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Calgary to become national capital for disability arts with rebranded organization

Indefinite Arts Centre to rebrand as the National accessArts Centre, with multidisciplinary programming to take place in a new facility

CALGARY – Indefinite Arts Centre, Canada’s oldest and largest disability arts organization, will officially be rebranding to become the National accessArts Centre (NaAC), setting the stage for Calgary to become Canada’s capital for the disability arts movement.

This new identity is further defined by the Centre’s recent mergers with two Calgary-based disability arts organizations, including Momo Movement – the city’s long-running mixed ability dance company, and Artistic Expressions, which provides creative art programs for adults with a physical disability and/or brain injury.

Another supportive element is the strategic intention to increase our focus on utilizing digital platforms for artistic training, creation, and exhibition opportunities. Our new website has been published, accessarts.ca, and provides our 2021 – 2026 Strategic Plan.

As Canada’s first multidisciplinary disability arts organization, the NaAC will develop programs that support artists living with physical and developmental disabilities across visual arts, literary arts, music, dance, and other performing arts programming – through not only in-person programs at a new facility that is currently in negotiation with the City of Calgary (as a result of the City’s decision to demolish our current site in Fairview), but also through immersive digital content with communities across Canada.

“Over the past few years, we’ve demonstrated what is possible when we provide world-class platforms for artists living with disabilities,” said Jung-Suk (JS) Ryu, CEO of the NaAC. “Whether it’s our increasing emphasis on connecting our artists with income generating opportunities through their creativity, or presenting their works to overseas markets and shining a light on art and accessibility in Canada, we have a remarkable legacy to build upon.”

“As communities continue to have important conversations around equity and inclusion in the arts, the NaAC is proud to take on the role as the country’s national voice for our growing, exciting, disability arts movement.”

More details will be unveiled on upcoming initiatives, including news around our new facility, as they become available.

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