

# VIBE ARTS

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

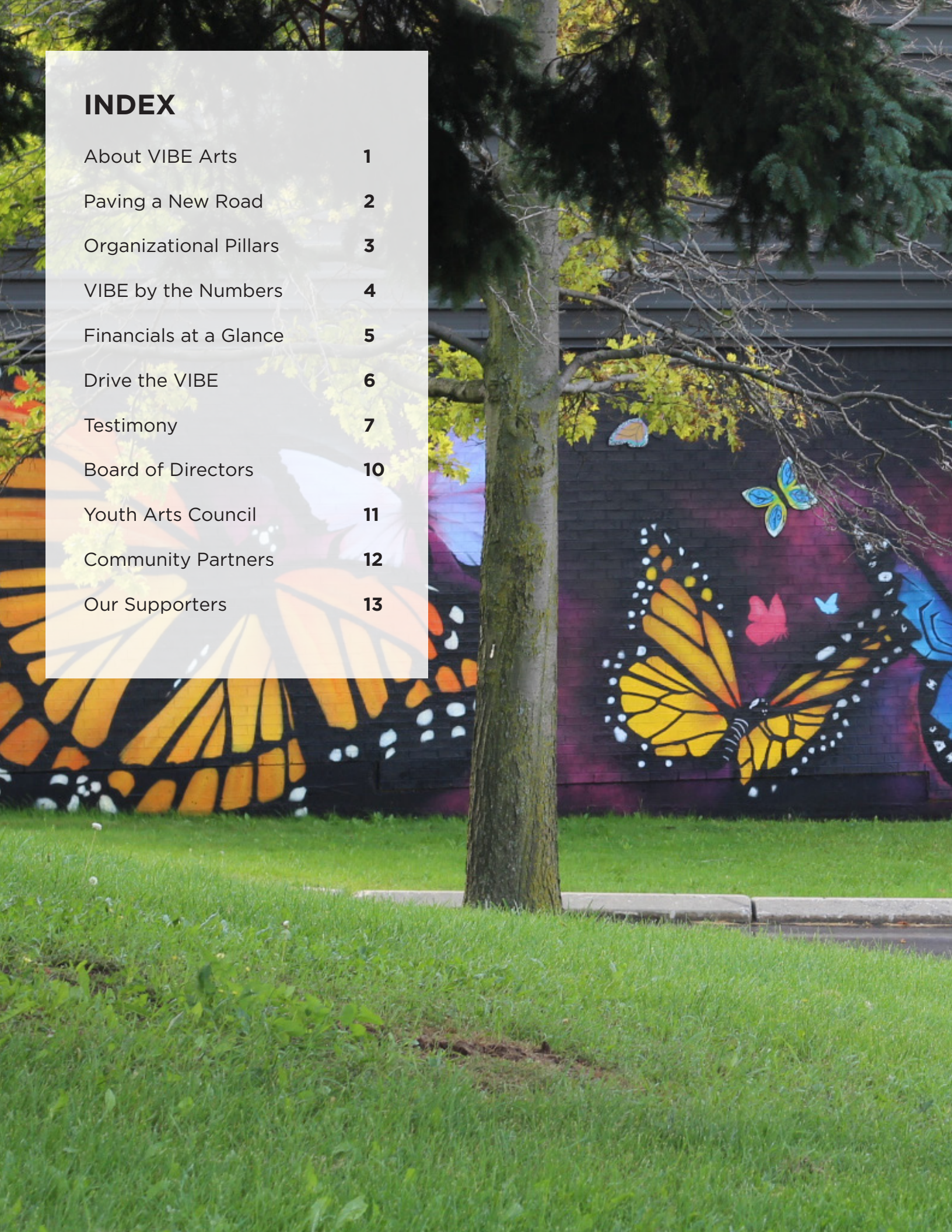
2017 - 2018  
IMPACT REPORT





# INDEX

|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| About VIBE Arts        | 1  |
| Paving a New Road      | 2  |
| Organizational Pillars | 3  |
| VIBE by the Numbers    | 4  |
| Financials at a Glance | 5  |
| Drive the VIBE         | 6  |
| Testimony              | 7  |
| Board of Directors     | 10 |
| Youth Arts Council     | 11 |
| Community Partners     | 12 |
| Our Supporters         | 13 |







# ABOUT VIBE

VIBE Arts is a unique, award-winning charity that cultivates youth creativity through arts education. VIBE is proud to direct its work toward underrepresented communities and spaces of Toronto and beyond, engaging with individuals age 3-29 who might identify as disempowered. Our two-pronged holistic approach to arts education programming has evolved over the course of 20 years. Since being founded by Lola Rasminsky in 1995, VIBE Arts has provided arts education opportunities at no cost to young people. Our work lives in accessible spaces including schools, community centres, public housing, hospitals, libraries, parks, detention centres, shelters and shopping malls.



