

Coffeehouse Theatre Society

Annual Report 2020-2021

Report from the President of the Board

It is a great pleasure to be writing the first annual report for Coffeehouse Theatre, on the heels of our second Annual General Meeting and our fourth season. At this point, fully half of our programming has been under pandemic conditions. I would like to extend my warmest gratitude to the casts, production team, and my fellow board members for being unflinching and enthusiastic in the face of an extremely difficult time for young artists.

In the midst of school, work, life, and a pandemic, Coffeehouse has had a busy year. In early 2021, we published our website as a one-stop shop for everything to do with our productions, past and present. We have also been working on opening a business bank account at Vancity and, pending any further delays, should have that completed by the end of the summer.

In terms of programming, we presented three events this summer. The first was *Earnest: Remastered*, an abridged, live-streamed production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Directed by Camryn Chew and streamed on our Facebook page, we opted for suggested donations to various Indigenous organizations in lieu of tickets. We also tried something new when we co-hosted a free workshop with Vikes Improv on July 17th. And of course, we produced the second annual CoffeeMakers Festival. It was a marked departure from last year's model, taking place over a single weekend rather than two months. The silver lining of the pandemic has truly been the ability to produce new works with little to no cost, and to work with a variety of artists from many different locations. As such, we were able to produce two fantastic short plays, performed over Zoom and live streamed on YouTube. This year also marked the first step towards our long-term goal of compensating artists: we were able to offer \$100 honorariums to each of our two playwrights. In the next year, we plan on extending compensation to the production team and performers. The second CoffeeMakers was also our widest variety of cast and crew to date: we were very fortunate to work with talented playwrights, directors, stage managers, designers, and actors.

As we move towards a return to in-person performance, Coffeehouse aims to continue producing new works by young emerging artists. We're also restructuring how we operate- see later in this report for a note from our newly appointed Co-Artistic Directors. This society was started haphazardly by a group of friends, and it's been incredible to watch it grow. We're still friends, and still a little haphazard, but we've learned a lot and are so incredibly excited to show you what we have in store.

Thank you again to everyone who participated in our shows this year, including our audiences. Hopefully by this time next year, we'll be sitting in a theatre together again.

Kate Chubbs (she/her) Board President

2020-21 Board of Directors

President Kate Chubbs

Vice-President/Secretary Syrah Khan

Treasurer Sean Marenych

Directors-at-large Brooke McCarthy

Camryn Chew

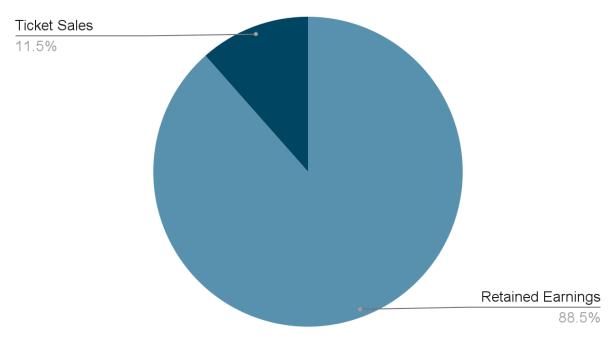
Bryn Willis

Report from the Treasurer

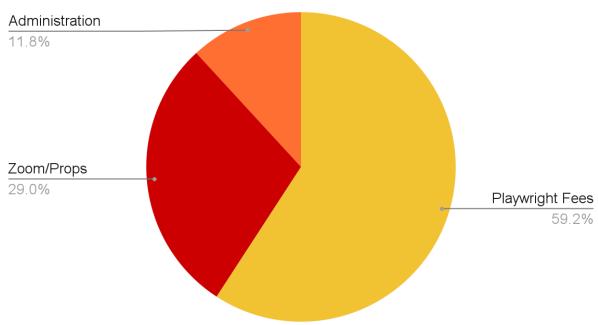
Financially, we presumed that this year would create a challenge. At a time when in person theatre has been extremely hard hit by the pandemic; as a society we did not know what to expect. What we hoped to accomplish was to put on a show with as little expense as possible. What became was a lovely surprise of a net gain, small yet appreciated. We were also extremely fortunate to fulfill a goal of ours to compensate original works to perform. The honorarium for the playwrights was the majority of our expenses, then Zoom Pro licenses, then show expenses. Income wise, we were able to sell enough tickets to exceed our expenses. As well, the income puts us on a platform to continue being financially comfortable to put on the next season. In the next year, we plan on extending compensation to the production team and performers. A goal, which will put more pressure on exceeding previous ticket sales and donations from previous years. The future financially, is all purely speculation but, we hope to satisfy all needs, and accomplish some wants. As for this year, it has been a mission complete, and more, on two low-budget productions of compensated short plays.

