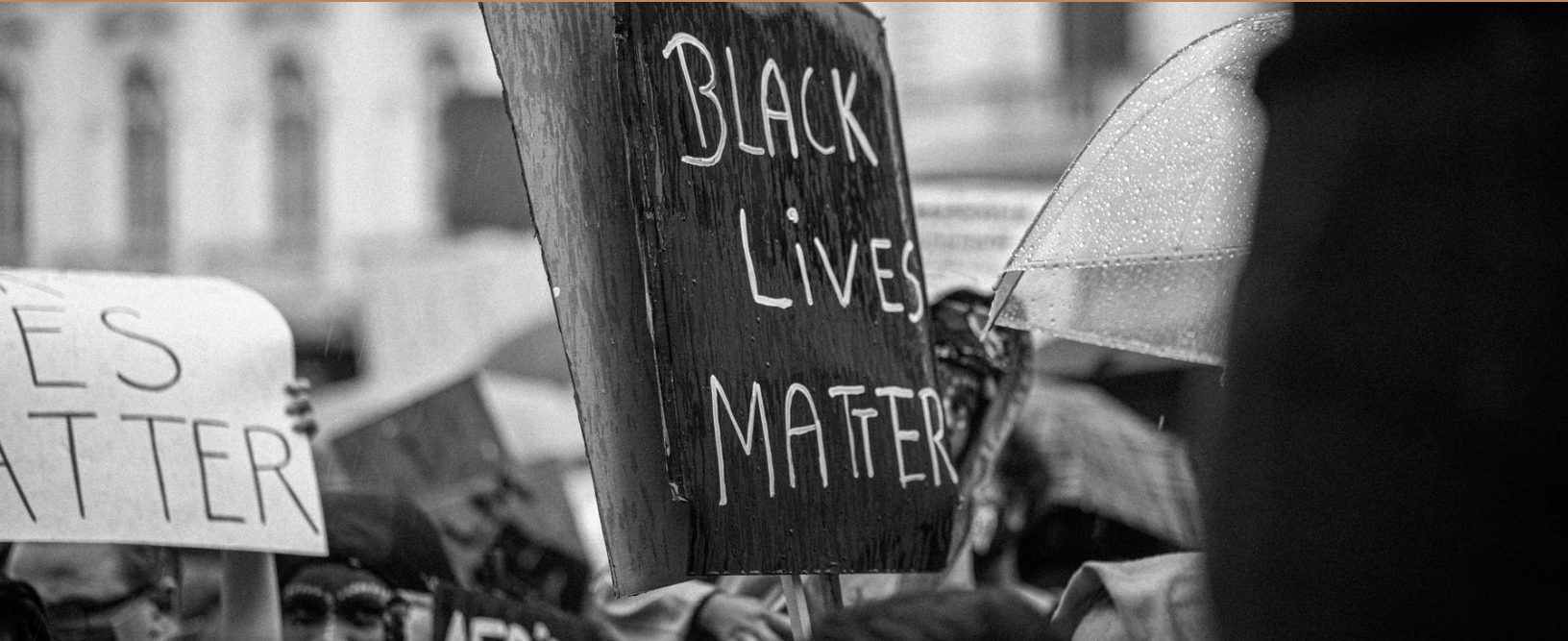




ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

Table of Contents

01	WHO WE ARE
02	FOREWARD
03	ART INITIATIVES
04	MENTAL HEALTH
05	COMMUNITY BUILDING
06	ANTI-RACISM EDUCATION
07	OTHER PROJECTS
08	FINANCIALS



The Students of Colour Collective

WHO WE ARE

The Students of Colour Collective (SOCC) is an advocacy group that supports students at the University of Victoria who self-identify as Black, Indigenous, and/or Persons of Colour (BIPOC). We are committed to anti-racism, social justice, and BIPOC mental health. We provide resources and support for students who self-identify as BIPOC.

CONTACT US

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Student Union Building
Rooms B120 & B122

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Foreward

A MESSAGE FROM SOCC'S COORDINATOR

This past year has presented many moments of community building and growth for the Students of Colour Collective. The collective came together during challenging times and were able to develop our capacity to support one another and problem-solve. We also gathered to share moments of joy and connection. In my short time being coordinator, I have been moved by the deep care and commitment of SOCC's members and steering committee.

SOCC extends our warm appreciations to other advocacy groups, community members, and University Staff and Faculty for their continual support.

SOCC has many exciting projects ahead of us and we are excited to see how the collective can continue to grow and adjust to the needs of the BIPOC community at UVic.