# A NEW DIRECTION



In April 2018, **Katie Hutchinson** became the Executive Director of VIBE Arts. Bringing extensive knowledge in financial and project management and unmatched leadership skills, the board found the leader they were looking for in Katie.

Before VIBE, Katie strengthened her background in management as Program Manager and Managing Director of a large non-profit social enterprise, where she managed a team of over 40 staff. Katie's strengths come into play to create high performing teams and collaborative, human-centric workplaces. Katie holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Education and is completing her Leadership in Organizations post-graduate certificate at Ryerson University. She is a life-long learner with a passion for organizational behaviour. Katie aims to create an organization that can scale, thrive and continue to have a positive impact on communities.

**Onika Powell** has over 15 years of experience working in the arts as a full-time dancer, performer and teacher with work spanning as far as Europe, Asia and Africa.

Powell is co-director of D'LYFE, a non-profit dance company. To celebrate her successes, Onika was featured on CBC's The National, as part of the award-winning series 'HerStory in Black'. Powell is an alumni of York University with a degree in Public Service and Liberal studies.



# ARTS

## EDUCATION

## MENTORSHIP

VIBE encourages growth, creativity, wellness and resilience in children and youth living in priority neighbourhoods across the GTA.

Through our work, we address the imbalance of arts funding across Ontario. Some communities where our programs take place are James-town, Jane and Finch, Weston-Mt. Dennis, Kingston-Galloway,

Lawrence Heights, Regent Park, Toronto Central, Warden Woods, Malvern, and Victoria Village.

VIBE programs are designed to meet local needs and respond to the uniqueness of each community.

We provide a variety of diverse artistic disciplines to suit the particular interests and cultures of each neighbourhood.

VIBE ensures that youth from under-served communities can access opportunities to transition into the professional arts world through experiences, strong partnerships and field placements.

We provide young, under-employed and under-resourced artists with leadership and mentorship opportunities. Our roster of Emerging Arts Educators is made up of youth between the ages of 18 and 28 who live, work, and spend time in the communities that VIBE Arts serves.

Through VIBE programming, artists receive meaningful employment opportunities to learn alongside professional arts educators and eventually lead their own programs across a variety of disciplines.



