of the Luminato Festival, Toronto's Festival of Art and Creativity, an organization she led since its inception in 2006. As the Festival's Founding CEO, Janice helped Luminato become one of the world's largest and most respected annual multi-arts festivals. The Festival reaches over 800,000 audience members annually, and in its first eight seasons commissioned 75 new works. Previous to Luminato, Janice was the President and CEO of The Kimmel Centre for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia from 2002-2006, and prior to that position she was Vice President of Marketing and Communications and then Interim Executive Director at New York's Lincoln Centre for the Performing Arts.

Pytor Hodgson and Zoey Roy

"Why the Future Lives
in Reconciliation"



Pytor Hodgson: As the CEO of Three Things Consulting, Pytor helps organizations and governments create processes, programs and



Zoey Roy: Twenty-six-year-old Zondra (Zoey) Roy has created a vibrant life of art and activism despite leaving home at 13 and being incarcerated before the age of 15. Connecting to her community, volunteering, and gaining deeper knowledge of her Métis, Cree, and Dene roots were her first steps to her new life.

Her potential quickly emerged in 2006, Zoey got her first job as a Youth Facilitator, writing, producing and performing children's educational

opportunities for young people and community engagement, research and innovative evaluation. Three Things inspires youth and their influencers to make their lives healthier and their communities stronger, with a deep understanding that they matter, they are important, and they belong.

Sharing the values of Three Things with young people and their influencers helps create a resilient nation of youth who are secure in their roles with family, school and community. These young people will have a vision of a world that is better for all, and be active contributors to its development.

Three Things clients have included national and international NGO's, youth serving organizations, governments and charitable Foundations. The Students Commission, where Pytor worked for many years as a consultant, remains a client of Three Things Consulting.

plays in a project for the Saskatoon Catholic School Board and the City of Saskatoon. She returned to high school in 2011, graduating the following year and earning the school's Girls' Contribution and Leadership Awards. Currently, she is in her fourth year at the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program at the University of Saskatchewan, working on her Bachelor of Education.

As Zoey learned the power of her voice, she initiated leadership workshops so other youth could find their voices, too. From 2011 to 2013, she worked with National Youth Arts Week mobilizing a team to facilitate 96 arts and community events in Saskatoon. In 2013, she co-developed Write Out Loud, a spoken word collective that promotes all-ages shows, and partners with community organizations.

Zoey has also travelled to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York City to advocate for young Indigenous people who are disenfranchised within Canada and around the world.

Panelists

#1: Succeeding as Cultural Leaders



Moderator: Prem Gill

CEO, Creative BC

With over 20 years' experience working in the arts and communications sectors, with a special focus on creative industries such as film, TV and digital technology, Prem has a proven track record of growing organizations through innovation and collaboration.

An active and engaged leader, Prem's commitment to the creative sector in BC can be seen through her work as Director of Production and Original Programming with TELUS and previous experience in the broadcast industry, working with CityTV and CHUM. From spearheading the first English-only radio segment on a popular South Asian broadcaster, to launching TELUS' STORYHIVE program, Prem advocates for accessibility and diversity within the arts and entertainment sectors and stakeholders listen.

In addition to her current role as CEO of Creative BC, Prem also holds positions as Vice-Chair of the board of directors for the National Screen Institute, an advisory position with Women in View, the Board of Advantage BC, and has previously held a board of director position with the Vancouver International Film Festival.

Burke Taylor

Co-Director, UBC Centre for Cultural Planning and Development

Burke Taylor is founding Co-director of the UBC Centre for Cultural Planning and Development at the University of British Columbia, an international centre for education and professional development of cultural policy, planning and development practitioners.

Burke is also a partner in Taylor-Harvey Inc., an international strategic cultural planning consultancy with clients in both private and public sectors focusing on public policy, cultural plans and programme development as well as major cultural event visioning, strategic planning, and production.

The Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games were the culmination of Burke's Olympic journey from creation of the Bid's culture and ceremonies' vision through delivery of "Canada's Games" as Vice- President for Culture Celebrations and Education, and as Executive Producer of the Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad.