Ingat/take care,

Milo Canlas





Art Initiatives



Figure 1: Anastasia Stockman's, SOCC Artist in Residence, art exhibition at SOCC's PULSE and Artist in Residence Showcase

Artist in Residence

Our Artist in Residence program gives us an opportunity to work with a BIPOC artist for one year. This year SOCC decided to work with Anastasia Stockman, an oil painter and multidisciplinary creative. Her Artist in Residence project centred on themes of kinship, togetherness, and shared experiences- through the painting of still-life works. Anastasia interviewed BIPOC members of the collective and community and incorporated their stories into her artworks, that were featured in the SOCC end of year Artist in Residence Showcase.

PULSE Zine & Showcase

Each year, SOCC publishes a zine and hosts a showcase to launch the zine and spotlight all the artists involved. This year's themes of home, belonging and beyond home reflects the understanding, relationship, and restrictions of feeling a sense of home both near and far. We accepted 8 submissions and launched the zine in April during our Pulse Zine and Artist in Residence Showcase.

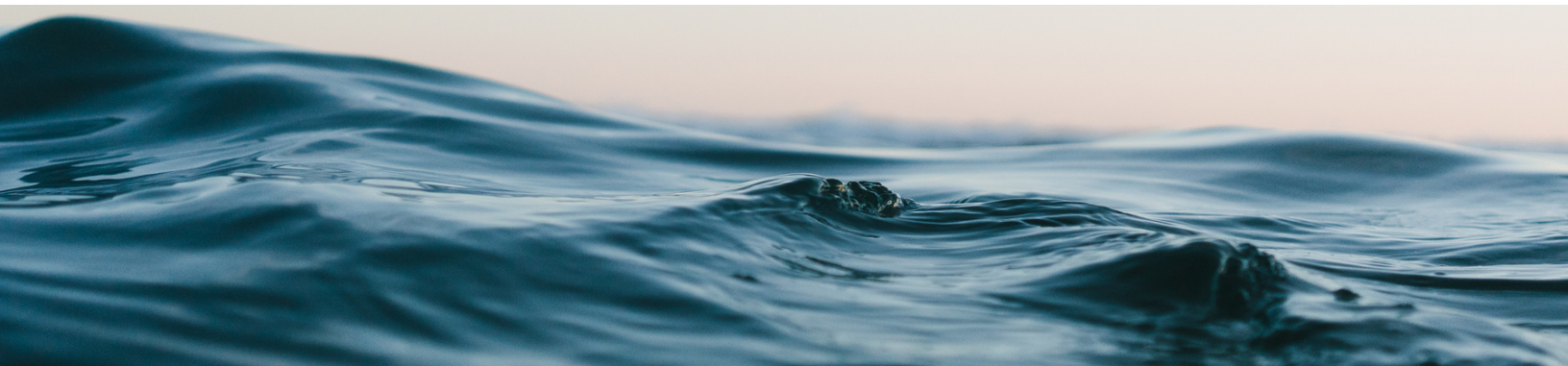
Mental Health

One of the areas that SOCC has focused on over the last year is mental health. On top of the research available on the mental health challenges university students experience, several of SOCC's members have shared a decline in their mental well-being during Collective meetings and 1:1 support sessions. With this in mind, SOCC has engaged in collaborations and our own mental health initiatives that aim to support students mental health and wellbeing. We also highlight how our individual mental health cannot be seen as isolated from our collective wellbeing, and how both are impacted by our societal conditions and systemic oppression under capitalism and colonialism.

SOCC collaborated with the Pride Collective to offer students a QTBIPOC circle. Community circles are self-lead, identity-based groups that come together to socialize, share, and connect. They offer peer support and create a space of shared vulnerability and joy.

We launched our series *Healing with the Collective* by hosting our first event of the series: *Food for Heart*. This series aims to provide education and resources around community and self-care, with an emphasis on acknowledging the structural barriers many BIPOC people face when trying to maintain a practice of self and community care. Each event will focus on a particular theme ie. food, movement, writing, etc., that we will relate to self and community care through dialogue and activities with community.

SOCC will continue to invest time, energy, and resources to ensure that we continuously provide mental health supports and education for BIPOC students.



Community Building

Many of SOCC's members join the Collective in search of community. It is important to our advocacy group that we organize events where folks can come together to network, learn, and socialize. Over the last year SOCC has successfully organized multiple large scale events and various smaller scale events, alongside hosting Collective meetings and discussions.

Several of our events focused on anti-racism education, supporting local BIPOC artists, and healing through art.