# VIBE BY THE NUMBERS

In the 2017 - 2018 Fiscal Year,  
VIBE Arts impacted

**51**

Professional  
Artists

**40**

Emerging  
Artists

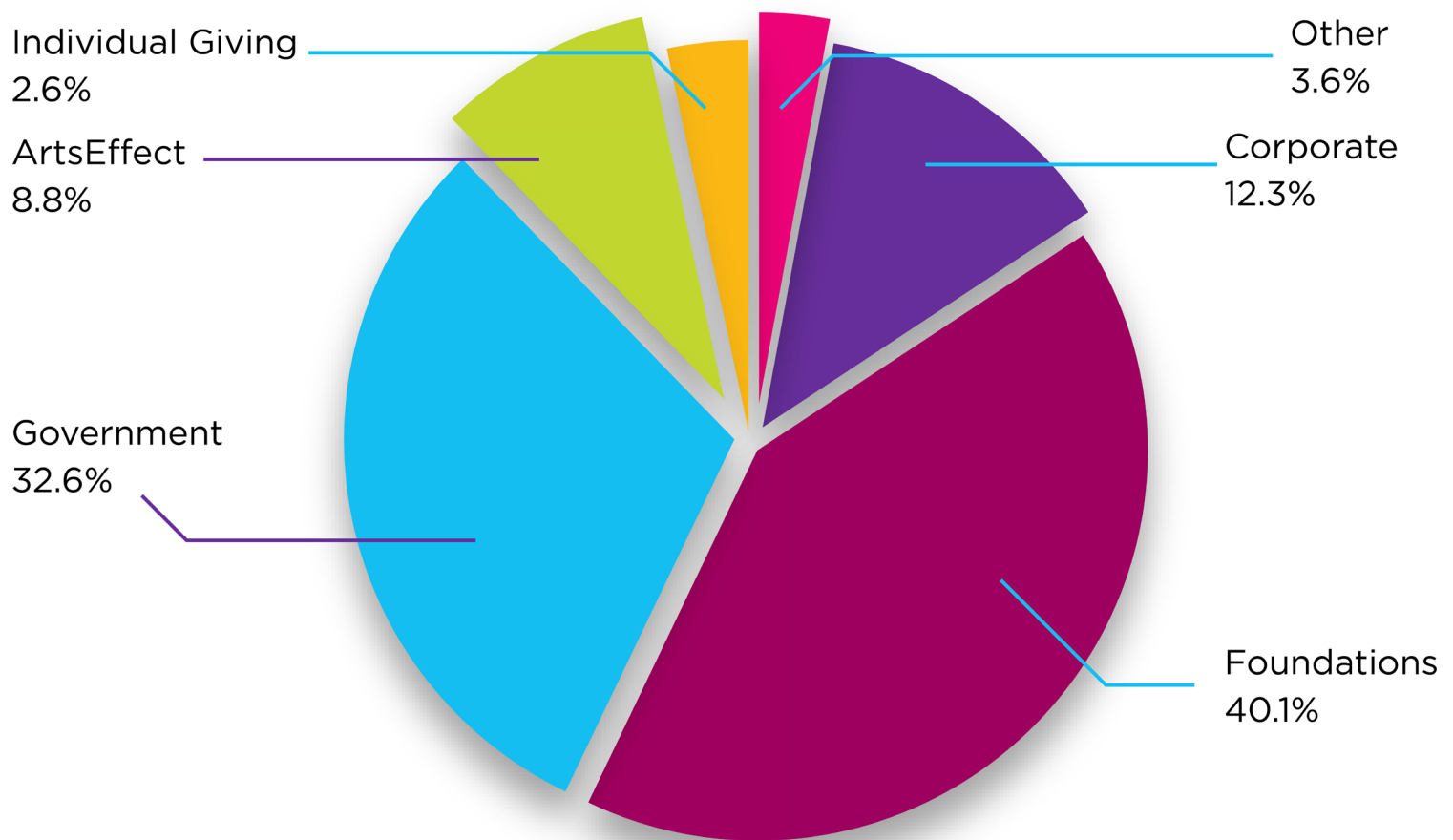
**7,000+**

Youth  
Participants

through 14 community events  
and 1,034 workshops  
uniquely designed in collaboration with  
82 partners at 75 locations across the GTA.



# Financials at a Glance



## Did you know..

Although Individual Giving accounts for only 2.6% of our financial identity, it is vital to the sustainability of our organization. That's why we encourage our supporters to raise money for VIBE through their own, third-party, fundraising initiatives.

Learn more and plan your own event at [vibearts.ca/fundraise](http://vibearts.ca/fundraise).





Facilitated from a van wrapped in colourful artwork, *Drive the VIBE* is a VIBE Arts initiative that travels to under-served neighbourhoods across the GTA.

Since its 2018 launch at the 10th annual VIBE Arts Festival, Drive the VIBE has connected with multiple communities through collaborations with Pride Toronto, the City of Toronto and the City of Oshawa.

## Programming highlight: **Kaleidoscope Mural**

In July 2018, VIBE Arts teamed up with StreetARToronto (StART) and began the process of transforming a huge stretch of brick wall into a piece of art. The finished mural, located at Centennial East Recreation Centre at 1967 Ellesmere Road in Scarborough, features multiple species of butterflies and has been named 'Kaleidoscope', after the word meaning 'a collective of butterflies'.

Thank you to lead artist Ryan Dineen, arts assistant Frannie Potts and youth participants from Tropicana Community Services for bringing this mural to life. Flip to page one to see Kaleidoscope!





