



Youth Centre

2020 r e v i e w

Winter/Spring 2020

- Ran programs like Afropuff, PoC D&D, Steel Express, Kaleidoscope, OGRA, Beat Making & more
- SHYFT members Arielle & Chyler won Young Trailblazer Award at YWCA's Women of Distinction Awards
- Delivered youth-led Black History Month programming
- Hosted a Surviving Together event on renter's rights
- Launched new writing program "WORD"
- Shut down due to COVID-19

The SPACE is like a second home to me, it helped me come out of my shell and become more outgoing. I'm involved at the SPACE because I want to give back to others what they've done for me!
-Farhana

Autumn/Winter 2020

- SHYFT & staff planned return of physical programs
- Returned to limited capacity programming for Oct & Nov with programs like Kaleidoscope, OGRA, Afropuff, Be Kind Rewind and Aux Cord Shuffle
- Switched to online programming in Dec
- Partnered with Re-Create Outreach Art Studio to give out COVID Care Packs

Spring/Summer 2020

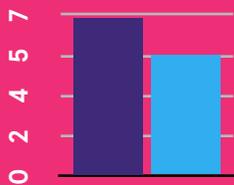
- Stood in solidarity with youth in our community demanding redirection of funds from policing to community care and social services
- Mourned the loss of Kim McCourt, a beloved member of our community



2020 stats

Avg. # of program participants

■ 2019 ■ 2020



This number went down only marginally despite limited capacity due to COVID-19



10,000+ visits 2018-2019
1000+ visits 2020

230+ programs ran in 2019

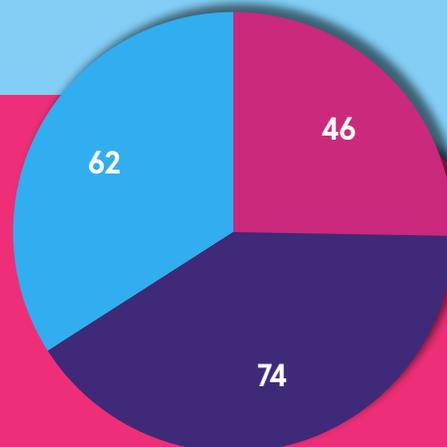
75+ programs ran in 2020

1600+ program participants in 2019

400+ program participants in 2020



Being a part of the community at the SPACE means so much to me, and consistently teaches me much too. Since I've joined SHYFT and begun spending more time with the SPACE community, I've experienced unconditional love and support. And I've learned about giving that same unconditional love and support back. It's a unique space where Black youth, Indigenous youth and youth of colour are free to be themselves and learn from each other surrounded by safety.
-Chyler



2020 Program Hosts

- Black Youth 46%
- Racialized Youth 74%
- Queer/Trans Youth 62%





When looking to the future at the end of 2019, we, much like the rest of the world, were not anticipating the confusion, challenges, pain and perspective shifts that 2020 would bring us.

When we abruptly closed our doors in March it was a challenging reality to pivot from. Our energy, drive and passion is directly tied to existing amongst community and so this was a dark place for us. At this time, we did what anyone could do, manage our expectations and take baby steps in remaining connected to the youth who still needed community. When we returned in Sept we had developed adjusted pre-registered programming with cohorts of 10 youth or less. Youth in our community are fantastic, they participated in the ways that they could when they could, and took space in the ways that were needed for their health. When we then needed to adjust to online programming our youth continued to show grace, care, and understanding in those changes, and we have begun to find the moments of beauty and depth even while sharing space virtually.

I hope this year has given you time to reflect, adjust and grow in the ways you needed to both as a person or as an org. If anything, 2020 has shown us the power of collective organizing and continued need for examples of community and care. Thank you to all our supporters. With the collaboration and generosity of our community, we look forward to building stronger connections and community in 2021!

With care and respect,

Michael Abraham
SPACE Lead



SUPPORT THE SPACE

We are asking our community to consider making one time or monthly donations so that we can continue to provide quality care and programming

\$1-\$5/mo

Allows us to purchase essential program supplies.

\$6-\$15/mo

Provides program participants COVID care packages.

\$16-\$50/mo

Allows us to provide more accessible online programming.

To donate visit
spaceyouth.ca

THANK YOU

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