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2022 Annual Report



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2022 Annual Report

Students at Prince of Wales Secondary School in Vancouver, British Columbia, react to poet Benjamin Hertwig.

“Poetry is language at its most distilled and most powerful.”

— RITA DOVE, AMERICAN POET & ESSAYIST

2022 Annual Report

Youth, our communities, and our society need poetry, now more than ever. Poetry has the power to inspire, unite, and provoke.

Yet in classrooms across Canada, arts education is diminishing. Many teachers tell us they don't feel trained to teach poetry well and that poetry is a tough sell to their students.

Teachers need resources and support to integrate poetry into their classes. Students deserve to experience the ways in which poetry can enrich their lives.

Poetry In Voice/Les voix de la poésie (PIV/LVP) speaks to today's youth by bringing poetry — and poets — into schools in a meaningful and impactful way.



Larissa Dushime (St. Joseph's Catholic High School, Windsor, ON) recites at the 2019 National Finals.

“Poetry is hardly taught in high school. But PIV/LVP makes it so easy to bring it into the classroom.”

— MARIE-ANDRÉE ARSENAULT, MONTRÉAL TEACHER & AUTHOR

“Poetry In Voice is a shining tribute to the creativity of youth, to the power of poetry, to the tremendous visceral experience audiences encounter at spoken word events in both French and English.”

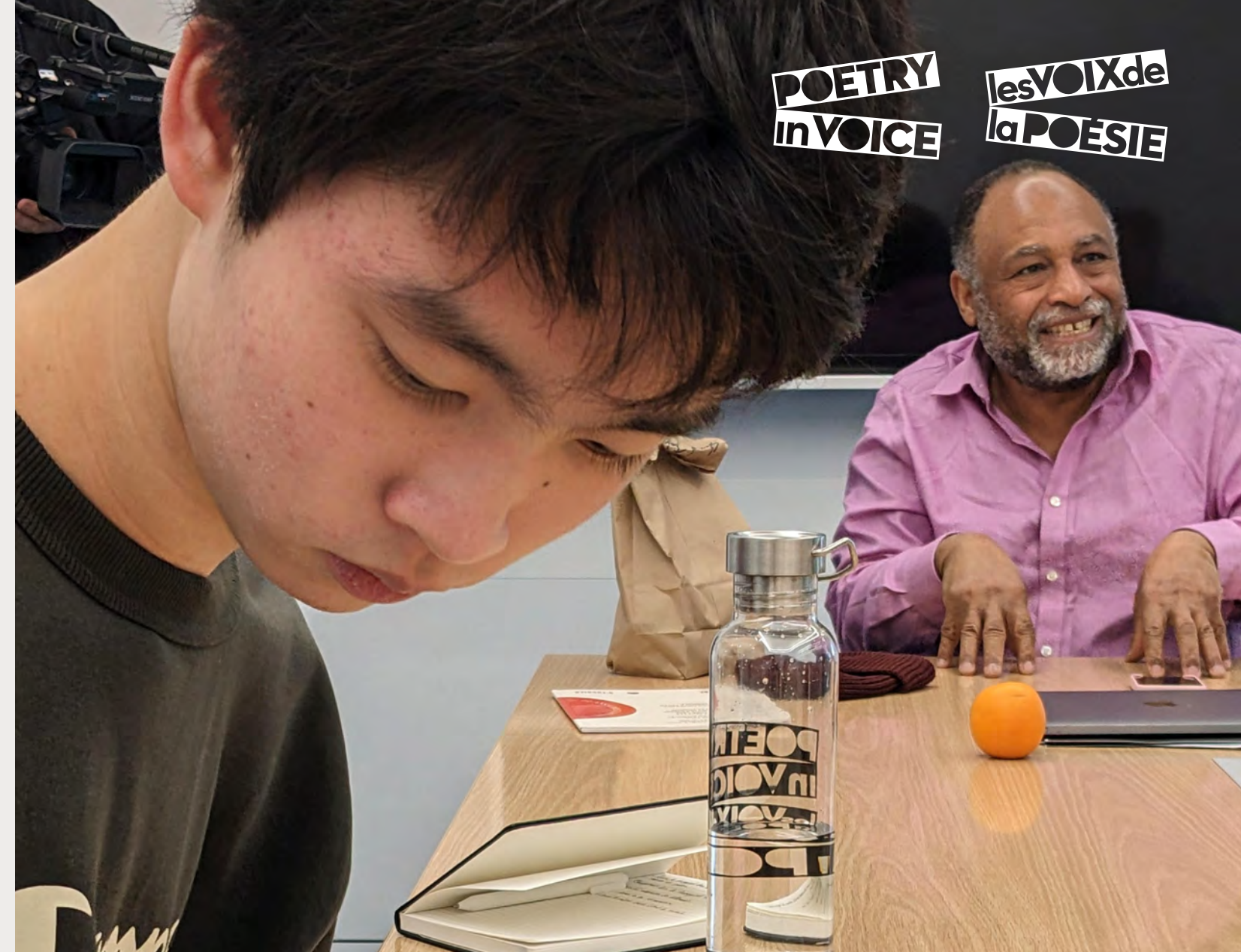
— CHRISTINA BRAID, WRITER & EDUCATOR

Vision

Poetry In Voice/Les voix de la poésie aims to ensure all Canadians speak the language of poetry. We strive to be the essential resource for teaching and learning poetry in Canada — and beyond.

