

New Media Gallery

ART + TECHNOLOGY

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Founded in 2014 New Media Gallery (NMG) is a contemporary public art gallery operated by the City of New Westminster. In 2020 New Media Gallery expanded to become the **ART + TECHNOLOGY** Division for the City; made up of NMG and the Art + Technology LAB. This Division is managed by NMG Directors who also curate, with our Program Coordinator supervising the LAB and its programming. For 2023-2024 NMG was delighted to announce a 4-exhibition donation of \$40,000 from the local Thompson-Wipp Family.

NEW MEDIA GALLERY (NMG)

A vibrant year with all exhibitions focussed on the environment; aBIOTIC, Dust and Measure. We worked with artists worldwide, including 4 from Canada, and the Anishinabek nation. Exhibitions offered visitors a cultural gathering space to discuss art + ideas connected with the environment, science & the physical world. We partnered with 8 community businesses, installing sensors & connecting with a global community. Artist Talks & Openings were very well-attended. Exhibitions brought in thousands of visitors (nearly 6000 to aBIOTIC). For Earth Month, an environmental Sound Performance was developed by *Branching Songs Ensemble*, in response to aBIOTIC. Exhibitions had 12 positive media Reviews and high social media interest. aBIOTIC & DUST were featured on CBC Radio. A book published in Germany featured the 2022 Indivisible exhibition. Curatorial Talks were delivered to hundreds of students from Emily Carr, UBC, SFU, Kwantlen, Douglas, with a 3-part program for SFU-SIAT. A Dust extractor was purchased and a soldering air extractor for the LAB.

2023 Gallery Highlights

\$40,000 Donation - Thompson-Wipp Family, 3 Exhibitions /17 Artists / 7 countries, 8 Community Business Partnerships (DUST), 2 online Artist Talks (Filmed), 8 In-Person Artist Talks, 3 Opening Receptions, 1 Experimental Sound Performance, 12 Exhibition Reviews/2 Radio, 26 Exhibition Talks/Lectures for Universities, 50 School Tours, 1 Community Youth Internship - 12 Weeks, Volunteer Program

Art + Technology LAB (the LAB)

A productive year supporting Learners ages 3 to 65+. We developed weekend, registered programs : Circuit Makers, Animation Now, Tiny Tots & Technology as well as weekday School Programs (Exhibition Tours + Creative Tech Workshops). Adult workshops included Creative Collaborative Coding, Intro to DIY Synthesizers, and Shaping Electronic Sound. 2023 saw the creation of OpenLAB pilot project for Home Learners, Youth Outreach was held at New West middle schools, and an intergenerational "Film in a Day camp", Century House, had caregivers and children creating a film together based on a family story. For Earth Month we developed the Ocean Biosphere Programme, partnering with Biosphere Soundscapes (Australia), Howe Sound Biosphere (Canada) and The Hearth Gallery (Bowen Island), and with online Talks from leaders in Ocean Biosphere Protection. A Field Recording Workshop and Site Visit to Bowen Island were well-attended. Beyond the development of media arts skills and the creation of audio artworks, the course fostered creative connections between two communities around Sound & Environment. Follow-up sessions allowed participants to share their stories, reflections & art projects.

2023 Programming Highlights

30 School Programs, 50 registered programs, 9 outreach programs at Community Centres, 15 Summer Day camps, 14 sessions of OpenLAB pilot project, 1 Newcomers Programme - BC Afghan Refugees, 1 Earth Day Program with International/Local Partnerships, 3 Online Talks: Dr Leah Barclay, Dr. Mark Nazemi, Ruth Simons, 1 Community Youth Internship - 12 Weeks, Volunteer Program