



# UNITY CHARITY

ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1ST 2013 - AUGUST 31ST, 2014



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## DEAR UNITY SUPPORTERS,

I am so proud to share with you UNITY's Annual Report for the 2013-14 school year. This has been a truly monumental year for UNITY in expanding our programs to communities across Canada.

As a Bboy (dancer) myself, having gone through my own personal challenges, I use dance to overcome anger that comes from the issues life presents. Having art has been a powerful coping mechanism for me as I grew up and this is something so important to share with other young people. Many youth struggle to find a place to positively express their stress and share their unique voice. UNITY Charity helps provide an outlet for youth to share their stories in a powerful way, through the arts. Each year, we reach over 30,000 youth all across Canada.

This past year we have been recognized internationally for our work. We are learning more through pre and post surveys, focus groups and interviews that we are truly achieving powerful outcomes for youth around stress management, positive goal setting and building skills for future careers. Now that we are seeing the outcomes we are even more excited to share the UNITY model with more communities across the country.

This year in our annual report we have decided to display the impact of our programs by highlighting personal stories and experiences of youth participants in UNITY programs across Canada. Story telling is the focus of many of UNITY's core programs. We tell our stories to connect with and relate to youth through personal experience. We teach youth to lead by example. Our stories help us heal and inspire. When we discussed our focus for this year's annual report it was unanimous amongst the team, let's focus on our core, sharing our personal stories.

There is a deep need to have more confident and resilient young people in our community so we can transform the negative environments that often present youth with a lack of opportunity.

To help UNITY empower youth with the confidence and skills to succeed in life, please go to [www.unitycharity.com](http://www.unitycharity.com) and make a donation to support the important work we do. Thank you for supporting youth in your community to make positive and productive choices for the future of our country.

Sincerely,



Peace, love, and UNITY,  
**Michael Prosserman aka Bboy Piecez**  
UNITY Founder & Executive Director



# THE HEALING POWER OF SHARING YOUR STORY

This year UNITY would like to share some powerful stories and experiences of youth who have participated in the program, some of which have worked with UNITY and continue to spread the message to their communities. Throughout this year's annual report we will share stories of youth from across Canada. We would like to thank each of them for sharing their stories!

## MARCUS LOMBOY, TORONTO

Until his grade 12 year when UNITY came to his high school, Marcus Lomboy had no clue as to how powerful the spoken word poetry he performed simply as catharsis could be, both for himself and for others. Four years later, Marcus is now a contracted artist with UNITY, performing and teaching workshops in schools and currently sits on the board of directors as a youth representative. He has been a member of UNIFFECT, UNITY's spoken word leadership program, since its inception, growing with other youth artists and mentoring through poetry. After having filled the roles

of program intern and co-ordinator of UNIFFECT, Marcus understands the gravity of UNITY's programs. He feels that UNITY reaches youth that don't fit into labels and boxes they are pushed into. He believes it creates a safe space for release and creation where youth can find peers who share the same passion and the same stories, because the best way to tell your story is with your own voice, no matter the medium. Whether it is through telling his story, or empowering other youth to tell their own, Marcus has found the purpose in his poetry.





# UNITY MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## OUR VALUES

**RESPECT,  
INTEGRITY,  
PASSION,  
COMMUNITY,  
YOUTH**

---

### MISSION

---

# UNITY USES ARTS TO EMPOWER YOUTH

WITH THE CONFIDENCE & SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

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### VISION

---

# UNITY CREATES MORE PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS, SAFER SCHOOLS & HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

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## HOW?

- Teach youth to use the arts to express their stress and develop skills for success
- Use urban art forms to get youth engaged, including break dancing, spoken word, beatboxing and graffiti art
- Provide year round skill building mentorship programs in schools & community spaces
- Tell personal stories to connect, heal and inspire
- Express anger so youth can focus and set goals for the future

---

## WHO?

- High school students to become positive and powerful role models
- Youth living in priority / high risk communities
- Artist Facilitators are top hip hop (urban) artists and powerful youth workers

---

## WHY?

- Teaches youth to express their stress and anger through productive artistic outlets
- Integrates UNITY artists' personal stories to relate directly with youth issues
- Creates powerful youth to youth messages and performances
- Connects youth with passionate, community conscious artists as role models
- Provides youth with lots of encouragement, positive re-enforcement, and confidence building exercises
- Brings together youth from all cultures and backgrounds through something they enjoy, the arts, music and hip-hop
- Creates new positive working relationships amongst teachers and students within the classroom

# UNITY IN COMMUNITY

## UNITY CREW AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

An 18-week arts-based leadership and mentorship program that ends with youth-led performances addressing issues of the community.

## UNITY HUB

A weekly community program that unites all elements of hip-hop that focuses on building skills through peer-to-peer mentorship and artistic performance.

## UNITY LEADERSHIP GROUPS

Youth leaders develop professional skills in their art forms, lead workshops, organize community events and become UNITY ambassadors.