Mission

We provide educators with engaging content and experiences in English and French, to inspire students to read, recite, and write poetry. Our programs and projects are written and delivered by renowned Canadian poets who connect contemporary poetry directly with students.



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A poetry workshop during the National Finals in Calgary, AB, run by Rodney Saint-Éloi.

“I discovered poetry [with PIV/LVP]. Reading poems used to be boring.”

— MARIANNE VERVILLE, ACTOR & FORMER STUDENT AT CÉGEP DU VIEUX MONTRÉAL, QC

“Students are accosting me in the hallways, at lunch, and after school to ask how to pronounce a certain word, how to accentuate a certain phrase, and [to ask] ‘what other deeper meanings are there besides the six interpretations we have unearthed?’ Poetry lives!”

— ANNE YEO, TEACHER AT RICHMOND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, BC

Values

Youth

The next generation will be more curious, creative, culturally sensitive, and empowered if given the opportunity to read, write, and discuss poetry.

Compassion & Care

We believe that the beauty and power of poetry can inspire and galvanize people, communities, and society. Learning a poet's words by heart builds empathy and connection.

Community

We support arts-based community building and aim to unify students, teachers, and poets across the country through a love of poetry.

Equity

Poets must be respected for the value they bring to society and must be paid well for their work.

Diversity

We are committed to reflecting the rich multiplicity of experiences and perspectives of students across Canada and to amplifying marginalized voices. We create our best work when we braid diverse ideas and opinions together with guidance from our communities.

Bilingualism & Promotion of Indigenous Languages

We believe that Canada's two official languages are fundamental to Canadian identity and we aspire to promote Indigenous languages through our work.



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The 2013 National Semifinalists share one last dance in Toronto before returning home.

“While many literary institutions seem to have woken up last week surprised to discover a need to support Black writers, PIV/LVP was already doing that work.”

— STEPHANIE ROBERTS, QUÉBEC POET & AUTHOR

“With [PIV/LVP], we are able to plant seeds and harvest results right away. From the moment the students get a taste of poetry, they don't want to stop.”

— SOPHIE GAMACHE, TEACHER AT COLLÈGE DE LÉVIS, QC

Message from our Founders

In 2000, *The Griffin Poetry Prize* was founded because poetry had slipped from the mainstream of our cultural lives (at least in Canada). Poetry speaks to the soul of a nation and for Canada, it was in danger of becoming merely a fringe activity. It was clear that poetry needed support and a certain profile to regain its proper place in Canada's artistic community. *The Griffin Poetry Prize* set out to raise the profile of Canadian poets within Canada and internationally; hence the establishment of two major poetry prizes.

Twelve years ago, with direction from poets Pierre Nepveu and Damian Rogers, a bilingual student recitation contest known as Poetry In Voice/Les voix de la poésie was initiated to expose students to the beauty of language through poetry. We believed that if students memorized poems, not only would these poems remain with them for life, but they would have a greater appreciation of poetry and form a future readership for poetry. In addition, students reciting poetry in front of judges and an audience without notes and only a microphone on stage would give them confidence in their public speaking skills.

PIV/LVP has grown with the help of donors and grants into a national bilingual program with local, provincial, and national recitation contests, poets' visits to classrooms, journals of students' original poetry, and poetry lesson plans for teachers. We feel confident to say that PIV/LVP has fostered a sizeable next generation of poetry lovers and this future readership continues to grow well beyond expectations.

— Krystyne & Scott Griffin



Krystyne & Scott Griffin congratulate 2018 English Stream Champion Hamish Marissen-Clark.

“PIV/LVP has become
a cultural force in
Canada.”

— MARGARET ATWOOD

Numbers

2.2 million+

Canadians have visited poetryinvoice.ca and lesvoixdelapoesie.ca

8,901

teachers are active PIV/LVP members

272

Canadian poets in our network

1,088

poems published

27 million+

poems read

60,000+

students have met a poet in their class

320,000+

students have learned a poem by heart



Wakefield Brewster runs a poetry workshop during the National Finals in Calgary, AB.