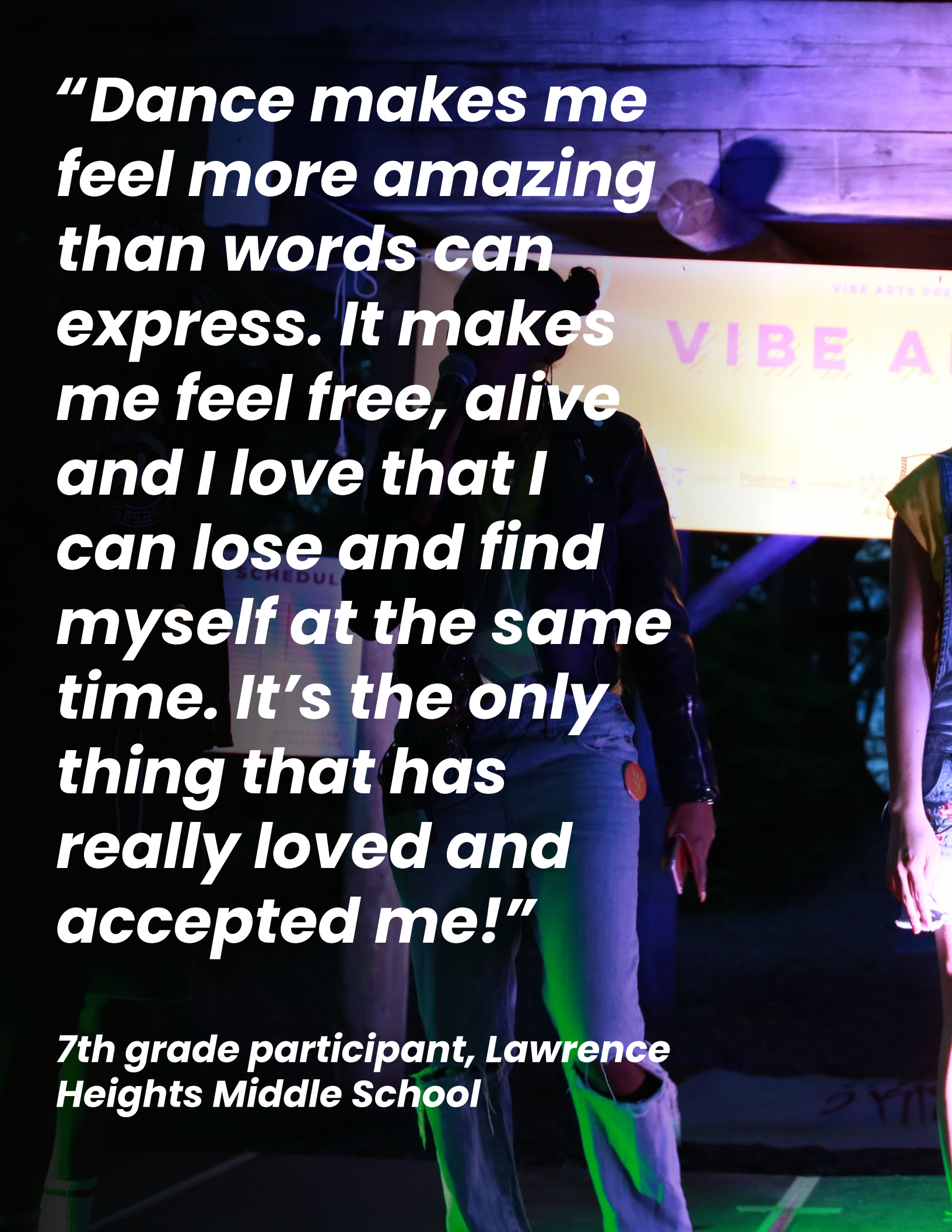
“My time with VIBE Arts has been filled with inspiration, support, lots of learning, and love. I’ve come across many opportunities - both inside and outside of my comfort zone - which I really appreciate.

Through these experiences, I’ve learned a lot about what it takes to be a great educator and leader. I’ve also learned a lot about myself as an artist. I’m looking forward to more years of growth, exploration and fun with VIBE Arts!”

# **Shashann Miguel- Tash**

Visual Artist  
& Arts Educator





***“Dance makes me feel more amazing than words can express. It makes me feel free, alive and I love that I can lose and find myself at the same time. It’s the only thing that has really loved and accepted me!”***

***7th grade participant, Lawrence Heights Middle School***







# Board of Directors

The VIBE Arts Board of Directors fundraise, advise, govern, oversee policy and strategic direction and assist with the leadership and general promotion of VIBE Arts. Each board member brings unique life and career experience to assist VIBE in achieving its goals.



**John Armstrong,  
Chair**

CEO and  
Founder of  
Armstrong  
Partnership LP



**Kristina Bates,  
Treasurer**

Investment  
Advisor at  
Manulife  
Securities



**Daniel Cappe,  
Vice Chair**

Partner in the  
Litigation Group  
at Goodmans



**Clare Hacksel,  
Director**

Director of  
Community  
Health Services  
at Planned  
Parenthood  
Toronto



**Dwayne Morgan,  
Director**

Writer, performer,  
and author



**Jamie Angell,  
Director**

Owner and  
Gallerist at  
Angell Gallery



**Nish Shah,  
Director**

VP Strategy  
at Initiative  
Marketing



# Youth Arts Council

VIBE Arts is supported by an additional governing body that provides valuable organizational and programming input from the perspective of a young person. Members of the council are youth with experience participating in our outreach programs and living in the communities we work with.