## UNITY DROP-IN

A weekly community space that teaches a specific hip-hop art form.

## UNITY FESTIVAL

A nation-wide urban/hip-hop arts festival celebrating the artistic talents and stories of youth from UNITY's program and community.

## UNITY ARTIST TRAINING

An intense multi-level training program for young emerging artists to develop professional, career-building and organizational skills.

## UNITY DAY

A full school day of student engagement introducing youth to UNITY's message through performances and workshops.

## SURVEY RESULTS

The following highlights were collected from students who participated in UNITY Day and the After School Program.

—  
OVER  
**2,000**  
SURVEYS IN 27 SCHOOLS  
ACROSS CANADA

—  
**94%**  
OF TEACHERS AGREED:  
“UNITY STAFF CHALLENGED STUDENTS IN THE WORKSHOP  
TO MOVE BEYOND THEIR LEVEL OF COMPETENCY”

—  
**74%**  
OF STUDENTS STATED  
THEY HAVE **MORE WAYS**  
TO EXPRESS THEIR STRESS  
IN A POSITIVE WAY

—  
**65%**  
OF THE STUDENTS STATED  
THEY FEEL **MORE COMFORTABLE**  
SHARING THEIR ART FORM WITH  
THEIR COMMUNITY

—  
**65%**  
OF THE STUDENTS STATED  
THEY FELT **MORE CONFIDENT**



# PROGRAM EVALUATION

UNITY conducted a literature review, which investigated the current research surrounding arts-based after-school programs aimed at at-risk secondary school students. The project was informed by a number of different data sources, including a literature review and analyzing programmatic elements to better understand the history and philosophy behind UNITY and how the program is currently being implemented.

The following 13 best practices emerged from the literature surrounding arts-based after-school programs in a secondary school setting:

## BEST PRACTICES

01

The program has a clear mission and is organized around achieving those goals.

02

The program has a safe, positive and healthy climate.

03

The program recruits a diverse mix of youth to participate.

04

The program should address barriers to participation.

05

The program hires, trains and retains high quality staff.

06

The program has a flexible curriculum and has content that is engaging and meaningful to students.

07

The program is rooted in educational theory and uses the arts as an avenue for improving other competencies.

08

The program has a leadership development component.

09

The program has an anger management component.

10

The program has a self-efficacy component.

11

The program includes stress management training.

12

The program establishes connections with families of participants, the school and the community.

13

The program practices frequent and ongoing evaluation.

—  
**THESE BEST PRACTICES WERE COMPARED WITH UNITY'S CURRENT AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING.**

**IT WAS DETERMINED THAT UNITY HAS IMPLEMENTED ALL BUT ONE OF THE 13 BEST PRACTICES.**

### Research Credentials:

Name: D. Cameron Hauseman

Status: Ph.D. Candidate

Affiliation: Ontario Institute for Studies in Education / University of Toronto (OISE/UT)

## JORDAN BAILEY, CALGARY

My story with UNITY started in 2011. UNITY not only encouraged me to embrace my love of dance but provided me with necessary tools to sharpen my skills. I teach workshops at my former high school and sometimes at Calgary's first hip hop dance studio called Pulse Studios.

I visit schools to share UNITY Charity's message with youth in my community. With the help of UNITY, young men and women can begin to develop skills that will help them to find their passions and shape their futures. My art form is Popping, Locking, Breaking, and Hip Hop freestyle. My inspirations from these styles came from the staff of UNITY's and world renowned Jabbawockeez.

I give back to my community by helping kids find a warm studio to dance to practice and learn in, so I tell them and everyone that loves dancing to come to Pulse Studios. I mentor the youth by showing them how dance helped me to cope with troubled times in my childhood, and it helped others to recognize my positive attributes.

The UNITY program is important because it builds on concepts that many of today's youth already possess; for example the difference between right and wrong is an important stepping stone for success in their bright future.

# NORTHERN ALBERTA PROGRAM

UNITY has run a variety of in-school and community programs in Fort McMurray and surrounding communities beginning in 2011. Working with both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal youth in Fort McMurray, Anzac, Janvier, and Fort Chipewyan, UNITY runs UNITY Day school outreach program alongside community showcases on an annual basis.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- UNITY Day Programs in 2011 & 2012 in Janvier & Anzac with some students flown in from Fort Chipewyan
- UNITY Day Programs in 2012 in Father Mercredi, Frank Spragins & Composite High schools
- 3 Community Showcases with youth performances (Anzac, Janvier, Fort Chipewyan and at Keyano College with all schools & reserves coming together)
- Local Media: Front page story in the Fort McMurray Today & articles in SNAP Wood Buffalo
- Girl Empowerment conference keynote in 2013 Presented at Y-Connect meeting to connect with other like minded community groups
- Performed and presented at the Justin Slade Youth conference in 2013
- Performed and presented at the MACOY Youth Council Conference in 2013