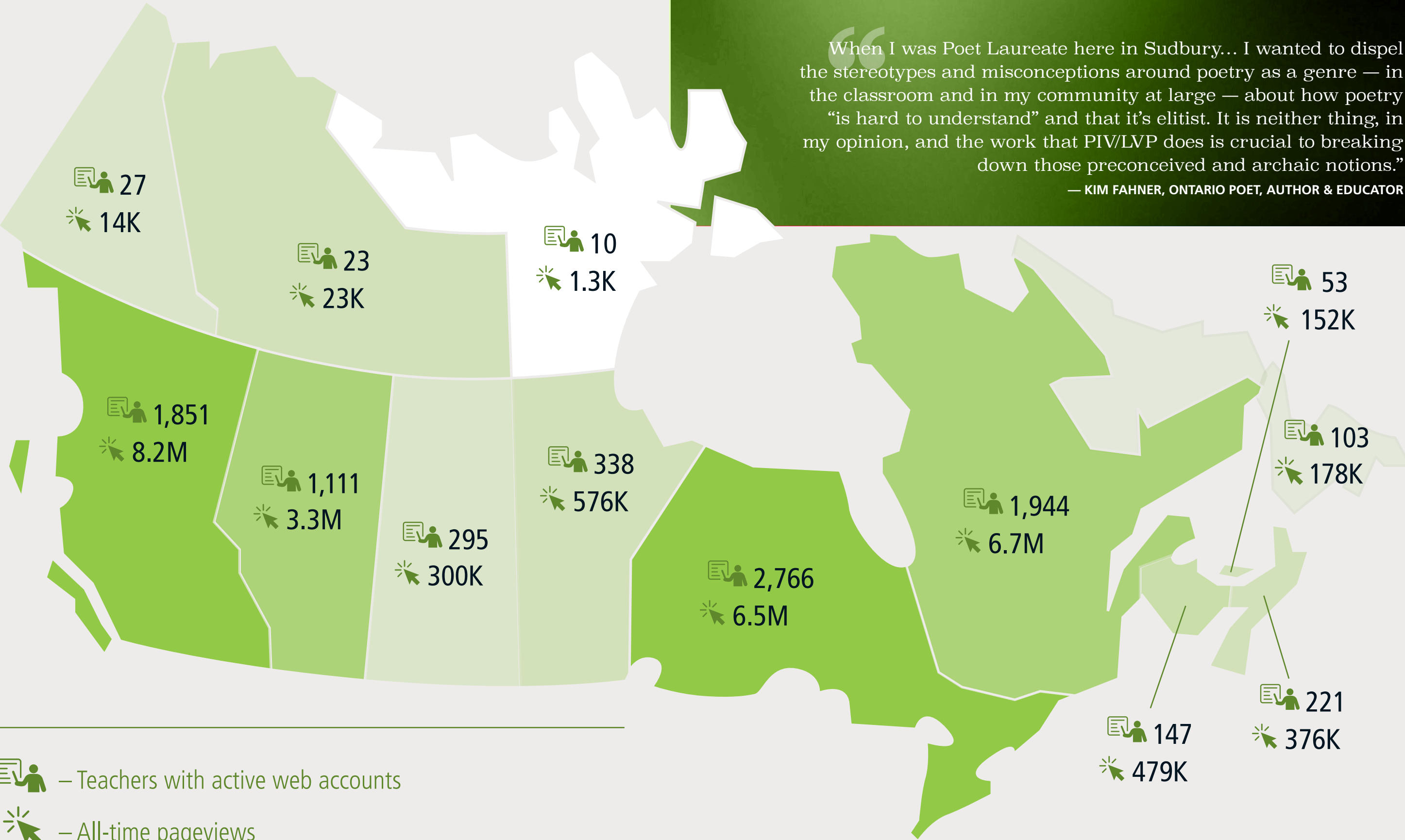
“Many students told me they didn’t know they could have a future in poetry but are [now] confident they can if they want to.”



— KAYLA GEITZLER, POET

Where we work

“[PIV/LVP] provides a crucial link between poets and schools.”
— JEAN-CHRISTOPHE RÉHEL, QUEBEC POET & NOVELIST

“When I was Poet Laureate here in Sudbury... I wanted to dispel the stereotypes and misconceptions around poetry as a genre — in the classroom and in my community at large — about how poetry “is hard to understand” and that it’s elitist. It is neither thing, in my opinion, and the work that PIV/LVP does is crucial to breaking down those preconceived and archaic notions.”
— KIM FAHNER, ONTARIO POET, AUTHOR & EDUCATOR



 — Teachers with active web accounts
 — All-time pageviews

Programs

Read

Our online anthology now includes 1088 poems in English and in French. Poems are curated by an annually rotating editorial board.

Recite

We enable thousands of recitation contests at classroom, school, regional, and national levels in three streams: English, French, and Bilingual. We engage poets as judges, and we award over \$35,000 in prizes to students and their school libraries.

Write

We publish an annual student poetry journal, *VOICES/VOIX*, edited by two renowned poets. All submitted poems are inspired by poet classroom visits, poems in our anthology, or poet-authored writing prompts on our website.

Teach

We send poets to hundreds of classrooms across Canada to work directly with students. We offer an assortment of engaging online resources, including poet-authored lesson plans and guided questions. All resources and visits are offered at no cost.

Reach

The cultivation of our social media community has led to millions of visitors to our websites and views of our recitation videos. We earn national media coverage each year for our National Finals, and our strongest student reciters perform at major literary events and festivals across the country. Partnerships with other organizations expand our reach.



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Margaret Atwood signs autographs after a private Q&A session with our 2013 National Semifinalists and their teachers.

“With their creative use of Internet, the addition of programs to allow poets to visit schools and to allow students to write poetry, a supply of relevant educational tools, the expansion of the contest to include younger grades — the artisans behind this program have shown great dynamism and a true passion for poetry, and have initiated youth to the poetic world.”

