

Explore Arts & Culture at a distance

Arts & Culture | February 2021

Coming Together with Arts & Culture

In person gatherings and festivals will have to wait a while longer in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19. But the reimagining of festivals, performances and programming means that our local art communities continues cultivating music, art, theatre, dance and community.

As always, arts and culture connects our hearts and minds when we cannot be physically together and allows us to envision a more vibrant future.

In the following pages, you will find some of the local arts and culture initiatives that can be experienced from a distance by organizations funded by the CRD. You will find detailed information on hours and programming on their websites.



5 ways to explore art at a distance

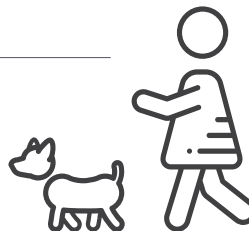
Four Winds by IceBear (Mikwamii-makwa / Chris Johnson) located on Mermaid Wharf, Victoria.

1 Attend a virtual festival, or performance.



Art has moved online, with organizations adapting programming to create high-quality virtual experiences. You can now experience the best of music, theatre, film and dance from your home.

2 Take a walk.



Get fresh air while enjoying the plethora of public art across the CRD. Plan your trip using [landmarkspublicart.ca](https://www.landmarkspublicart.ca).

Icons created by Iris Vidal & Alessandro Curci from the Noun Gallery.

3 Visit a gallery.



Spend quality time with art through gallery online content or with an in-person visit following COVID-19 protocols.

4 Sign up for a class, workshop or virtual gathering.

Hone your creativity at an open mic or workshop, learn a new skill in a class.




5 Listen to a podcast, stream local music or purchase a CD.


Audio recordings of performances, artists talks, roundtables and interviews allow you to get closer to arts and culture than ever before.





Watch & Listen


Experience the 2021 winter/spring arts and culture season livestreamed or available for a limited time as part of a festival. Or delve into webcasts, podcasts, videos of past seasons and more.


 **Atomic Vaudeville** | 15th anniversary celebration and performance Virtual Vaudeville #002 is online. atomicvaudeville.com


 **Aventa Ensemble** | Canadian and international new music concerts online with videos of past concerts. aventa.ca

 **Ballet Victoria** | Videos to past performances and virtual ballet classes. balletvictoria.ca


 **Belfry Theatre** | Victoria's largest contemporary theatre hosts their 2021 Spring season online and with limited in-person seating. Offering free podcasts featuring artist interviews and storytelling events. belfry.bc.ca


 **Broken Rhythms** | Watch small acts of creativity created by dance company members. brokenrhythmsvictoria.com


 **CineVic** | Virtual networking and workshops, and a local, short film archive for you to enjoy from home. cinevic.ca


 **CapriCCio Vocal Ensemble** | Online performances of their choir's choral music. capriccio.ca/listen


 **Coastline** | String fiddle ensemble comprised of BC's top young musicians. Watch videos of their performances. coastlinefiddle.com


 **Creekside Concert Series** | Series of bicycle-powered concerts organized by the Friends of Bowker Creek Society can be watched online. creekside-concerts.weebly.com


 **Dance Victoria** | Brings the world's best dance to the region and supports the development of new dance. Virtual performances and videos of past performances available. dancevictoria.com

 **Early Music Society** | Presenting their 2021 concert series of music from the Middle Ages to the early classical age. The (Virtual) Dark Side of Vivaldi is available for purchase. earlymusicsocietyoftheislands.ca


 **Ensemble Laude Choral Society** | Auditioned women's choir performing medieval music and contemporary choral repertoire. Watch past performances and purchase the CD. ensemblelaude.org

 **Garden City Electronic Music Society** | Gathers local and out-of-town electronic music through Soundcloud. soundcloud.com/gcems

 **Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival** | The Soliloquy Project is a podcast of performances designed to be listened to on-location around the Victoria area. vicshakespeare.com

 **Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra** | Virtual concerts will be available on their website. View young cellists play 'alone-but-together.' gvyo.org

 **Meridien Wind Orchestra** | Listen to historic works, popular and contemporary music, orchestral transcriptions, and world premieres of new compositions by Canadian composers. meridienwindorchestra.weebly.com

 **Pacific Opera Victoria** | This season includes livestream recitals, Listening Party Podcasts, Acoustic Afternoons, a curated exploration of recent productions and more. pacificopera.ca



Victoria Film Festival

Enjoy films and programming from Canada and around the world from your living room. Runs virtually Feb 5-14.

victoriafilmfestival.com

(watch and listen continued)

🎵 **Tour des Iles** | Showcases musicians from Galiano, Mayne, Pender, Saturna and Salt Spring Islands through a series of videos. tourdesiles.ca