One of our larger scale events was SOCC and ACSA's BIPOC Cultural Showcase. The Showcase was a powerful celebration of the diversity of our cultures and included live performances and music, local cuisine, art made by local artists, and a curated fashion show highlighting local BIPOC designers.



Figure 2: MUAs Okcult Artistry and Joey Roo backstage with ACSA members at the BIPOC Cultural Showcase



Figure 3: SOCC member Kamryn and Kamryn's art at the BIPOC Cultural Showcase

Anti-Racism Education

To assist in our anti-racism work, SOCC hired two Anti-Racism Coordinators, Liya and Shaivya, through the UVic Workstudy program.

Liya's work primarily focused on research and community engagement on the topic of food insecurity- how it affects BIPOC people disproportionately and solutions we can advocate for. Her zine on food justice will be available as a resource, while her research will support the creation of SOCC's upcoming campaign around food insecurity and BIPOC students.

Shaivya's work centred on developing resources concerning self and community care and the implications structural barriers can have on it. She created a pamphlet relating to this and also lead the *Food for Heart* event, alongside SOCC's Finance Representative Hana.

For Black History Month, SOCC hosted a series of film screenings and discussions.



Figure 4: Graphic for SOCC's film screenings for Black History Month



Other Projects

Logo

SOCC launched our new logo, as can be seen on the final and closing pages of this report!

SOCC's Food for Heart Event featuring Iyé Creative

Iyé Creative joined SOCC at our *Healing With the Collective: Food for Heart* event. They shared their experiences and knowledge gained from their Community Based Research, alongside information on the organization's other areas of work.

BIPOC Community Acupuncture with Sustainable You Acupuncture

SOCC is excited to be collaborating with Tania Farghali to offer BIPOC students free acupuncture in this 6 week community-based project.

We enjoy collaborating with other groups on and off campus and hope to host more collaborative events in the coming months.

FINANCIALS

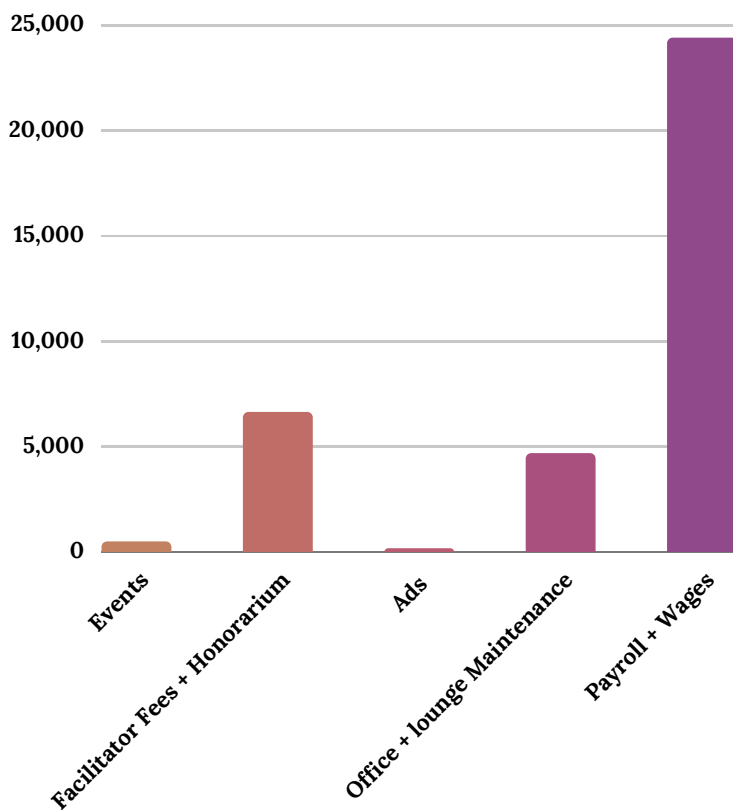


FIGURE 5: SOCC EXPENSES IN 2022/23

This is a chart of our **main expenses** from May 2022 to February 2023. We will share the March & April 2023 expenses once they are available. We are also working on providing a full visual of all our expenses on our website.

The majority of SOCC's funding comes from student fees (approximately 0.70 cents per full time undergraduate student) and the Advocacy Fund. From time to time, we receive donations from other groups, departments, or organizations. SOCC aims to put forward a referendum this upcoming year to advocate for an increase of funding to support more resource creation.

The Coordinator works with the Coordinating Committee to prepare the annual budget, which is presented to members for approval. The budget is then presented to the Advocacy Relations Committee (ARC) for final approval. ARC is made up of five advocacy board representatives and the Director of Student Affairs.

Expenses require at least two signing authorities and supporting documentation.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUOUS SUPPORT!**