— PIERRE NEPVEU, POET, NOVELIST & PROFESSOR EMERITUS
AT UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

Message from our team



Liana Cusmano
COMMUNICATIONS
DIRECTOR



Ariane Tapp
FRENCH PROGRAM
COORDINATOR



Tessa Griffin
ENGLISH PROGRAM
COORDINATOR



Cooper Skjeie
DECOLONIAL INITIATIVES
AND INDIGENOUS
PROGRAMMING
CONSULTANT



June Park
DEVELOPMENT
MANAGER



David J. Smith
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Sarah Tsiang
CREATIVE DIRECTOR

“This has been a single-greatest instructing experience of a lifetime. I attempt to write Change Into The World - and I have been gifted with opportunities to assist others in doing so. Such was the exchange at the Central Calgary Public Library, aptly during National Poetry Month, with Youth from across the country. [Poetry In Voice/Les voix de la poésie] are champions of Youth Development, The Arts, Education, and Social Change.”

— WAKEFIELD BREWSTER,
POET LAUREATE OF CALGARY AND WORKSHOP LEADER AT NATIONAL FINALS



2022 marked the beginning of a slow return to in-person events — many Poet In Class visits and Team Regionals were held live across Canada. Given the still-fluctuating public health situation, the 2022 National Finals were held online. Our student reciters were as passionate, committed and impressive as ever.

Following our partnership with McCall MacBain, Poetry In Voice/Les voix de la poésie launched FutureVerse, a four-day poetry intensive that pairs literary leaders with students of exceptional potential. Presented in conjunction with our 2023 National Finals in Moh'kintiss/Calgary, FutureVerse is a National Arts Leadership experience to discover, create, and celebrate the power of literary arts. Sixteen students were selected from submissions to our bilingual poetry journal VOICES/VOIX and six students were chosen in partnership with a registered charitable organization that serves under-represented communities. Participants will leave the program with portfolios of work created under the mentorship of professional leaders such as Wakefield Brewster, Rita Wong, and Richard Harrison.

We expanded our board to include more regional and cultural diversity, as well as professional expertise. Our board members are: Scott Griffin, Chimwemwe Undi (MB),

Sepideh Anvar (QC), Marie-Andrée Arsenault (QC), Johanne Blais (QC), Moe Clark (QC), Carol-Ann Hoyte (QC), Anne Michaels (ON), Pierre Nepveu (QC), and Hector Ruiz (QC).

We also welcomed new team members; Ariane Tapp joins us as our French Program Coordinator and Cooper Skjeie (/shay/) is our Decolonial Initiatives and Indigenous Programming (DIIP) Consultant. The DIIP is currently in development, and aims to create space for Indigenous students to see themselves reflected in poetry, to hear, read, and respond to the work of Indigenous poets, and to develop their strengths as lifelong readers, writers, and reciters of poetry. Through digital content and classroom-ready resources, DIIP seeks to facilitate Indigenous student creativity and to foster an understanding that their voices are important, valued, and needed in the cultural conversation.

Poetry continues to comfort, challenge and inspire us, especially in times of discord and uncertainty. We are in awe of educators who have persevered in the face of great challenges and risks, and we admire students for their resilience and determination. We hope to speak poetry with you, in person, once again very soon.

Read: The anthology

Our online poetry anthology is the essence of our work and underpins all of our programs. In 2022, poems on poetryinvoice.ca and lesvoixdelapoesie.ca were read 2.4 million times.

The year 2022 also saw a new round of Mixtapes. Each Mixtape provides a playlist of poems centred on a single subject, idea, or theme, including queerness, disability, community, and ethnic and racial identity. Our poetic Mixtapes were an overwhelming success, with students and teachers appreciating and responding to collections about shame and compassion, platforms and sites, poetry of resistance and rainbow intimacies. Members of our Board of Directors review the poems that are added to the Mixtapes, as well as suggestions submitted throughout the year. Board members make their own additions to the anthology as well.

Our mandate is to develop our junior (grades 6-8) and senior (grades 9-12) anthologies by identifying the work of diverse contemporary Canadian and international poets. This year, 99 poems were added to our anthology, which is our largest total in a given year. These include “From all you can is the best you can” by Pat Lowther Memorial Award-winner Selina Boan, “What the Queer Community Should Have Told Us” by Kai Cheng Thom, “Leonardo DiCaprio” by Billy Ray-Belcourt, and “Self-Portrait as So Much Potential” by Chen Chen. In French, poems included « Les sèves et le sang » by François Baril Pelletier, « J’espère qu’il y aura tout le temps... » by Marie-Andrée Gill, « Mes parents cassent parfois des verres » by Virginie Beauregard D., « Préférer écrire... » by Marie-Hélène Voyer, and « tu sombres » by Camille Paré-Poirier.



“I do feel teen angst, and knowing that 400 years ago, 600 years ago, people also felt teen angst is wonderful.”

— OLIVIA DZIWAK, GRADUATE STUDENT & FORMER STUDENT
AT CAWTHRA PARK SECONDARY SCHOOL IN MISSISSAUGA, ON

“There is an array of stimulating and relevant contemporary and 20th century poems selected for students to read that goes way beyond the usual high school textbooks to include poems on profoundly relevant themes, such as violence against women, the mistreatment of immigrants, bullying, racism, and more.”

— FIONA TINWEI LAM, VANCOUVER POET & AUTHOR

2 ROUTES LEAD TO
**TREATY 7
/ MOH'KINSSTIS
/ CALGARY**

POETRY RECITERS

NATIONAL FINALS
WIN HUGE CASH PRIZES AND BECOME NATIONAL CHAMPION

POETRY WRITERS

FUTUREVERSE
ATTEND OUR ALL-EXPENSES-PAID 4 DAY INTENSIVE WITH AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS

APRIL 18-21, 2023
POETRY IN VOICE NATIONAL FINALS & FUTUREVERSE
A youth poetry festival like no other!

