



2019 ANNUAL
REPORT

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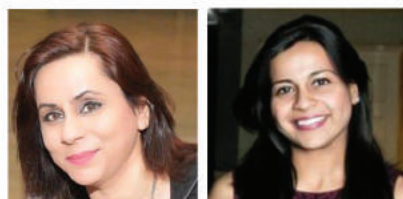
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Welcoming Words from Co-Founder & President of the Board



Dear friends,

Thank you for those who have supported Artists and Artisans Development Network (AADN). This has been another great year that AADN supported artists and artisans who are newcomers or from visible minority groups in their social and economic development.

Our organization is committed to supporting and assisting immigrants, newcomers and visible minorities with opportunities that combat the challenges, difficulties, and lack of services currently provided to them in the GTA. With our programs and services, AADN hopes that it can help this population build their careers and develop stronger bonds and relationships in the art community.

The major focus was on seniors through our documentary **75 Seniors: Stories of Volunteerism** which helped us to create many partnerships and collaborations. The project funded under New Horizons for Seniors Program involved intergeneration work and thanks to our interns and volunteers, we successfully implemented this project.

AADN also focused on Women's empowerment, through funding support and partnership from Spark Toronto, Cultural Hotspot, we implemented **"Being Women: Her Voice through Arts"**. The project focused on involving women to express through visual arts on women's empowerment. AADN will continue to sustain this project as we believe that through empowerment of women, we will be able to foster greater community development.

We would like to take opportunity to express our humble gratitude to our funders, donors, volunteers and all the partner organizations. Since the beginning AADN has been successful in continuing to grow and build stronger relations with our partners. We greatly appreciate the help and support and contributions of our donors, community partners, the board of directors and volunteers who have made this growth possible. We eager for what the future holds for Artists and Artisans Development Network (AADN) and the achievements yet to come.

We would like to invite you to check out our website for descriptions of all programs, make donations, volunteer with AADN, or support our causes and programs.

Sincerely,

Shirin Mandani
President

Sahar Rahman
Treasurer



Our Vision

To foster economic, social, cultural and civic development of Artists and Artisans.

Our Mission

To provide support and opportunities for the economic and social development of Artists and Artisans from immigrant, newcomer and visible minority groups through programs, events and enterprises of arts, crafts and performing arts.

Our Goals

To support newcomer artists and artisans through training and development, sharing information and opportunities, and community-building initiatives. We bring members of the community together through the celebration of visual arts, crafts, music, and dance.

Our Programs & Services

Our programs and services provide a platform for collaboration where we organize workshops, exhibitions, and events in collaboration with social service organizations, businesses, and civil societies, and educate the public through the showcasing of talents.



Fine Arts Workshops and Training

Inclusive Canada:

This year, through funding support from Government of Ontario, AADN was able to provide training to seniors through our project “***Inclusive Canada***”. Our workshops and training programs brought seniors together to share their stories, paint and showcase their creativity. With support from Halton Gujarati Seniors Samaj, we successfully implemented the project and mobilized seniors.



Festivals and Events

AADN informs, organizes and encourages local artists and artisans in Scarborough and the Greater Toronto Area to partake in festivals and events which showcase their talents and creativity.

AADN aims to raise the awareness of communities about the rich cultural diversity in arts, crafts and performing arts through the organization of festivals and events that support the mandate of the organization. This year AADN was able to execute events such as:

Canadian Multicultural Day

Artists and Artisans Development and Network, in collaboration with community organizations, dance and cultural groups, held an event on June 27 to celebrate Canadian Multicultural Day. This event is based on the theme of inclusion and integration of visible minorities, newcomers, refugees, and ethnocultural communities. The event featured cake cutting for seniors, seniors talk and speeches from community leaders. Through funding support from Canadian Heritage, and with support from Agincourt Community Services, we were successful in executing this celebration.



Festivals and Events

Being Women: Her Voice through Arts

With support from neighborhood partners and other artists, AADN holds an annual event for young immigrant girls and women to display their creative contributions through visual arts, and cultural performances and express themselves about what it means to be a woman. Girls are mentored by female artists as they learn to express their feelings on equality, equity, empowerment and safety through art. This unique equity project increased awareness on gender equity, build confidence and provide a sense of accomplishment in girls. Shingeri Vidhya Bharati Foundation, Vraj Community Services, Sheetal Sangeet along with Cultural HotSpot helped us in making this project a success.



Indian, Bollywood Music & Dance Festival

AADN sponsored and supported the events organized by our community partners. With Friends of Gujarat, we support in their Navratri Dance Festival; with Halton Gujarati Seniors Samaj, we supported in their Festival of Lights events; with Starbiz Community Service AADN supported their Bollywood Music at Aga Khan Museum; with Shabdh Prathna a talk show on wellbeing and community development and with Diversity Cultural Association, AADN supported Osman Mir event. This collaboration helped us to outreach in different community and get familiarized about the work AADN does in community building through arts and performing arts.



Documentaries

75 Seniors: Stories of Volunteerism

75 Seniors: Stories on Volunteerism is a documentary on the experiences of senior volunteers across Canada and the work they do for their communities. The film expanded on the benefits of volunteering and its positive impact on the seniors and the city. Many seniors especially newcomers experience social isolation which can be prevented by working with organizations that give back to their community, thus allowing them to share their culture, meet new people and develop a sense of belonging. Seniors who are at the forefront of many community programs remain unrecognized. We acknowledge the diligent work with various not-for-profits and applaud them for their dedication towards safety and wellbeing of seniors in the Canadian society.