# CALGARY PROGRAM

The UNITY Program in Calgary consists of a weekly Multi-Arts Community Hub program, emerging artist training program and UNITY Day school outreach program. Our program's main goal is to train Calgary's youth leaders through artistic, leadership and employment skills.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- This was the second city UNITY expanded to outside of Ontario
- Ran programming in Calgary since 2009 (5 years)
- Since 2009 we have reached over 25,000 youth in Calgary in over 25 schools
- Ran 3 day training retreat in 2012 training over 20 artists and youth leaders with employable and leadership skills
- Ran National UNITY Day for the first time ever last July 2013 celebrating the success of the youth at the end of the year
- UNITY Day is a two-week program that has been running for 5 years as part of Globalfest's Youth Forum.
- Each year celebrated program with community showcase event at the end of UNITY Day Program
- UNITY Executive Director Michael Prosserman presented at 21st Century Learning conference in Banff, Alberta

# NOVA SCOTIA PROGRAM

The UNITY Program in Nova Scotia consists of a weekly Multi-Arts Community Hub program, emerging artist training program and UNITY Day school outreach program. These opportunities lead to youth achieving greater success through personal growth, newfound self-esteem and presentation/storytelling/artistic skills that will assist them in developing employable skills as future Artist Educators.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- This was the first city UNITY expanded to outside of Ontario
- Ran programming in Nova Scotia since 2009 (5 years)
- Since 2009 we have reached over 15,000 youth in Nova Scotia in over 15 schools
- Ran 3 day training retreat in 2012 training over 20 youth leaders with employable and leadership skills
- Launched the weekly UNITY Hub Program in 2012 (weekly attendance between 15 to 25 youth each week)
- Ran National UNITY Day for the first time ever last July 2013 celebrating the success of the youth at the end of the year
- Received touring grant from Ontario Arts Council to present community shows for George Dixon Centre, YMCA and Concrete Roots
- Worked over the years in partnership with Concrete Roots
- Received TELUS Atlantic Community Board Donation in 2011 and 2014
- Received CIBC 4 year grant in 2009-2013
- Their Excellencies the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, and Mrs. Sharon Johnston visited the UNITY Program in May 2014



Left: Michael Prosserman, UNITY Founder & Executive Director. Right: His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada. Photograph by: Sgt Ronald Duchesne, Rideau Hall.



# TORONTO PROGRAM

Toronto is UNITY's home base. Our organization was established as a registered charity in 2008, and has developed and implemented its core services in a number of Toronto communities. Our organization has delivered the UNITY School program (UNITY Days, and the 18-week UNITY Crew After School Program), as well as CommUNITY Programs (Multi-Arts Community Hubs, 4-day UNITY Festival, Youth Leadership Groups, Dance Drop-ins, University Chapters). Our organization is currently active in several communities across Toronto (Steeles-L'Amoreaux, Malvern, Dorset Park, among others), and the Peel region (Mississauga, Brampton).

## HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2008 UNITY receives Charitable Registration Number (charitable status) from Revenue Canada.
- From 2007 to 2014 UNITY reached the following: 100 schools in the GTA, 100,000+ youth have experienced our inspiring assemblies, 4,000+ have experienced our in-class artistic development workshops, 300+ youth have developed as youth leaders and mentors
- In July 2011 UNITY and its partner organization Blueprint for Life receives funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to undertake the "Share Our Spirit" program. This program is designed to connect youth from the Peel Region of Ontario with Inuit youth in Nunavut. The program will culminate in a physical exchange between youth in the two communities.
- In November 2012 Social Venture Partners Toronto (SVPT) selects UNITY as its 2012-2013 "Investee". Our organization was chosen over fifty other groups to be the sole investee. The three-year SVPT-UNITY partnership includes \$45,000 in grants, as well as consultation services from specialists from a wide range of professional backgrounds (non-profit sector, business professionals).
- In February 2014 UNITY launches its Multi-Arts Community Hub in the Steeles-L'Amoreaux community of Toronto. The Hub is a free community space for local youth to engage in ongoing artistic practicing opportunities, while aspiring youth artists gain employable skill training.
- Conducted first National Artist Training in September 2014
- Ran 3 generations of leadership groups, 7 after school programs that are 18 weeks each in priority schools across the country, 4 drop in spaces in partnership with Art Starts in Yorkdale, Don Montgomery Community Centre (Scarborough), AGO (downtown), and Scarborough Youth Resource Centre (SYRC).

## ERINE THAI, CALGARY



UNITY has given me the opportunity to find my voice and speak my mind in a way that I am truly passionate about, and for that I am forever grateful. Before UNITY, I was a very timid individual who always kept to myself, but now I am able to perform in front of audiences, whether big or small, and share my story through spoken word poetry. Not only have I been able to express myself, but through working as an instructor for after-school programs, I am proud to say that I have been able to teach and share my love for spoken word with

other youth. In my last workshop, one of my students said to me, "Writing feels good, I never knew how to let my anger out before." It is amazing to think that I was once in their position, and now I am the instructor who is giving someone else a chance to express their thoughts in a positive and artistic way! I have also been fortunate enough to showcase the art form of spoken word at various charity events as well as school events, and plan to work with UNITY for many years to come.