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READ poems in our junior and senior anthologies | RECITE at one of our contests and win cash prizes
WRITE a poem for our student journal VOICES/VOIX | Visit poetryinvoice.ca to learn more

DEUX ROUTES VERS LE TERRITOIRE DU
**TRAITÉ N° 7
/ MOH'KINSSTIS
/ CALGARY**

ÉLÈVES QUI RÉCITENT

GRANDE FINALE
GAGNEZ DE GRANDS PRIX EN ARGENT ET DEVENEZ CHAMPION·NE NATIONAL·E

ÉLÈVES QUI ÉCRIVENT

VERS L'AVENIR
PARTICIPEZ À UN PROGRAMME INTENSIF DE QUATRE JOURS TOUTES DÉPENSES PAYÉES AVEC DES AUTEUR·ICES ET DES ÉDITEUR·ICES

DU 18 AU 21 AVRIL 2023
LA GRANDE FINALE DES VOIX DE LA POÉSIE et VERS L'AVENIR
Un festival de poésie pour les jeunes à ne pas manquer!

lesVOIXde POETRY laPOÉSIE inVOICE

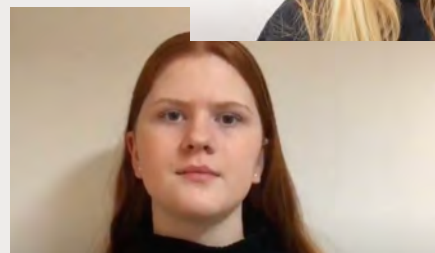
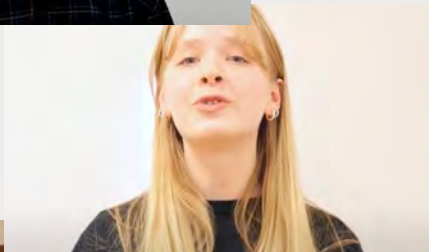
LISEZ des poèmes de nos anthologies en ligne | RÉCITEZ lors d'un de nos concours pour gagner des prix en argent
ÉCRIVEZ un poème dans notre journal étudiant VOICES/VOIX | Visitez lesvoixdelapoesie.ca pour en savoir plus

Recite: Our recitation contests

We are the only Canadian organization that runs regional and national poetry recitation competitions for middle school and high school students. The poems that students find in our anthology, learn by heart, and convey to their audience will be with them for life.

This year, we estimate 20,000 students learned and recited at least one poem for our contests.

Contests are held yearly in thousands of classrooms across the country between September and February. Student triads



2022 Junior Online Finalists (top to bottom):
Taran Ly (English Champion), Eugénie Trutnev
(2nd place in the French Stream),
and Louise Harvey (2nd place in the Bilingual Stream).

compete in our Team Regional contests held in February and March. Also in March, students in grades 6-8 compete in the Junior Online Finals and top-scoring students in grades 9-12 compete in the Senior Online Qualifiers. The highest-ranking students are invited to the Senior National Semifinals & Finals in April.

The National Finals is our signature event and has been held in theatres in Toronto, Montréal, Vancouver, and Winnipeg. Cultural luminaries such as Rosanna Deerchild, Guy Marchamps, and Gill Deacon have hosted, and an array of Canadian poets, including Dennis Lee, Katherena Vermette, and Marie-Célie Agnant, have judged the contest and facilitated workshops for our Semifinalists and Finalists.



The team from Collège Jésus-Marie de Sillery placed 1st at the Québec Team Regional

“Poetry In Voice has helped me bring poetry and joy into my classroom, into the homes and lives of my students, their families and our school. It is truly an incomparable treasure.”

— RYAN RUDDICK, TEACHER AND VICE-PRINCIPAL AT WESTMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL IN MONTRÉAL, QC

“I actually got to know my students a lot better because they got to choose poems [to recite] that really reflected their interests and really spoke to them.”

— AYANNA TONEY-WEST, TEACHER AT THE WOODLANDS SCHOOL IN MISSISSAUGA, ON

Recite: Our recitation contests

In January, we announced the winners of the 2022 Junior Online Finals. Our young champions hailed from Edmonton, Mississauga, Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Port Coquitlam and Rossland, BC. Since premiering on YouTube on April 22, the 2022 National Finals and recitation videos from the semifinals and finals have been watched over 32 000 times. The 2022 Team Regionals and the National Finals were held online, and all 2023 contests will be held live, with the exception of National Qualifiers, which have traditionally been held online. We will also meet with our sister organizations Poetry Out Loud (U.S.) and Poetry By Heart (UK) in June 2023 to begin organizing the inaugural 2024 international recitation contest.

This year, 42 semifinalists each received a \$250 prize. We also held a “People’s Choice” award, and once again over 10 000 votes were cast for the best semifinalist poem recitation. Our 2022 Online

Nationals stretched over two days, with a meet & greet for the finalists and their teachers as well as poetry workshops for all 42 semifinalists. After the finals were broadcast, the poet judges, finalists and their teachers met in breakout rooms for feedback, and the evening ended with the 9 finalists hanging out on Zoom into the wee hours. We felt we had brought at least a fraction of the magic of a live Nationals to the 2022 format.