🎵 **Sooke Folk Music Society** | Monthly online events showcasing musicians from the Sooke and Greater Victoria areas. sookefolkmusicsociety.com

🎭 **Starry Starry Skies** | Videos of past performances, interviews and behind the scenes videos on their YouTube channel. starrystarryskies.com

🎭 **Theatre Inconnu** | Past performances of Peace Dancer, One-Man Hamlet, and A Christmas Carol online. theatreinconnu.com

📖 **Victoria Festival of Authors** | Podcast and webcast recordings of 2020 festival panels. victoriafestivalofauthors.ca

🎵 **Victoria Good News Choir** | led by legendary musician Louise Rose offers the CD 'Good News Blues' for sale. victoriagoodnewschoir.com

🎵 **Victoria Philharmonic Choir** | highlights from past performances. vpchoir.ca

🎵 **Victoria Ska and Reggae Fest** | Audio and video recordings of past events. victoriaskafest.ca

🎵 **Victoria Symphony** | Season offers free online concerts and includes interviews, backstage access, enhanced program notes and other innovative online programming to bring you closer to the orchestra. victoriasymphony.ca

🎵 **Vox Humana Chamber Choir** | livestreamed and recorded performances and CDs for purchase. voxhumanachoir.ca

Gallery Exhibits

Art and media spaces are offering a combination of online and in-person exhibitions with protocols in place.

arc.hive | Contemporary emerging artists, performers and poets in Victoria. Past exhibits online. Check social media for visiting hours. arc-hivearc.org

Art Gallery of Greater Victoria | Collection can be viewed online and in-person. Meet-ups and tours available by appointment. Online programming includes artist interviews, virtual tours and workshops. aggv.ca

Deluge Contemporary Art | Represents a vanguard of visual and media arts in Victoria. Open for in-person visits. deluge.ca

FLUX Media Gallery | Media art exhibitions online and at their new location at 1524 Pandora Ave, Victoria. fluxmediagallery.org

Metchosin Arts & Cultural Centre Gallery | Plans to reopen for visits in February. metchosinartcentre.ca

Ministry of Casual Living | Displaying artwork at their Esquimalt outdoor window gallery. Videos of past events and talks online. ministryofcasualiving.ca

Open Space | Victoria artist-run space presenting contemporary arts. In person visits and online archive of past exhibits. openspace.ca

Pender Island Gallery | Open for distanced and virtual visits of exhibitions by local artists. ptarmiganarts.org/gallery

PRINT Gallery | View prints online or order a physical copy via the website. Print artists can sign up for an exchange. victoriaprintsociety.weebly.com

Sooke Arts Council Gallery | In person exhibits and small, distanced classes. sookearts.com

Southern Gulf Islands Arts Council | Online exhibitions by artists from island communities artsontheislands.org

the fifty fifty arts collective | Multi-disciplinary space open for exhibits. Visit Instagram profile for sitting artist takeovers. thefiftyfifty.net


Xchanges Artists' Gallery | Open for exhibits and hosting drawing sessions and artist talks online. xchangesgallery.org


If planning an in-person visit, check the gallery's website or social media for hours, current exhibits and protocol. (photo: the fifty fifty arts collective)





Workshops & Get-Togethers

While we can't gather, we can get together with virtual open mics, classes and workshops.


 **Creative Momentum** | Free online All Abilities Dance sessions, where you will be guided through dance improvisation activities, in the ways that work best for you. creativemoment.im/


 **Embrace Arts** | Creates meaningful artistic opportunities for individuals of all abilities. Virtual community music jams every Tuesday, online dance classes and shows for all ages. embracearts.org


 **Friends of Music** | Promotes rehabilitation and socialization for those with mental illness with online music lessons and performances. friendsofmusic.ca


 **Planet Earth Poetry** | Online Friday poetry open mic. Launching a Poets Caravan to share poetry readings online through Google Earth. Watch their page for contests and events. planetearthpoetry.com

 **Ptarmigan Arts** | Virtual sing-alongs, Ukulele Strums and livestreamed musical performances. ptarmiganarts.org


 **U-Jam** | Virtual monthly jam sessions for jazz musicians and aficionados with discussions, open mic and interactive jams. u-jam.ca


 **Victoria College of Art** | Arts programming online and in-person in Metchosin. vca.ca

 **Victoria Conservatory of Music** | Classes and programming in-person and virtually. vcm.bc.ca


 **Victoria Guitar Society** | Hosting virtual or outdoor monthly open mics (as permitted), classical guitar community ensemble, and a presentation for schools. victoriaguitarsociety.ca

 **Victoria Jazz Society** | Keeping jazz alive with online performances and free virtual classes. jazzvictoria.ca

 **Victoria On Stage (VOS) Musical Theatre** | livestreamed events and in-person workshops for adults and teens. vostheatre.ca