Sal Ferreras

Provost & Vice President, Kwantlen
Polytechnic University

Renowned B.C. percussionist Salvador Ferreras is also making his mark in the academic world. Ferreras has been appointed provost and vice president, academic of Kwantlen Polytechnic University. “As the new Provost and Vice President, Academic, I see great things ahead and am honoured to join a remarkable team of students, faculty, staff administrators and board members who are ready to seize a bold and exciting future,” he said in a release. Ferreras’ academic background includes a PhD in ethnomusicology from the University of B.C. He is also a past Juno Award-nominee and music educator who was inducted into the B.C. Entertainment Hall of Fame in 2003.



Howard Jang

Professor, Simon Fraser University

Simon Fraser University, School for the Contemporary Arts (SCA) Professor of Professional Practice and Director of Woodward’s Cultural Unit. Howard brings to the role great knowledge of artistic practices and practical experience from running large arts companies. His expertise and passion for the arts encourages the engagement of SCA students by adopting new approaches within the current coursework, and providing valuable insights on what is happening in the arts scene today. He spent 14 years serving as the Executive Director of the Arts Club. Prior positions include senior management roles at the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Ballet BC, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and the Orchestra of St. Luke’s (New York). Active in the arts community on both a local and national level, Howard sits on multiple boards including the Canada Council for the Arts, the TELUS Vancouver Community Board, BC Artscape and the Vancouver Foundation’s Arts and Culture Advisory Committee.

#2: The Importance of Arts and Artists in Canadian Society



Moderator: Judith Marcuse

Founder and Artistic Producer, Judith Marcuse Projects

Judith Marcuse is one of Canada's senior artist/producers with a career that spans over 40 years of professional work as a dancer, choreographer, director, producer, teacher, writer and lecturer in Canada and abroad. She has created over 100 original works for live performance by dance, theatre and opera companies; many projects for film and television; and has produced seven large-scale arts festivals. Her repertory contemporary dance company toured nationally and internationally for more than 15 years, while also creating innovative community and youth programs.



Renée Sarojini Saklikar

Poet Laureate, City of Surrey

Renee writes thecanadaproject, a life-long poem chronicle that includes poetry, fiction, and essays. The first completed book from thecanadaproject is children of air india, un/authorized exhibits and interjections,

(Nightwood Editions, 2013) winner of the 2014 Canadian Authors Association Award for poetry and a finalist for the 2014 Dorothy Livesay Poetry Award. In November, 2015, *children of air india* was adapted for the opera, *air india* [redacted] by Vancouver's Turning Point Ensemble and an Irish-Canadian collaborative team, whose production premiered at the Fei and Milton Wong Theater at SFU's Goldcorp Centre for the Arts.

A graduate of The Writer's Studio at Simon Fraser University, Renée is currently a mentor and instructor for the university and co-founder of a new poetry reading series, Lunch Poems at SFU. Renée served as an advocate on the national council of The Writer's Union of Canada and is at work on the second volume of *thecanadaproject*, excerpts of which can be found in the journals *Eleven Eleven*, *The Capilano Review* and online at DUSIE and *The Rusty Toque*. Renée is working on a sequence of bee poems based on her collaboration with well-known biologist, Dr. Mark Winston. On October 20, 2015, Renée was appointed Poet Laureate for the City of Surrey. She is a member of the League of Canadian Poets.

Christine Sokaymoh Frederick

Co-Director, Alberta Aboriginal Arts

Christine is a co-founder and artistic director of Alberta Aboriginal Performing Arts and producer of the annual *Rubaboo Arts Festival* (7th annual in Feb 2016) and CEO of the Dreamspeakers Film Festival Society. She is an urban Aboriginal Cree-Métis and has thirty-five years of experience in multiple artistic disciplines. She's attended the University of Alberta, the Banff Centre for Arts, and the University for Peace (Costa Rica, *Indigenous Rights in the Field*). She is a former board member of the Dreamspeakers Film Festival, the Indigenous Performing Arts Alliance, and is Past Chair of the Edmonton Arts Council (Chair of the Aboriginal Initiatives Committee). She is the recipient of the 2007 Esquao Award in Arts, and the 2016 Mayor's award for Excellence in Artistic Leadership.



Carla Stephenson

Executive Director, Tiny Lights Festival



Carla's passion is building community through facilitating others to excel at their passions. After many years of running a music venue at the Artswells Festival, Carla and her partner Shawn co-founded the Tiny Lights Festival. Last year this 3 day festival of Music, Art, Theatre and Dance presented over 80 performances in 6 venues. Its success served to revitalize interest in civic participation in this tiny town and region.