Online Team Regionals

We are also working toward an international recitation competition at the 2023 Griffin Poetry Prize in Toronto. The event will be co-hosted by our sister organizations Poetry Out Loud (U.S.) and Poetry By Heart (UK). We hope members of the PIV/LVP team and our 2022 champions will be able to participate in Poetry By Heart’s National Finals at the Globe Theatre in London, UK in June, 2022.



Nine finalists from all over Canada recorded themselves reciting at home for the 2021 Online National Finals.

“Reciting poetry in high school gave me the confidence to speak up — and that confidence is still with me.”

— KHALIL MAIR, GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD & FORMER STUDENT AT TORONTO FRENCH SCHOOL, ON

“The National Finals is a great show. These students dig really deep and add a unique texture and weight to each poem they recite. Their performances blew me away.”

— DAVID USHER, MUSICIAN & AUTHOR

Write: *VOICES/VOIX*

Each year, we encourage students in grades 9-12 to write and submit original poems inspired by:

- a poem in our anthology,
- one of our writing prompts or poetry workshops,
- or a poet who visited their school from our Poet In Class/ Poète à l'école program.

Under the skillful guidance of two poet editors, the strongest poems are published in *VOICES/VOIX*. Hard copies are mailed to the published writers and to their school libraries, and a digital version lives on our websites.

This year, poets Therese Estacion and Carl Bessette worked closely with the 26 students whose work was selected, and in September, we proudly published the journal's fourth issue.

Issue #5 of *VOICES/VOIX* will be published in September 2023, and a journal of original poems by students in grades 6-8 will be published in 2024.

Every month we award the Poetry Prompt Prize, open to all students in grades 7-12, in French and English. Each month's winner receives \$100 and their poem is published in *VOICES/VOIX*. The prize has been very successful with over 977 submissions in the last year.



“These poems don’t just reflect the world
— they try to imagine a better one.”

— JONATHAN ROY & CATRIONA WRIGHT, EDITORS OF *VOICES/VOIX*, ISSUE #2

Teach: Poet In Class / Poète à l'école

While artist-in-class programs are fairly common across Canada, rarely are a school's arts funds prioritized for a local poet's visit. In 2017, in partnership with the Canada Council for the Arts, PIV/LVP launched the Poet In Class/Poète à l'école (PIC/PAL) program. The program is provided free of charge to schools and we pay poets fairly for their time and expertise.

Poet visits this year were held both virtually and in person. Funding from Heritage Canada has allowed us to offer 100 classroom visits in English and French minority and additional language settings. The demand for poet visits greatly outweighs our budget for them. We continue to seek more funding channels to expand the program and reach as many students as possible, with the vision that every student should be visited by a poet at least once during their school years.



Baron Marc-André Lévesque runs a poetry workshop for students at École secondaire Casavant in St-Hyacinthe, QC.

“It’s typical of Poetry In Voice that they figured out a way to continue to get poetry into the classroom during this time of the pandemic, and it’s typical that they knew many poets would need assistance to make their online visits effective. I know of no other organization that so quickly and gracefully pivots, assesses the needs, and then offers performers and teachers the educational resources required to make the visits a success.”

— LORNA CROZIER, POET & PROFESSOR EMERITA AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

“Thank you for providing this amazing opportunity. It was important for the students at my school to have a woman of colour come [so that they could] see that poets can be ethnically different and have a diverse life story.”

— BAL PANESAR, TEACHER AT ERIC HAMBER SECONDARY SCHOOL IN VANCOUVER, BC

Teach: Our website

In 2022, most of the 3.32 million pageviews to our websites were by Canadian teachers and students. Given our mission to provide exceptional content and experiences that foster an appreciation of and connection with poetry, we worked with scores of poets this year to craft:

- 35 “Dive Ins”: guided questions that help students delve deeply into a poem.
- 10 Mixtapes: mini-anthologies of poems centred on a single subject, idea, or theme.
- 7 writing prompts: pithy challenges to encourage students to start a poem.
- 88 poet profiles and bios: poets respond to our interview questions and tell us their stories, so that students can connect to them and understand that they too could choose to be a poet.
- 11 lesson plans, including 6 that promote bilingualism as part of the Heritage Canada initiative.

They also write biographies of poets who are newly added to our anthology. We commission lesson plans, written by poets or teachers, that help teachers imagine and integrate new ways of connecting their provincial or territorial curricula to poetry.

For our K-6 program, Poetry is Elementary, 18 videos are in development, 9 in English and 9 in French, wherein poets read their work and then outline a classroom activity. Each poem is animated, to help create dynamic videos for our youngest students. Lesson plans will be developed around these poetry videos and printable poetry-based activities will also be provided on our website.

We also publish dozens of recitation videos each year from footage of our Junior Online Finals and the Senior National Finals. These serve as excellent pedagogical and promotional tools.

Dive In

WRITTEN BY BRITTA BADOUR FOR THE POEM
“SALMON COURAGE” BY M. NOURBESE PHILIP

1. M. NourbeSe Philip has used salmon as the central metaphor for this poem. What do you already know about salmon and their lifecycle? How does your understanding of salmon frame your understanding of the struggles and sacrifices of the speaker? Of the speaker’s parents?