# 2014 PERFORMANCE

## SCHOOLS

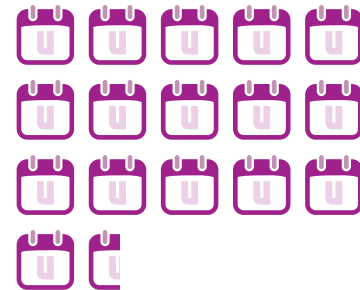
REACHED  
**39,500**  
YOUTH



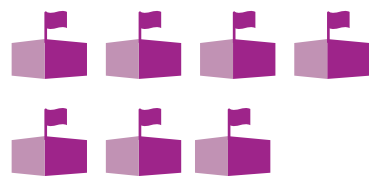
TRAINED  
**225**  
YOUTH COMMUNITY  
ROLE MODELS



COMPLETED OVER  
**165**  
UNITY DAYS, WORKSHOPS,  
KEYNOTE CONFERENCES,  
ASSEMBLIES ACROSS CANADA



RAN  
**UNITY CREW  
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
IN 7 SCHOOLS  
IN THE GREATER TORONTO AREA



BEGAN  
**A RESEARCH STUDY**  
TO MEASURE THE POSITIVE BENEFITS  
OF THE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM



## COMMUNITY

UNITY FESTIVAL IS CANADA'S  
LARGEST URBAN & HIP-HOP  
FESTIVAL WITH OVER  
**27,000**  
ATTENDEES  
OVER 4 DAYS



LAUNCHED  
**THE FIRST  
TORONTO HUB**  
IN THE STEELES-L'AMOREAUX  
COMMUNITY

RELAUNCHED  
**THE HALIFAX HUB,**  
EACH WITH 30 YOUTH  
PARTICIPATING WEEKLY, WHO  
TRAIN AND MENTOR EACH OTHER  
IN THE ARTS

RAN WEEKLY  
**DROP-IN  
SESSIONS**  
IN 3 CENTERS



DID A PHYSICAL EXCHANGE  
BETWEEN YOUTH FROM THE  
ARCTIC AND YOUTH FROM  
PEEL REGION, WITH THE  
CONTINUATION OF OUR  
BLUEPRINT FOR LIFE  
PARTNERSHIP ("SHARE OUR  
SPIRIT" PROJECT) CONNECTING  
URBAN AND ARCTIC HIP HOP  
CLUBS, AND PRESENTED THE SOS  
EXPERIENCE AT 2 SCHOOL  
ASSEMBLIES



RAN  
**4  
ARTIST  
TRAINING  
RETREATS**  
ACROSS CANADA,  
FOR OVER 100 NEW ARTISTS

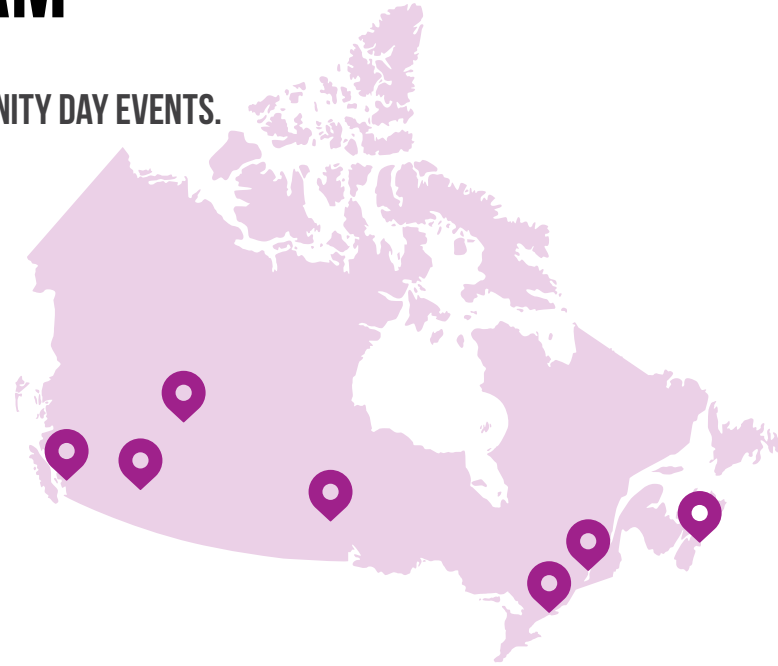
AFTER MEETING WITH YOUTH  
FROM UNITY PROGRAMS IN  
TORONTO AND HALIFAX, AND  
PARTICIPATING IN POETRY  
WORKSHOPS, THEIR  
EXCELLENCIES THE RIGHT  
HONOURABLE DAVID JOHNSTON,  
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA,  
AND MRS. SHARON JOHNSTON  
ARE PLEASED TO SERVE AS  
PATRONS OF UNITY CHARITY