The enthusiasm that the town felt in being able to host this festival has inspired people to take on new and more amazing projects from a youth leadership program building skills in community planning, broadcast and media skills and event management. Carla has served on several boards including Paula Ross Dance Society, The West Kootenay M.S. Society, and the Salmo Arts Council.

Dr. Cameron Cartiere

Associate Professor, Faculty of Culture + Community,
Emily Carr University of Art & Design

Dr. Cartiere is a practitioner, writer and researcher specializing in public art, curatorial practice, urban renewal, sculpture and sculpture parks. She is the author of *RE/Placing Public Art*, co-editor of *The Practice of Public Art*, and co-author of the *Manifesto of Possibilities: Commissioning Public Art in the Urban Environment*. Her current book in progress (with Martin Zebracki, University of Leeds, UK) is *The Everyday Practice of Public Art: Art, Space, and Social Inclusion*.

Cameron is just completing the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) funded research project *chART: Public Art Marpole*. The project aims to support public art and community engagement through creativity and innovation.

Building on the success of the *chART* research, Cameron is collaborating with a multidisciplinary team of artists, writers, scientists, and new media researchers to work with several municipalities to convert neglected greenways and brown-field



sites into native pollinator pastures using public art as the driving force for positive sustainable environmental change.

#3: Strengthening Youth and Communities Through Art



Moderator: Mo Daliwahi
Cultural Leader

Mo began his journey at the University of the Fraser Valley studying business administration. Over the course of a decade, his long standing passion for technology, and his hunger for new experiences led him to Silicon Valley where he honed his talents in software development and Internet marketing. He returned to Canada with a newfound appreciation for the cultural diversity found in his home, and set out on a personal mission to shatter barriers and encourage cross-cultural understanding. In 2012, Mo was recognized for his contributions by Business for the Arts as the national recipient of the Arnold Edinburgh Award, and in 2013 was the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.



Kia Kadiri
Streetrich Hip Hop Society

Kia is one of Vancouver's most respected female vocalists in the Western Canadian Hip-Hop community for almost 20 years! Her energetic performances and unique style, keep her in demand with the best musicians in Vancouver, and in festivals across British Columbia. Kia's passion for music, rap and poetry makes her extremely productive as a workshop leader. She works for a variety of non-profit organizations as an instructor and facilitator, working with and mentoring at risk youth. Her debut record "Feel This", received acclaim across the country for thought provoking lyrics, excellent production, and blend of genres. From hip-hop to soul, jazz to drum and bass, Kia's lightning speed raps, and articulate delivery when improvising lyrics, leave her in a class of her own!



Ahmed Ali

The Breath in Poetry Collective

Award Winning poet, also known as 'Knowmadic', is a full-time poet, writer, actor, comedian, speaker and youth worker who currently resides in Treaty 6 Territory [Edmonton, Alberta]. Born in Mogadisho in 1984 to a pastoral nomad and a farmer. In 1989, with help from their local community, Ahmed, his 3 older brothers and his mother immigrated to Italy evading the civil war. When his family arrived in Italy, Ahmed and his older brothers were forced into boarding schools. To say Ahmed underwent a culture shock is an understatement. He quickly learned what it meant to be different.

Ahmed was named a "Difference Maker" by the Edmonton Journal in 2013 for his contribution to poetry in Edmonton. In 2014, ACGC recognized the young poet as Alberta's Top 30 under 30 for his work with IFSSA, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Mennonite Center for New Comers, and Ghandi Peace Conference and Edmonton Public Schools to name a few.



Roxanne Charles

Semiahmoo Arts

Roxanne is a multi-media artist who has a strong passion for arts and culture. Her work melds her traditional beliefs and Salish values with contemporary design and practices. She specializes in creating jewelry, digital media, paintings, ceramics, sculpture, and cedar weaving. She is an active member in her community of Semiahmoo First Nation where she resides and is a member of council. She is currently in her fourth year of the Bachelor of Fine Arts at Kwantlen Polytechnic University and has been using her talents to advocate for and address both aboriginal and environmental issues.

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