Sean Marenych (he/him) Treasurer

Income



Expenses





Lauren Han and Krys Yuan

July 23-25, 2021

Guitar Strings (as part of the CoffeeMakers Festival)

By Vivian Li

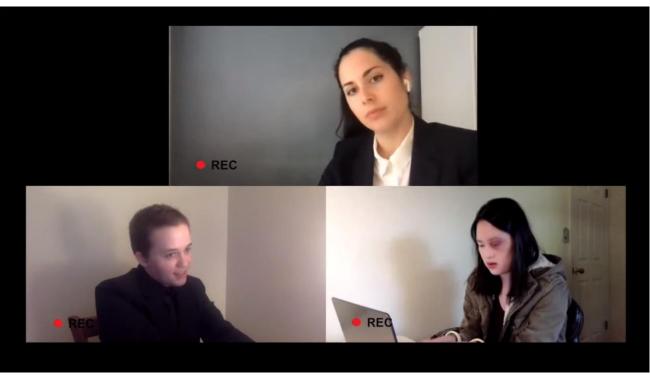
Starring Lauren Han

Krys Yuan

Director Camryn Chew

Apprentice Director Rosemary Morrison

Stage Manager Luis Zaldivar



Anna Garoucheva Gonzalez, J Johnson and Liana Weinberg

July 23-25, 2021

The Wall That Divides Us (as part of the CoffeeMakers Festival)

By Kaitlyn Alderson

Starring Anna Garoucheva Gonzalez

J Johnson

Liana Weinberg

Director Emily Brown
Apprentice Director Kaylee Cavanagh
Stage Manager Dayna Horn

Festival Staff

Production Manager Kate Chubbs

Technical Director Diana Martinez-Barrera

Costume Designer Rue Frischmuth Social Media Manager Camryn Chew



Medha Gautham and Katie Lacroix

June 26, 2021

Earnest: Remastered

Adapted from the play by Oscar Wilde

Starring Syrah Khan

Bryn Willis Katie Lacroix Medha Gautham Ryan Kniel Debjani Bose

Director Camryn Chew Video Operator Kate Chubbs

A Note from Co-Artistic Directors Camryn Chew & Syrah Khan

First off, I am so excited and honoured to be joining Syrah as Co-Artistic Director for Coffeehouse, and I am so grateful to have the opportunity to help create opportunities for youth theatre artists. As I have been involved with Coffeehouse in various capacities since it began in 2018, I have witnessed how truly important it is for youth artists to have the chance to grow and learn in safe, collaborative, and encouraging environments--I really hope that I can continue to foster those kinds of spaces through my artistic leadership.

Coffeehouse' next project that is in the works is a Fall 2021 workshop & Summer 2022 production of *Light Rapid Transit*, an original full-length play by Shelby Satterthwaite. I myself am currently working on co-producing the Fall workshop which will be based on Granville Island. We are very excited to be expanding further outside of the area of Delta, and hope to be able to continue to expand our performances across the Lower Mainland in the future.

Artistic leadership is a huge responsibility, and one that I am very grateful for. If you ever have any questions or ideas, would like to introduce yourself, or even just want to say hi, please always feel free to email me at camryn@coffeehousetheatre.com.

Looking forward to a wonderful upcoming season!

Camryn Chew (she/they)

Hello!

I am thrilled to be able to work with Camryn this upcoming year as Co-Artistic Directors. I've loved being able to work with them through all of our years at Coffeehouse Theatre and I can't wait to collaborate with her more. Bringing opportunities to youth talent has been a major goal of Coffeehouse Theatre Society, and together we look forward to creating even more opportunities for youth actors, technicians, and playwrights.

As a society, we found that there are so many talented young writers who deserve a chance to have their work workshopped and produced. As Co-Artistic Director, I hope to provide more opportunities to these playwrights, so be sure to watch out for more original works in upcoming seasons.

I am very thankful to be able to continue to help shape this wonderful society alongside the friends who have put so much time and effort into it. My email is syrah@coffeehousetheatre.com. Please feel free to reach out to say "hi" if you have anything you want to share!

Syrah Khan (she/her)