# NATIONAL PROGRAM

ANOTHER YEAR OF SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL UNITY DAY EVENTS. EVENTS WERE HELD IN:

**HALIFAX, MONTREAL, WINNIPEG, CALGARY, FORT MCMURRAY & VANCOUVER**



**COMPLETED 10 UNITY DAYS IN CALGARY, 5 IN FORT MCMURRAY AND 6 IN HALIFAX**

**SUCCESSFUL 4 DAY PROGRAM IN FORT CHIPEWYAN**

**HOSTED THE FIRST EVER NATIONAL UNITY ARTIST TRAINING IN TORONTO WITH 5 REPRESENTATIVES FLOWN IN FROM ACROSS CANADA. (OTTAWA, HALIFAX, WINNIPEG, CALGARY & VANCOUVER)**

# ORGANIZATIONAL

**HIRED 16 YOUTH**

**WITH FULL TIME SUMMER JOBS THROUGH THE FOCUS ON YOUTH PROGRAM**

**EMPLOYED YOUNG & EMERGING ARTISTS WITH OVER \$350,000 PAID TO ARTISTS AS CONTRACTORS & STAFF**

**HIRED 3 YOUTH**

**WITH FULL TIME SUMMER INTERN POSITIONS**

**SOCIAL VENTURE PARTNERS TORONTO HELPED UNITY CREATE A 3 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN**



**HIRED 10 FULL TIME**

**CORE STAFF**

**UNITY SHOP LAUNCHES OUR ONLINE PRODUCT BASED SOCIAL ENTERPRISE (UNISHOP.CA)**



## JANE SOURALAYSACK, TORONTO

My name is Jane Souralaysack and I am a UNITY Artist. I love to dance and beatbox because it has provided me with amazing opportunities and a positive outlook on myself. I first got more involved because I was facing abusive relationships within my family, and going to cyphers and sessions allowed me to escape my own home. I also was struggling financially, and was stressed with balancing school. Doing art forms allowed me to take time for myself to be free, and occupied on creativity, positivity, and art.

I would also say that I am a youth advocate for UNITY. I am trying to give back to the community as UNITY has helped me through tough times. Right now and I am taking leadership as the President of the UNITY @ U of T club at school, to continue spreading our mission

statement and values. With UNITY, I've taught workshops, performed at shows, and promoted events. I've also done programs with the TDSB and Toronto Public Health as a facilitator, mentor and role model. I taught breakdance and beatbox workshops to youth grouped in ages 5-15 and 16+.

I strongly believe that UNITY programs are important for youth because they help exercise creativity early on, and help express stress in a positive manner. Many youth turn to violence or negative influences because simply they are lost, depressed, or just don't know what to do. A simple program can inspire someone to change their own life then change other lives by giving back; continuing the cycle.



# NATIONAL PARTNERS

## COMMUNITY HUB



STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER™

## ARTIST TRAINING



# ONTARIO PROGRAM PARTNERS

## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM



## COMMUNITY HUB



An agency of the Government of Ontario.  
Relève du gouvernement de l'Ontario.

## DROP-IN'S



## LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS



## ARTIST TRAINING



## OPERATIONS



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

## EVALUATION



## IN-KIND SUPPORT



## 2 PERSON SHOW





# ALBERTA PROGRAM PARTNERS



# NOVA SCOTIA PROGRAM PARTNERS



# COMMUNITY PARTNERS



# UNITY FESTIVAL PARTNERS

## LEAD SPONSOR



## SUPPORTING PARTNER



## MEDIA



## FUNDERS



## FRIENDS OF FESTIVAL



# OUR DONORS: THANK YOU

## COMMUNITY INVESTORS \$15,000 TO \$20,000+

Ada W. Slaight Fund at the Toronto Foundation  
BloombergSen Investment Partners  
The Dunkley Charitable Foundation  
Ronald Prosserman  
Venterra Realty

## ANGEL INVESTORS \$10,000 TO \$14,999

Augusta Holdings Inc.  
Ira Gluskin & Maxine Granovsky  
Joseph Ribkoff

## ANGEL SUPPORTERS \$5,000 TO \$9,999

Al & Annette Van Mil  
Burgundy Asset Management Ltd.  
David Gray  
DiamondCorp  
Gary & Madoka Prosserman  
Gluskin Sheff + Associates Inc.  
Julian Van Mil  
Longbow Capital Inc.  
Philip Lieberman  
RP Investments

## LEAD INVESTOR \$1,500 TO \$4,999

Birch Hill Equity Partners  
CanFirst Capital Management  
Cask Days  
Greg & Susan Guichon  
Haya Zilberboim  
Linda & Geoff Pearlstein  
Lush