Program Successes & Achievements:



Provided **7 students** with internships from Ryerson University, Seneca College, Trios College and Salvation Army's Newcomers Program



12 Artists' work was featured on our website and social media



3 Summer jobs were provided to youth



75 seniors involved in production of documentary "75 Seniors: Stories of Volunteerism"



2500 people were reached out through events and festivals



Over **50 volunteers** supported AADN in various events and projects

Testimonials

Michelle Naam

“

My internship with Artists and Artisans Development and Network taught me several new skills, developed interpersonal relationships and gave me professional experience in the industry and with nonprofit organizations. AADN provided me with many opportunities to grow my skills and work experience and allowed me to work at my own pace. The dedicated team members of AADN helped guide me and gave me the essential tools I will need going forward.

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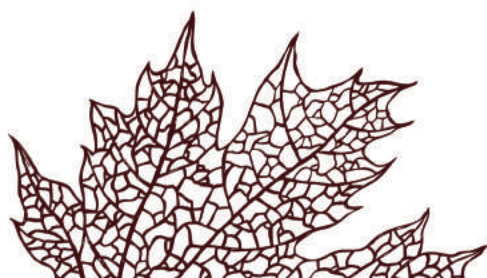


Rysa Braganza

“

After working at AADN for the summer I can confidently say that I have learned a great deal about nonprofits and the aid they provide to artists. Every day was a chance to gain information about this industry in addition to taking an active role in the events that AADN organized. I also had the chance to attend one of AADN's art shows, “Being Women”. Meeting with the artists was a unique and eye-opening look into their careers and the role that AADN has played in establishing themselves in the Toronto art scene. My time at AADN was a positive entryway into the workforce and provided me with valuable skills that I can take with me for years to come

”



Funders & Partners

Federal



Provincial



Municipal



Donors & Sponsors



Community Partners



Media Sponsors



Team

Shirin Mandani

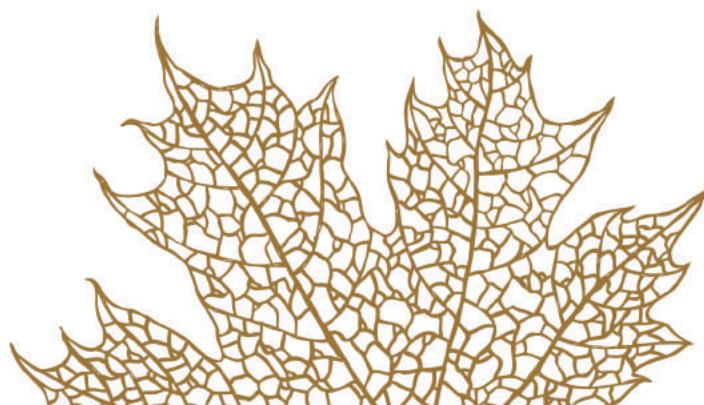
Shirin has over 20 years of leadership experience in Canadian and international not-for-profit organizations focusing on Social Enterprise. She received her Master's degree in Public Policy Administration and Law from York University, Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Mumbai University in India and a Post degree diploma in Not-for-Profit Management from the University of Western Ontario.

She is the CEO of the Canadian Educational Opportunities Corporation and has served two terms as a national board of directors for Aga Khan Education Services, in India, playing an active role in the enhancement of primary education programs funded by European Union

Zatoon Vania

Zatoon is a retired senior artist who was employed by the North York Board of Education, first as a teacher in special education and later as a teacher of gifted children. She also served as an adjunct professor at York University's Faculty of Education for eight years where she supervised the teacher interns in math and science education. In 1991, she was seconded to York University as a full-time associate professor in math education. At McGill University for four years, she taught summer courses in gifted education to graduate students and teachers from all provinces in Canada.

Zatoon continues to be a strong advocate for women's issues such as equity in the workforce, elimination of math anxiety in females and empowering women to enter science, mathematics and engineering fields.



Team

Nermine Zohdy

Nermine is a seasoned professional with extensive years of experience in development and not-for-profit work. She received her Bachelor's Degree in International Relations and Economics, and subsequently a Master's Degree in Professional Development. Her vast experience with donors, national and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and multi-stakeholders stemmed from her work with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Save-The-Children, the Arab Community Centre of Toronto, and national NGOs overseas.

Sahar Rahman

Sahar is an experienced finance professional with 10 years of experience in the banking, not-for-profit and public sector. Her specialization includes executing business cases to support investment decisions, M&A and divestitures, strategy and operations. Sahar holds an MBA from the Schulich School of Business. She attained her CPA designation in March 2018. She is also a guest lecturer for BBA and IMBA classes at the Schulich School of Business. Sahar has a strong passion for helping those in need and a passion for the arts. She has previously served on the board for other not-for-profit organizations focusing on education, poverty, and hunger.

Team

Volunteers

Our dedicated volunteers have greatly helped us build, expand and sustain our organization. Their role in executing successful events and programs has helped the community members get a chance to feel a sense of ownership and pride.



Make A Contribution

AADN depends entirely on the support of its volunteers, members, and the community. We welcome your interest, participation and contribution towards the empowerment of artists and artisans from immigrant and visible minority backgrounds. Your donation can support many of our programs and events. Please visit the below link for any contribution through PayPal.

<https://www.artistsandartisans.org/donate/>

Sponsor a Project or Event

If your mandate aligns with supporting community development through arts and culture, then please partner with us. We request you to consider AADN for all your corporate donations, event sponsorships, and gift-matching programs.

Volunteer

You can gift your time, talent and energy to make a difference in the lives of our community and people we serve. If you would like to intern with us, join our committee or provide your expertise, please contact us.

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