



**THE NAVE**  
COMMUNITY · CULTURE · ART

# 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW





**THE NAVE**

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## A NOTE FROM THE NAVE TEAM

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As we look back on 2022, it's hard to believe how far we have come. 2022 was our first full year open since 2019, when the large-scale renovation began and the pandemic caused construction delays and disruptions for public events and gatherings. Thumbing through photos, we are reminded that masking was still mandatory at Nave-sponsored events as late as May. Despite the slow start to the year, so much happened at The Nave.

The Nave hosted an impressive array of events—workshops, artisan markets, concerts, beading circles, dances, weddings, nonprofit board meetings, and more. We've welcomed the community into the building to dance with the Athabascan Fiddlers, and we've packed the main hall wall to wall with artisans and makers building their businesses. We've listened weekly from behind the scenes as Anchorage Youth Orchestra practices in the main hall, and we've watched in awe as young artists discovered their talents during two weeks of Youth Art Camp.

The theme that runs through it all is supporting, celebrating and strengthening community by connecting people and ideas; and The Nave's 2022 Artist in Residence, Melissa Shaginoff, exemplified this mission to the fullest extent. Melissa hosted events throughout the year that used the celebration of art and culture as a backdrop to start conversations and build community. She hosted beading circles, a land acknowledgment workshop, a placemaking gathering, a story telling event, silver berry processing workshops, and she gave us a front and center look at what goes into the traditional practice of processing a moose hide. Melissa helped us celebrate Alaska Native culture, while starting conversations about what it means to be a space for community, culture, and art. We look forward to continuing this work.

As we look back, we are so grateful to everyone who came to The Nave this year, to our funders, and to the artists and partners who helped us put on extraordinary events.

*Chin'an, thank you.*







## NOTE FROM ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

*Melissa Shaginoff*

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Having a space at The Nave this past year has allowed me to grow my art practice in ways I could have never imagined. Throughout my art career, I have always created on the fringes. Adjusting, and at times compromising, my work just to get by. In many ways, that is what artists do. We are creative problem solvers. The Nave embraced and supported that creative problem solving this year.



My art practice is really characterized by visiting, by creating space to deeply know someone. I feel like I've been able to bring that into my work at The Nave. I've had so many opportunities to share who I am as an artist and as an Indigenous person. I think there is power in doing that publicly. The Nave has lifted me up, giving me not only a platform, but a deep respect that I feel has only grown my community in Anchorage.

The Nave has also recognized the breadth of work that I do. There was never a prescription as to what I was supposed to be doing or how my community events were supposed to be run. There was a lot of space for experimentation, and for me to work in that undefinable place between visiting and creation. I work in such a way that it's about responding to my community; assessing the needs and the misunderstandings; and working for a more empathic, just, and understanding place.

I feel very lucky to have had this year to really settle in. And my community is recognizing my art practice in connection to The Nave and Cook Inlet Housing Authority. It is an equitable collaboration, and I feel very lucky to have been a part of it. Tsin'aen, thank you so much to The Nave and Cook Inlet Housing Authority. It has been an incredible year and I look forward to continuing to work with The Nave to create a welcoming space that celebrates community, culture and art!



# FINISHING TOUCHES

## The Nave Renovation

In 2022, we put the finishing touches on The Nave renovations. With funding from MJ Murdock Charitable Trust and The Kresge Foundation, we outfitted the building with equipment and technology to support a diverse array of events.

*Chin'an, thank you.*



*Our Lady of Spenard*, a metalwork installation that once hung on the south façade of the building, was re-installed in July 2022 on the front of the building. The piece, installed by Chad Taylor of Intrinsic Design, was originally designed by Drew Michael and fabricated by Garrett Perkins. It was installed along with a new deck built by our CIHA construction crew.



The new Audio/Visual system installed by Rick Miller Productions this year offers concert-ready speakers, projector integration for movies, lighting for the stage, and live-streaming capability.



Chad Taylor designed the building's reimagined steeple which is meant to commemorate the original purpose of the building while also reflecting the neighborhood and their vision for the space.



We commissioned artists to help us repurpose pieces of the old Church of Love to honor the history of the initiative. The old Church of Love sign was redesigned by Sheila Wyne and lit to hang inside; an old fence with journal entries reflecting hopes for the neighborhood was transformed into a chalkboard installation by Bruce Farnsworth, Jesse Rosenstein, and Kerby McGhee; and the original church piano was repurposed as a message board for The Nave's studio artists by Rachele Dowdy.