2. How many years does it take before the speaker relives the journey of their salmon mother? Why do you think it took this long?

3. What is the salmon father proud of? What is his fate compared to the salmon mother? Compared to the speaker?

4. Take a moment to review the adjectives that describe human attributes. Why do you think the author has used this language?

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Writing Prompt

“WRITE YOUR PAIN” BY IAN WILLIAMS

This exercise is for a two-part poem about pain. In fact, your title could be “Pain.”

Part 1. Write a poem that bruises your mouth to read. Fill it with heavy words, awkward combinations, and tongue-twisting, cheek-biting virtuosity.

Part 2. Write a poem that makes your eyes burn. Arrange your words and letters as if you were sending a ransom note to e. e. cummings. Then edit that with an axe.

“Our staff agrees that PIV/LVP is an enriching program for our school. We have all benefited from this experience and the support materials.”

— LOIS LORIMER NUNN, POET & RETIRED TEACHER-LIBRARIAN AT
R. H. KING ACADEMY IN SCARBOROUGH, ON

“Through their creation of high quality web content, PIV/LVP positions itself as a vital link among the various initiatives for younger generations.”

— ANNE-MARIE DESMEULES, QUÉBEC POET

Reach

In service of our vision to ensure all Canadians speak the language of poetry, we leverage our work in schools to promote poetry to the wider national and global communities. The National Finals are an excellent opportunity to attract media attention for our organization. In 2022, CBC, CTV, and numerous city media outlets covered us extensively. Student recitation videos from the National Finals were watched 415 000 times in 2022, and since 2010, our recitation videos have been viewed 2.7 million times. Our recitation champions are commissioned each year to recite at literary festivals and celebrations such as the Frye Festival (Moncton), Blue Met Metropolis Bleu (Montréal), Mois de la poésie (City of Québec), Festival de la poésie de Montréal, Edmonton Poetry

Festival, Vancouver Writers Fest, Kingston Writers Fest, Thin Air Winnipeg International Writers Fest, the Saskatchewan Festival of Words, and the Governor General's Literary Awards Gala. A student reciter is also featured each year at The Griffin Poetry Prize (GPP) Awards, where our international recitation contest will be held. We manage our bilingual social media channels (Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram) daily and share stories that appeal not only to our students and teachers, but to all poetry lovers.



English Stream Champion Catrícia Hiebert (St. Mary's Catholic High School, Sexsmith, AB) recites at the 2019 Governor General's Literary Awards Gala in Ottawa, ON.

“Poetry in Voice/Les voix de la poésie is one of the most vitally important literary programs in Canada — it is invaluable and has an astonishing reach.”

— ANNE MICHAELS, TORONTO POET & AUTHOR

“If [Scott] Griffin's hope was to nurture a new generation of poets across the country, it's working.... The program has exploded.”

— THE VANCOUVER SUN

Support

In 2022, Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage and the Conseil des Arts de Montréal supported our Poets In Class program.

PIV/LVP has also partnered with several like-minded organizations to promote poetry:

- We are collaborating with The League of Canadian Poets on our Poet In Class programs by applying for funding to leverage both our poet communities to reach more schools across Canada.
- We have created a partnership with the Toronto District School Board, Canada's largest school board, to ensure our websites and programs are promoted to teachers in their schools.
- We have partnered with the English Language Arts Network to place English poets in Anglophone public schools in official language minority communities across Québec.

However, even with this support, we have been able to reach only a fraction of students across Canada. PIV/LVP has plans to expand its programs, including the successful Poet In Class/Poète à l'école program, and to offer new ones, such as content and events for students and teachers in Kindergarten through Grade 6, our Poetry is Elementary program.



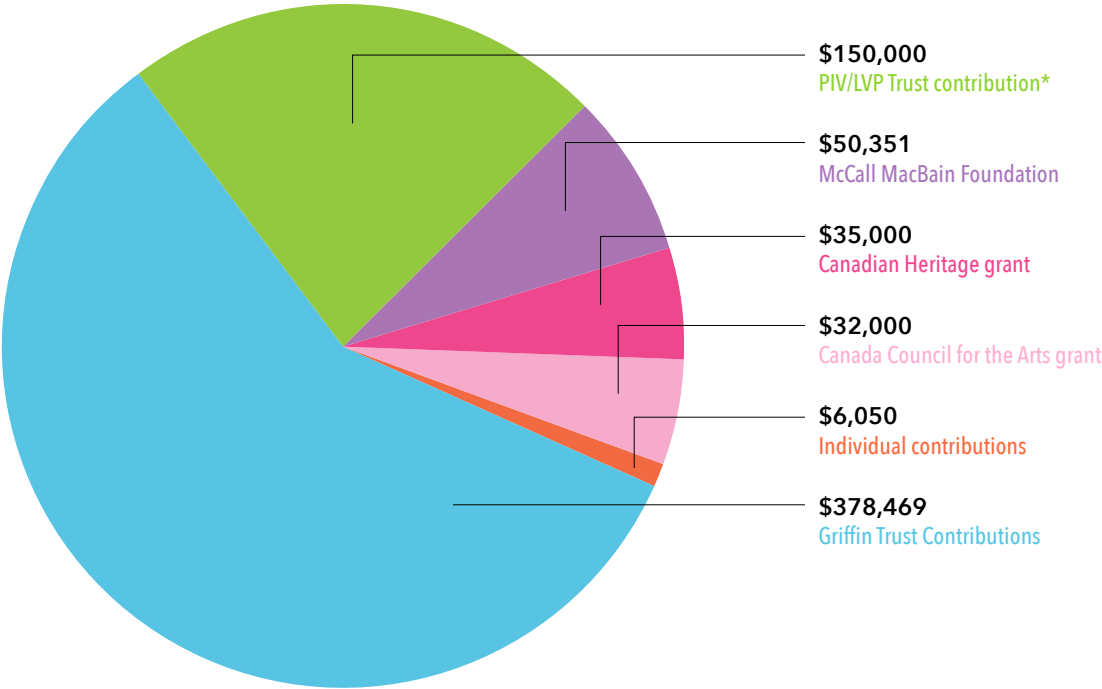
Mireille Proulx (Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, Montréal, QC) recites for a captive audience during the 2017 National Finals.