## **Kate Jarencio, Chair**

Kate has been with VIBE Arts since 2009. She wears many hats at the organization as an arts assistant, emerging artist and member of both the Youth Advisory Council and VIBE Arts Festival committee. After completing an undergraduate degree in Early Childhood Education, Kate continued to follow her passion for teaching by completing her Bachelor of Education at York University. She is now a registered primary and junior educator in Ontario, pursuing a career as a full-time elementary school teacher.



## **Shashann Miguel-Tash, Council Member**

A Toronto born-and-raised artist who experiments with many different mediums, Shashann creates anything from small crafts to large-scale paintings. Shashann is an arts educator who works within many GTA communities including Urban Arts and VIBE Arts. Her work is heavily influenced by Toronto's culture, music, social issues, and her own environment. Miguel-Tash is a graduate of Seneca at York's Art Fundamentals program and is currently studying Visual and Digital Art at Humber College.



## **Fitzroy Facey, Council Member**

A Toronto-based photographer, Facey has shot editorials for Urbanology Magazine, Lush Magazine and brands including Bohten Eyewear, Community 54, and model Victor Keita. He has been involved with VIBE Arts, The 4Life Foundation and Hello Studios for the past ten years. Facey is currently the studio manager at Hello Studios, curator at Until and Creative Director at WHOLEPPL while actively volunteering in the community. He is most at home shooting stills in the studio, producing a film or helping the next generation of creatives find their voices.



## **Matthew Cuff, Council Member**

A graduate of the School of Toronto Dance Theatre and with over 6 years of Ballet Contemporary and Hip Hop Dance training, Matthew has performed in numerous events. He has worked with established choreographers Christopher House (TDT), Sean Cheesman (SYTYCDC), and Luther Brown (SYTYCDC). With his versatility and passion for dance and choreography, Matthew strives to strengthen the community of dance in Toronto.



## **Huda Eldardiry, Council Member**

Huda is a textile artist and fashion designer who lives and works in downtown Toronto. Huda's work is inspired by her life experiences, allowing her to tell her story with each design. Huda's work has been shown in Fashion Arts Toronto (FAT) for Alternative Fashion Week in 2012 and 2013, with PACT Fashion Collective, Hard Twist 2013, Stitched 2014, OCAD Grad EX 2014, SKETCH Radical Grad 2014, Cue Margins of Era 2014, Bissell Building exhibition at UofT



We thank our donors, funders, sponsors, artists, volunteers, community and corporate partners for their continued, meaningful support.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Art Gallery of Ontario  
Artscape Daniels Spectrum  
Artscape Youngplace  
Bata Shoe Museum  
Bending Spoons Gallery  
Black CAP  
Boys & Girls Clubs  
Cataraqui Recreation  
Centre  
Children's Peace Theatre  
City of Toronto  
Covenant House  
Fairview Nursing Home  
First Nations Programming  
(TDSB)  
First Nations Children and  
Youth Services  
Fraser Mustard Early Years  
Centre  
Friends of Roseneath Park  
Gabian Way  
Glenyan Manor  
George Brown College  
Goodwill Stores  
GTAA: Pearson  
International Airport  
Harbourfront Centre  
Hub @ Victoria Park  
Interval House  
Jewish Vocational Services  
Toronto

Jumblies Theatre  
Kidnetix  
Irving Tissue Corporation  
Malvern Family Resource  
Centre  
Metropolitan Toronto  
School for the Deaf  
Mt. Dennis Community  
Association  
Mt. Dennis United Church  
Mozilla Hive Project  
North York General Hospital  
Native Family and Child  
Services Centre  
North York Women's  
Shelter  
Woodbine Entertainment  
Youth Without Shelter  
North West Scarborough  
Youth Centre  
Oasis Alternative School  
O'Connor Focus  
Ontario Institute Studies in  
Education  
La Casa Dona Juana  
Pan-Am Games  
Friends of the Pan-Am Path  
Pattison Media  
Parents for Better  
Beginnings  
Parma Court

Pathways to Education  
Peacebuilders International  
Queen West Art Crawl  
Ronald McDonald House  
Royal Ontario Museum  
Ryerson University  
Scarborough Support  
Services: Second Base Youth  
Shelter  
SEED Alternative School  
SKETCH  
Sojourn House  
Stanchester Eco Pirates  
Syme Woolner  
Neighbourhood & Family  
Centre  
Taste of Teesdale Festival  
The S.P.O.T  
Toronto District School Board  
Toronto Catholic District  
School Board  
Toronto Community Housing  
Toronto Island Ferries  
Toronto Public Libraries  
Victoria Village Arena  
Warden Woods Community



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