

NICOLE THIESSEN
NOMINEE
BIOGRAPHY

Nicole Thiessen is going on 11 years as the Programming Director at the Station Arts Centre in Rosthern, SK. She has been nominated for the position of Director (2 year term). Nicole has a background in Visual Arts and received her BFA in Painting from the Alberta College of Art and Design. After graduating from ACAD, Nicole spent 6 years working in Public Programming at the Glebow Museum in Calgary, AB. During this time, Nicole was also a part of the Artcity Festival planning committee - a celebration of Visual Art, Architecture and Design. Her role on this committee was organizing the annual opening gala events for 600+ attendees within the theme of the festival in a creative, downtown location each year.

Working at the Station Arts Centre has offered Nicole the chance to produce 7 professional summer plays including 2 musicals, run a visual arts gallery, present a wide variety of concerts (many booked through OSAC), and organize special events. Her role at the Station relies heavily on being connected to those who live in the Rosthern area, understanding these audiences and working towards the long term vision/goals of the Station Arts Centre. As part of the Station Arts, Nicole is also a member of the Prairie Rivers Reconciliation Circle (PRRC) - a group of about 80 Indigenous and non-Indigenous members from the Rosthern Valley and Twin Rivers area that meet monthly to learn, share and build real relationships with one another. PRRC has been a huge part of working towards Reconciliation with the Staiton and extending this to others in the area.

As Nicole works and lives in Rosthern, she is involved in a variety of organizations in the community and is proud of what her area has to offer. She is currently President of the Rosthern School of Dance (a local non-profit), a member of the Sport Culture and Recreation Committee, as well as an active member of the Chamber of Commerce. Involvement in these groups has shown how various community organizations can collaborate to create a richer experience for all in the area as well as for visitors.

Nicole has really enjoyed any involvement she has had with OSAC over the years and had the opportunity to get to know members of other Arts Councils, share about projects at the Station as a Table Talk presenter and sit on the OSAC showcase jury. Nicole has also worked with Prairie Debut more in recent years and has been a member of their jury/selection committee as well.

Nicole is excited to become part of the OSAC Board of Directors and working with such an amazing and knowledgeable group. She hopes that her broad knowledge of the arts in its many forms and understanding of Arts Councils in prairie communities will be a helpful contribution to the OSAC Board of Directors.