Peter Kozicz  
Silvercreek Management Inc.  
SuitsU

## SCHOOL INVESTOR \$1,000 TO \$1,499

Allan Levine  
Elijah Antflick  
Eric Goldstrand  
Gemini Asset Management Inc.  
Genuity Fund Management  
Harry Washaw  
Jades Hip Hop Academy  
Jeffrey Magid  
Jodi Weber  
Joshua Singer  
Linda Macdonald  
Marret Asset Management Inc.  
Maxwell Foundation  
Newsam Holdings Ltd.  
Noah Soloman  
Rice Commercial Group

## ROLE MODEL INVESTOR \$500 TO \$999

Aaron Lam  
Allan Rouben  
Amy Baryshnik  
Brian Prosserman  
Chris Murphy  
Diana Soloway  
Erin Reich  
The Friedberg Family  
Harvey and Annice Frisch  
Luca Patuelli  
Muneef Ahmad  
Sheldon Silverberg  
Stuart Berkowitz  
Tim Morgan

## FRIENDS \$10 TO \$499

Aaron Meirovich  
Andrew Trac  
Anita Gough  
Brettler Mintz Foundation  
Colleen Cowman  
Cynthia Quigley  
David Williams  
Denise Price  
Erika Wien  
Fiona MacDougall  
Francine Arbour  
Galina Hogeboom  
Gary Smith  
Greg Uchiyama  
Greg Wong  
Harvey Goldwax  
Jasmin Yeung  
Jay Smith  
Jennifer and Michael Wilson  
Jennifer Shwartz  
Joyce Nyhof-Young  
Julie Haynes  
Karen Au  
Kayla Prive  
Lorie Goldfinger  
Michael Kalles  
Natalie Scheel  
Nick Petruzzella  
Neil Paton  
Pauline Ling  
Peter Borwein  
Rhoda Payne  
Rick Chad  
Robin Porter  
Ronald Canual  
Samuel Saywack  
Shannon Snow  
Sharon Miller  
Thomas Story  
Van Mil Studio Ltd.

## BRANDEN TAYLOR, HALIFAX



UNITY has given me a way to express myself mentally, physically, and emotionally in a positive, and creative way through the art form of Beatbox. Before UNITY, I was somewhat of a troubled youth, growing up always craving attention, and looking for it in a negative way. I now have a way to positively capture attention. Going from never performing on a stage at all, to performing for crowds as big as 20,000 attendees, UNITY has provided a confidence I never knew I had. As a Program Co-ordinator for UNITY I get to see youth artists from around the city develop in not only their art forms, but

in their leadership abilities which is the most gratifying thing I've ever experienced. Through UNITY I've had many experiences I never thought I would get to take part of, for example performing Internationally in Italy, and sharing my art form with thousands of people. Starting out as just a youth in the UNITY After School program, to becoming who I am today, I believe that UNITY programs should be in ever city across Canada, so we can truly reach out to all the youth in need of a platform where they can just be themselves, and find a way to express their stress in a positive way!