“Poetry In Voice is an astonishing tribute to poetry — one of the greatest ideas to emerge in the world of literature in Canada in recent years!”

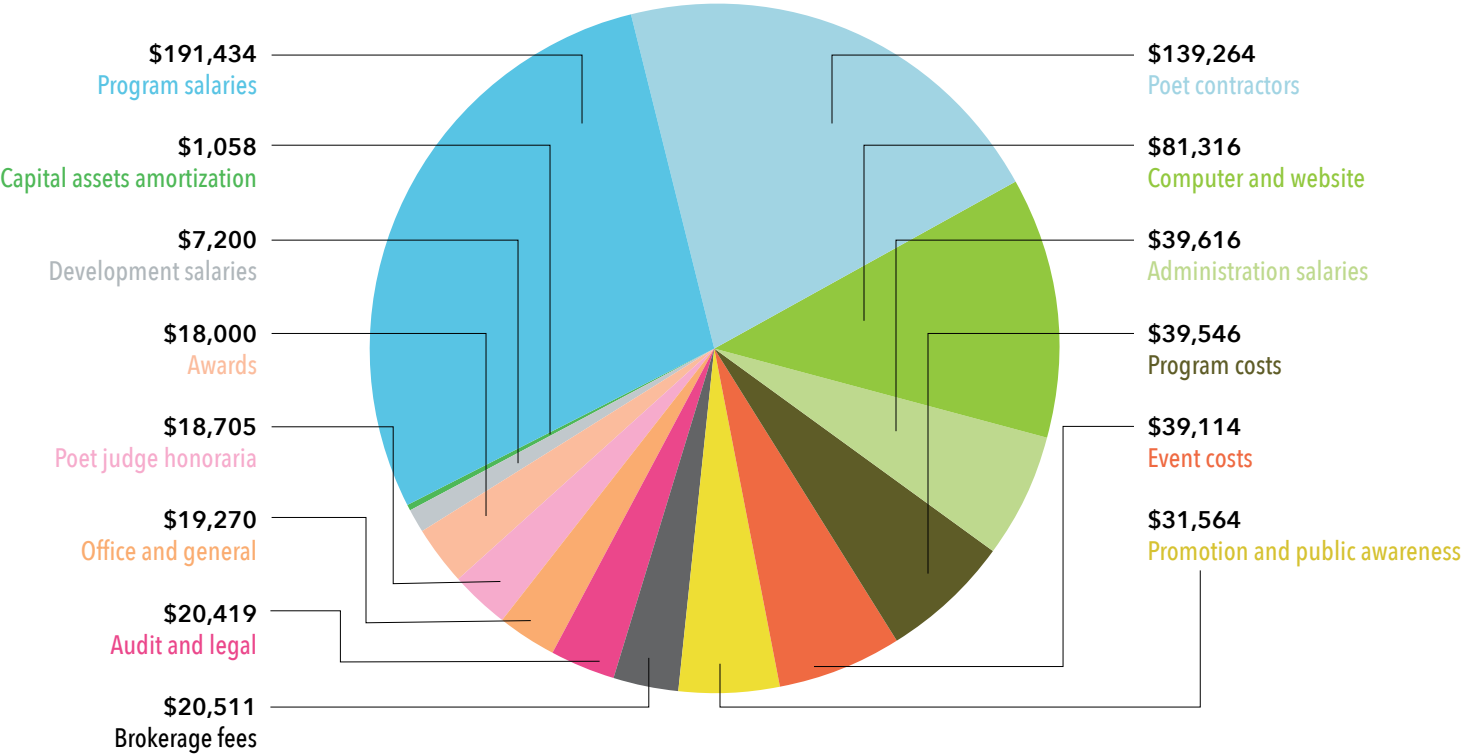
— THE RIGHT HONOURABLE ADRIENNE CLARKSON

2022 Financial overview

Revenues \$651,870



Expenses \$667,017



*note: this is not revenue per se, but rather gains on our restricted funds contributed to fund programs

Notes





visit
poetryinvoice.ca
lesvoixdelapoesie.ca

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“Participating in PIV/LVP allowed me to acknowledge my true identity and to discover my absolute love for words, stories, poems.”

— GHADA CHARKI, FORMER STUDENT AT CHAMPLAIN REGIONAL COLLEGE – SAINT-LAMBERT

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