 **Victoria Poetry Project** | cultivates and celebrates spoken word art. Hosting Wednesday night online open mics. victoriapoetryproject.com

 **Victoria Society for Blind Arts & Culture** | Working with VocalEye Almost Live Zoom events to present a variety of described performance videos (theatre, opera, dance), festival highlights, visual art tours, and more, with a focus on local arts. Register by contacting info@vocaleyec.ca or call 604-364-5949. facebook.com/Victoria-Society-for-Blind-Arts-Culture-1587338561551529/

 **Xchanges Artists' Gallery** | hosting drawing sessions and artist talks online. xchangesgallery.org

 **Yellowhouse Arts Centre** hosts livestreamed and recorded concerts, online pottery workshop, virtual art shows and more, based on Galiano Island. yellowhouseartcentre.ca

Planet Earth Poetry has launched a Poets Caravan to share poetry readings online through Google Earth.
planetearthpoetry.com



Arts for Youth & Children


Educational Content


Educational and entertaining - these local performances introduce children to the arts and offer supplementary material, such as reading guides and activities to support learning.

 **The Flight of the Hummingbird** | Pacific Opera Victoria presents a free online 45-minute opera for the whole family! In this enchanting performance, the animals of the forest are inspired to come together by Dukdukdiya, the Hummingbird, to save their beautiful home from a raging fire. Includes post-show activities. pacificopera.ca




From The Flight of the Hummingbird. Based on an indigenous parable from the Quechuan people of South America, the story of the brave hummingbird became well known within Haida culture.

 **Peace Dancer** tells the cautionary Tsimshian flood tale predating Noah and the Ark - based on Roy Henry Vickers' and Robert Bud's book. This production is a partnership between Pacific People's Partnership, Theatre Inconnu and Story Theatre. theatreinconnu.com

 **Story Theatre** offers Youtube videos with improv games, music and educational theatre that enhances and complements school learning. [facebook.com/TheStoryTheatreCompany](https://www.facebook.com/TheStoryTheatreCompany)



 **WITS in Motion** | Online toolkit features a non-verbal dance film and guide for building healthy relationships through social emotional learning and conflict resolution. Developed by Suddenly Dance Theatre. witsinmotion.ca

Embrace Arts presents
CHILLY
February 5-7, 2021

Join your intrepid tour guide, Mister Zooie Kazooie, on a quest to find the mysterious creature, Chilly. Will Chilly be found in time?

This immersive online show featuring at-home tactile play will be online. This unique performance, created and performed by neurodivergent, disabled, and non-disabled performers. embracearts.org/chilly



Chilly puppet by
Randi Edmundson


Classes for Youth & Children


Many classes for youth and children are continuing with blended formats of online and in-person, with COVID protocols.



 **Embrace Arts** | Free adaptive dance programs open to kids and youth of all abilities in-person and online. embracearts.org

 **Kaleidoscope Theatre** | Theatre classes, talks & activities online and in-person in Victoria. kaleidoscope.bc.ca


 **Theatre SKAM** | Performance and film classes continue with online classes for after school and home learners, ages 5-12 and blended performance & studio classes for 12+. skam.ca


 **The Victoria Conservatory of Music** | Offers music classes, voice lessons and music therapy sessions with a blend of online and in-person. vcm.bc.ca

 **VOS Musical Theatre** | Musical theatre classes for ages 12-17. vostheatre.ca

Youth Community Projects

Community projects with an emphasis on youth participation.

 **Sooke Fine Art's Youth Art Gallery** features works by students in grades 9-12 with prizes for outstanding works of art. Applications for this year's show open up in May. sookefinearts.com

 **Tongues of Fire Open Mic** by Victoria Poetry Project celebrates spoken word poetry. Currently hosting youth-centred online open mic events. victoriapoetryproject.com

 **Victoria Guitar Society** has a youth guitar ensemble and hosts online open mic for classical guitar players. victoriaguitarsociety.ca


Art Activities

Small educational art projects that can be completed at home.

 **Artz4kids** | Offers ideas for art projects, videos and online activities. sookefinearts.com/artz4kidz



*From Tah'lum
Indigenous Artists
Collective Colouring
Book*

 **Tah'lum Indigenous Artists Collective Colouring Book Series** | Language-learning colouring books by artists Jesse Campbell, Brianna Dick (vol 1) Sarah Jim and Natassia Davies (vol 2) sharing words from their respective Michif, Lekwungen and SENCOTEN languages. Free digitally and in print. openspace.ca/programming/colouring-book

CRD Arts & Culture (Capital Regional District Arts & Culture Support Service) supports, promotes and celebrates art across the capital region. Funding is provided by: Saanich, Victoria, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, View Royal, Highlands, Metchosin, Sooke and Southern Gulf Islands.

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