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

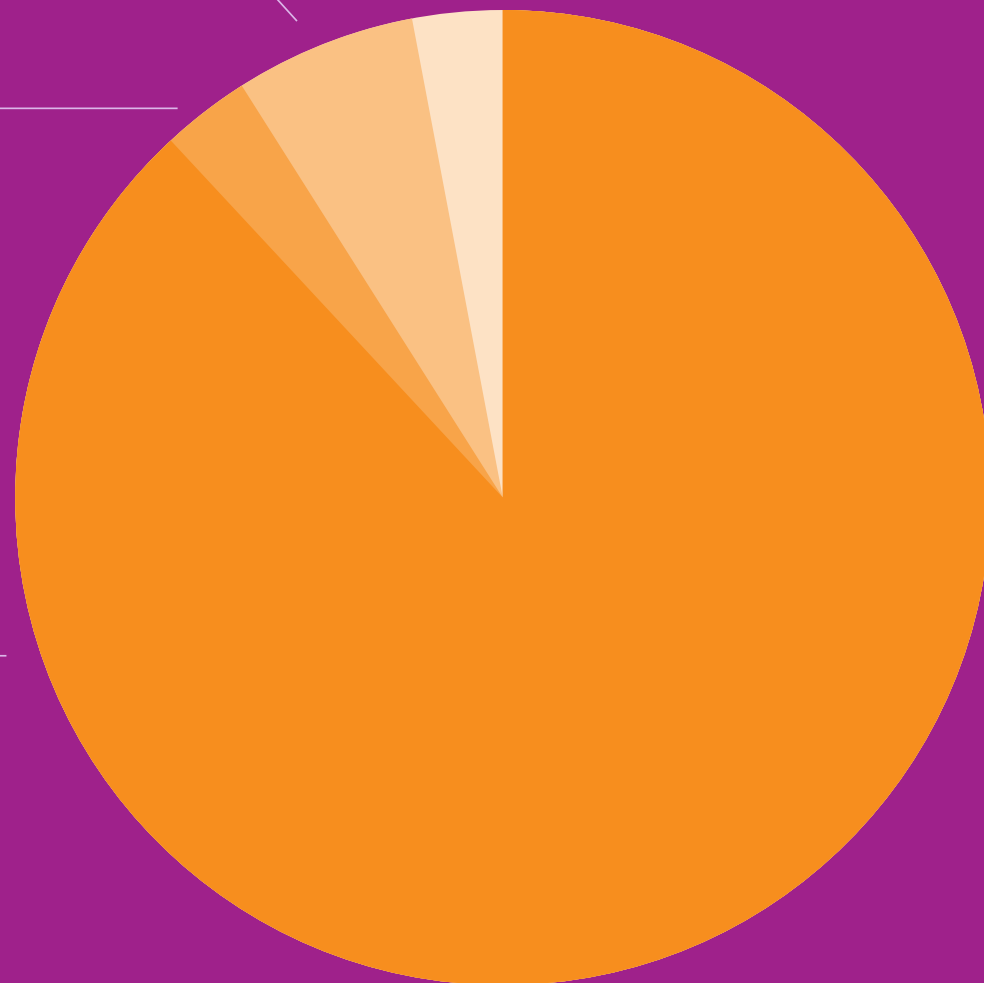
FUNDS RAISED IN 2014  
\$1,006,239

MARKETING  
6%

FUNDRAISING  
10.2%

ADMIN  
5.5%

PROGRAMS  
78.2%



## FINANCIAL RATIOS

FISCAL YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31ST	2014*	2013	2012
Administrative costs as % of revenues	9.5%	11.4%	9.3%
Fundraising costs as % of funds raised	9.5%	15.0%	7.7%

## SUMMARY STATEMENTS

ALL FIGURES IN DOLLARS	2014	2013	2012
Donations	224,775	184,708	218,981
Government funding	458,262	268,001	152,241
Fees for service	108,651	151,649	126,206
Special events	214,551	133,394	55,640
Investment income	0	1,424	0
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>1006239</b>	739,206	553,068
Program costs	648,762	504,381	417,474
Administrative costs	95,697	84,326	51,833
Fundraising costs	84,998	88,167	33,000
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>829,457</b>	676,874	502,307
Funding reserves	271,627	238,843	176,511

\* 2014 numbers not yet audited, this report was printed before the December audit

# A YOUTH CENTERED ORGANIZATION

YOUTH ARE AT THE CORE OF WHAT WE DO. ALL DECISIONS MUST INVOLVE YOUTH. IF STAFF ARE ON THE OUTER RINGS WE MUST CONNECT WITH OUR CENTRE AND OUR CORE, THE YOUTH.