## THE NAVE PROGRAMMING

### Community, Culture and Art

In order to realize our mission to support, celebrate and strengthen community by connecting people and ideas, The Nave sponsors and organizes intentional programming. We aim to create programming that celebrates the three pillars of the hub—community, culture and art.



**Athabasca Fiddlers:** The Athabasca Fiddlers held dances at The Nave regularly throughout the year. They gathered around country music and shared traditional foods and fellowship.



**Anáaski Kawóot Ku.oo :** Anáaski Kawóot Ku.oo, an Indigenous bead community led by Laura Revels, met in the Weidner Community Room bi-weekly throughout the fall/winter. Revels began training some of the regular attendees to teach beading in an effort to carry on the tradition of beading.



**Alebrije Workshop:** The Nave partnered with Out North in fall 2022 to offer LatinX Youth Cultural Heritage Workshops. Here a group of youth creates their own Alebrijes.



**Immigrant Community Gatherings:** A number of immigrant communities began to make The Nave their home in 2022. A group of Nigerian and Cameroonian community members gathered to celebrate at The Nave regularly, including a Christmas Eve party.



**Spenard Connected Neighbors:** Artist-In-Residence Ptery Lieght collaborated with CIHA staff to learn about the stories and experiences of residents in CIHA buildings near The Nave. This community engagement work set the stage for future arts-driven, trauma-informed programming that creates opportunities for neighborhood residents to connect with CIHA staff, with the spaces of The Nave, and with each other.



**Nonprofit Events:** 25 nonprofit events were held at The Nave. We were happy to offer an affordable space for these roundtables, fundraisers, workshops, task force meetings, retreats, summits, and board meetings.



# THE NAVE PROGRAMMING

Community, Culture and Art



**Teen Open Mic Series:** In this 4-week series, teens gathered for workshops with music industry professionals and played in open mic performances, honing their skills and building community around their music practice.



**Blackout Poetry Series:** Jessie Rosenstein hosted this series in which he taught blackout poetry and attendees created their own books that they displayed at a First Friday celebration.



**Art Camp:** Artists Graham Dane, Linda Lyons, and Melissa Shaginoff helped young artists explore a variety of art practices throughout this two-week day camp, including painting, drawing, sculpture, and a variety of indigenous traditional arts. Steven Holly, Lee Post, and Momentum Dance Collective also led workshops with the youth, exploring drumming, comic book drawing, and movement.

# 2022 IN NUMBERS

Event and Program Data



183

Events



78

Event Hosts



59k

Total Gross Revenue from Events

## TYPES OF EVENTS



- 63 Private
- 38 Nonprofit
- 29 Community
- 29 CIHA Programs
- 16 Ticketed Public
- 7 Partner
- 2 CIHA Resident Engagement



## 2022 IN NUMBERS

Supporting the Creative Economy



**7 studio artists** actively working as professional artists



**4 markets** held at The Nave: Veg Fest, YWCA, Little Fish Makers Market, Irish Holiday Market

**9 Youth Events**

**51 Art Campers**

**43 CIHA Sponsored/Organized Programs**

**1,398 People Attended CIHA Programs**



**4 Spenard 2nd Saturday events hosted** – Spenard 2nd Saturday is a community engagement effort and small business initiative aiming to help Spenard businesses reach a larger audience and encourage traffic through the neighborhood. The Nave played an integral role in getting this initiative off the ground in 2022.

## THANK YOU

To our Funders and Partners

At Cook Inlet Housing Authority, two tenets of our mission are to empower our people and build our community. Our work goes beyond creating housing opportunities, because we take a holistic approach, it includes building community among our residents and in the neighborhoods where we invest. The Nave helps us connect with neighbors and it helps to create opportunities for community building. By forging these strong neighborly relationships, we are better able to identify community challenges and have dialogues around solutions. This work of connecting people and ideas at The Nave wouldn't be possible without the support of our funders and partners. We are so grateful for their ongoing support of this community, arts and culture hub.

Respectfully,

*Carol Gore, President/CEO*

### Our Funders

Alaska Community Foundation  
Alaska Fellows Program  
American Rescue Plan Act  
ArtPlace America  
Atwood Foundation  
CARES Act

Cook Inlet Housing Authority Board of Commissioners  
Coronavirus Aid Relief, and Economic Security Act  
Indian Community Development Block Grant  
Rasmuson Foundation  
Richard L and Diane M Block Foundation

RurAL CAP VISTA  
The CIRI Foundation  
The Kresge Foundation  
The MJ Murdock Charitable Trust  
US Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Western States Arts Federation





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