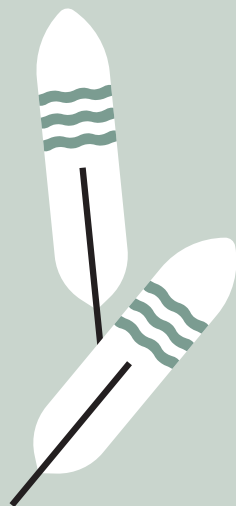


# 2021 Culture Update

## Achievements and Highlights



## Community Events

### Peony Festival

The 2021 Peony Festival was offered as a virtual program. The 17<sup>th</sup> annual iteration of the event included art and photo competitions, an online vendor market, and saw the creation of a number of new gardening and horticultural advice videos.

**40,500**  
Facebook  
reach

**4,000**  
YouTube  
video views

**5,400**  
Web page  
views



### Canada Day

Residents were encouraged to spend the day learning about Canada and Oshawa's history, our past and present day relationships with Indigenous Peoples, and about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.

### Digital Doors Open

Doors Open Oshawa welcomed the public to explore heritage and cultural sites across Oshawa. A new app, Explore Oshawa, invited residents on a scavenger hunt around Oshawa for a chance to win great prizes.

### Culture Days

The City launched a *Public Art Map + Activities* guide, inviting community members on a self-directed walking tour of public artworks. Residents were invited to pick up a free art supply kit and follow along with the sketch, sculpt, and colour prompts that accompanied each work, inviting creative engagement and participation.

09.30.21

National Day for  
Truth and Reconciliation

### National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

To mark the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Oshawa raised the "Every Child Matters" flag at City Hall. In partnership with The Bawaajigewan Aboriginal Community Circle, residents were invited to add orange ribbons to five sites throughout the City to acknowledge and honour the Indigenous children who endured residential schools in Canada.

### Community Awards

The City of Oshawa is proud to celebrate the individuals, collectives and organizations that contribute to making Oshawa a great place to live, work and play. This year's award recipients were:

#### Community Legend Award



· Julian Sheehan-Ford

#### Culture Counts Awards



- Professional Artist Award  
Recipient – Marissa Sweet
- Emerging Artist Award  
Recipient – Leequette Santiago
- Creation Champion Award  
Recipient – Bawaajigewin Aboriginal  
Community Circle

### Social Media and Communications

Culture Counts  
Social Media Subscribers

f 1.7K t 1K

Culture Counts  
Newsletter Subscribers

800

## Arts and Culture Recreation Programs

Recreation Programs were offered throughout the year. The Winter and Spring seasons emphasized virtual and in-person dance classes, while the Fall session saw the return of Arts & Culture courses.

- 29 programs were offered, including virtual and in-person classes
- Programs filled to 88% capacity

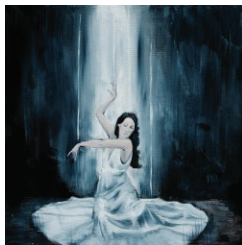
## TeachingCity Oshawa Initiatives

### Waterfront Interactive Wayfinding Tool

Durham College students from the School of Media, Art & Design program developed an interactive wayfinding tool to enhance visitor experiences along the Waterfront Trail. Residents exploring the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail can use QR codes to learn about points of interest along the way. This project began as a City Idea Lab course and was further developed through an RBC Future Launch Student Leader Award.



Lon Carmichael



Taylor Arruda

### Stories of Seniors Interview Project

Artworks were installed in four recreation centers in Oshawa. These works, produced the year before by students from Durham College's Fine Arts Community Collaborations course, were developed in collaboration with students in the Journalism and Personal Support Worker programs, members of the community, the OSCC 55+, and the City of Oshawa.

## Cultural Leadership



### Cultural Leadership Council

The Cultural Leadership Council helps to implement *Culture Counts: Oshawa's Arts, Culture and Heritage Plan* by leading and collaborating on initiatives, strategies, and action items. Members met six times during 2021.



### Public Art Task Force

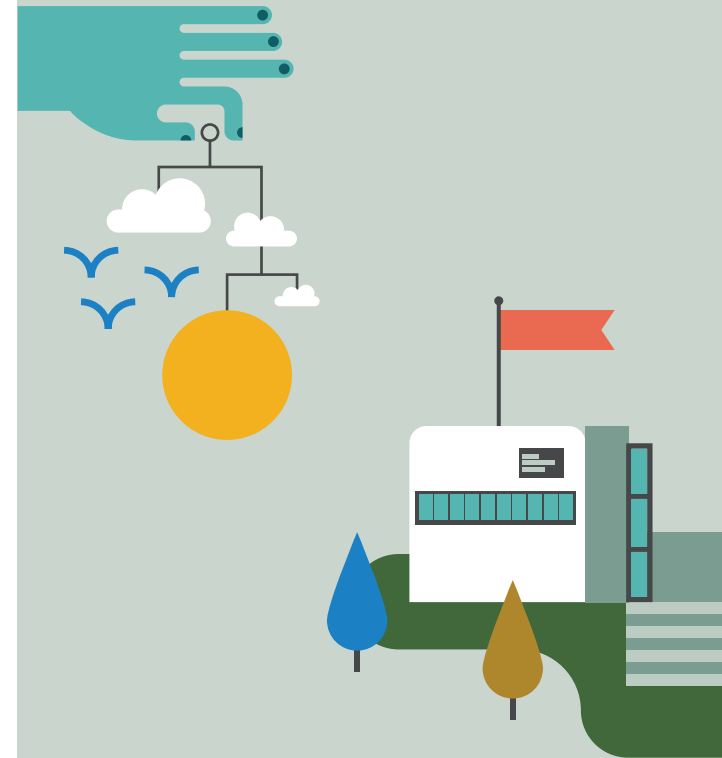
The Public Art Task Force supports the *Public Art Master Plan* while advising on public art policies and priorities, reviewing public art donations, and making recommendations on juried public art competitions. Members met six times in 2021.



### Community Centennial Committee

The Community Centennial Committee, newly created in 2020, is responsible for providing input and support to develop a city-wide plan for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Oshawa in 2024.

During 2021 the Centennial Committee formed four sub committees: Community Engagement, Heritage, Marketing/Branding, and Sponsorship, and initiated a community engagement process to collect feedback from Oshawa residents and businesses on how to best celebrate this milestone.



Sign up for the Culture Counts e-newsletter:  
[www.oshawa.ca/subscribe](http://www.oshawa.ca/subscribe)

### Connect with us

- 🌐 [oshawa.ca/culturecounts](http://oshawa.ca/culturecounts)
- 📞 905-436-3311
- 🐦 @OshawaCulture
- 📘 /CultureCountsOshawa
- ✉️ [culturecounts@oshawa.ca](mailto:culturecounts@oshawa.ca)



If this information is required in an accessible format please contact Service Oshawa at: 905-436-3311 or email [service@oshawa.ca](mailto:service@oshawa.ca)