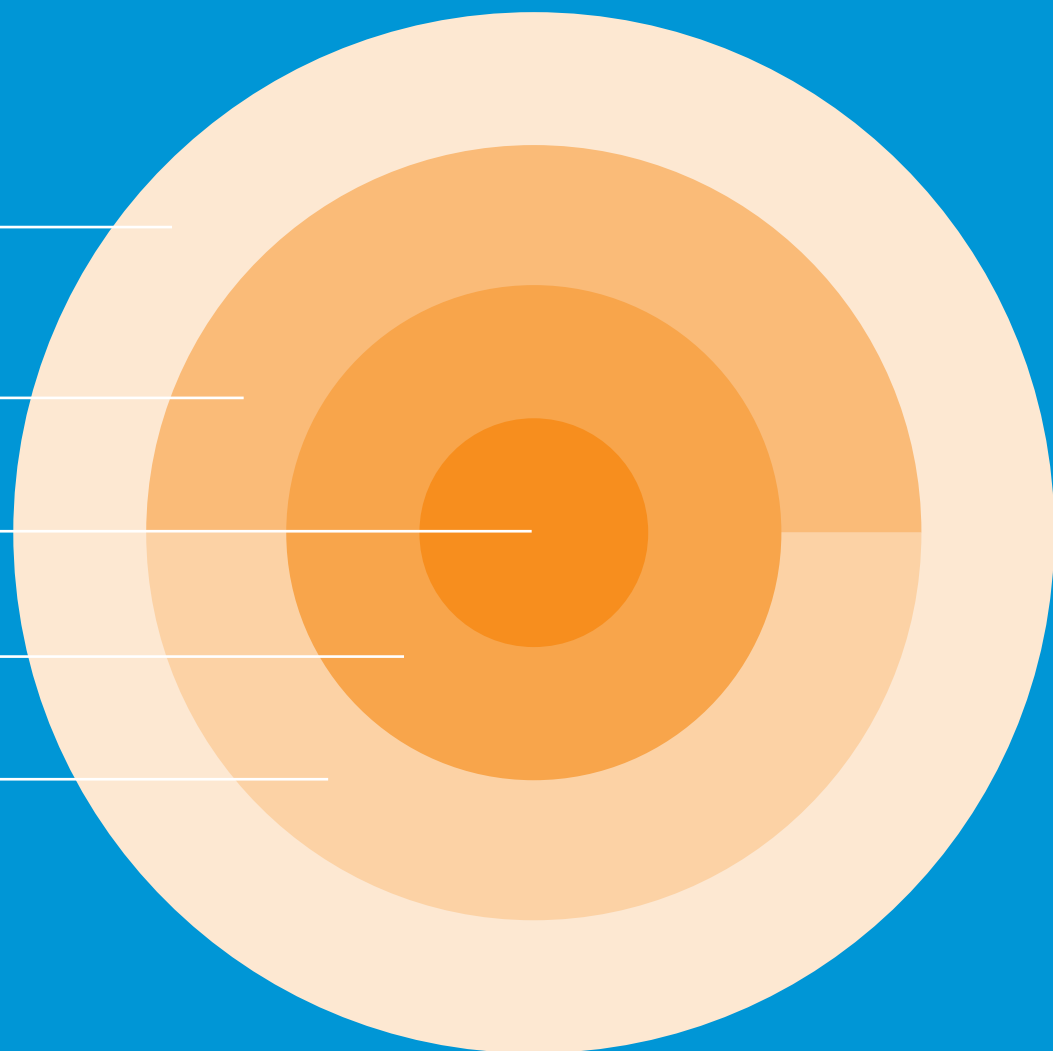
DIRECTORS & EXECUTIVES

COORDINATORS

YOUTH

ARTISTS

VOLUNTEERS



## STAFF

- Michael Prosserman – Founder & Executive Director
- Michael Thomas – Managing Director, Operations
- Rajni Sharma – Director of Development & Communications
- Matthew Jones – Director of National Programs
- Kevin Reigh – Development Coordinator (Grant Writer)
- Cécile Ferandier – Festival & Volunteer Coordinator
- Deydra Baptiste – Bookings Coordinator
- Clinton Ghosh – Program Coordinator
- Galyn Esmé – Program Coordinator
- Jessey Pacho – Program Coordinator
- Jim Cartasano – UNITY Shop Coordinator
- Zulma Velasquez – Finance & Administration Coordinator
- Karen Au – Assistant Volunteer Coordinator

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Azim Alibhai – Chair
- Jennifer Wan – Treasurer
- Vivian Yeung – Secretary
- Eric Goldstrand
- Josh Singer
- John Turley-Ewart
- Francesca Yaskiel
- Dawneen Boyle
- Marcus Lomboy
- Sam Ton
- Amy Baryshnik

## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

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- David Peltz
- Eric Goldstrand
- Jodi Weber – Co-chair
- Josh Singer
- Peter Kozicz – Co-chair
- Ron Prosserman
- Dawneen Boyle

## FESTIVAL WORKING GROUP

- Marc Chitiz – Co-chair
- Aaron Clarfield – Co-chair
- Jasmine Wong
- Alex Meers
- Damien Nelson
- Imad Elsheikh
- Carlos Bustamante

## SCHOOL & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS WORKING GROUP

- Ron Canuel
- Brett Boivin
- Deborah Beam
- Emil Boychuk
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- Suzie Tzimikas
- Vivian Yeung

## PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

- Cameron Hauseman – Evaluation
- Dr. Ellen Sue Mesbur, Lynne Mitchell, Stephen Leafloor – Social work training
- Davies and Mark Blumberg – Legal
- Nacora – Insurance
- Social Venture Partners Toronto – Consulting [www.svptoronto.org](http://www.svptoronto.org)



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OVER  
**50** TORONTO CONTRACT ARTIST EDUCATORS

—  
OVER  
**20** ALBERTA YOUTH LEADERS

—  
OVER  
**20** NOVA SCOTIA YOUTH LEADERS





# GROWTH PLAN & FUTURE VISION

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UNITY is excited about the upcoming future and expansion plans. From launching new programs to improved programming, UNITY plans to continue to create deeper impact and sustainability models in communities across Canada.

UNITY Charity was selected to be featured on the Mental Health Innovation Network (MHIN), an online platform for evidence based innovations in mental health from around the world. MHIN is jointly led by the Centre for Global Mental Health (CGMH) at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Department for Mental Health and Substance Abuse. It is funded by Grand Challenges Canada.

For more information, visit <http://mhinnovation.net/>

As UNITY continues to grow, we could not do this without the support of community partners and funders. Thank you everyone who has supported UNITY thus far and we look forward to another successful year.



[WWW.UNITYCHARITY.COM](http://WWW.UNITYCHARITY.COM)

[WWW.SHAREOURSPIRIT.CA](http://WWW.SHAREOURSPIRIT.CA)

[WWW.UNISHOP.CA](http://WWW.UNISHOP.CA)

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