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As I reflect on the two decades I have served as the ED of this incredible organization, 2022 was very special for me. As we made out of the Pandemic, first time ever in Tasveer’s history, one of my parents, my father came to attend my Tasveer South Asian Film festival. And he had a blast. I didn't know at 52 I was still trying to impress my parents.

Other statistical things were such as Tasveer increased its funds for Tasveer Film Fund by 233%. Over the years, gradually Tasveer has grown more than just a film festival; it is a celebration for our community, storytellers and filmmakers, a celebration of diversity, inclusion, and cross-cultural dialogue. We believe that storytelling has the power to bring people together and inspire change. That is why we work tirelessly to present and improve on the experience it can give to our audience through our film festival.

Sincerely yours,

Director’s Message

Staff
Rita Meher
Ishita Saran
Uzma Khan
Olympia Bhatt
Jitendra Joshi
Khenrab Palden
Nicole Plastino

Board Members
Rita Meher
Farah Nousheen
Tayyab Mahmud
Shailaja Rao
Samir Junejo
Sarita Joshi
Vivek Bahl
TASVEER INCLUSION STATISTICS

If we don't tell our own stories, no one else will.
-Mira Nair

29% Muslim Representation
Industry: 9.5%

54% Female Leads
Industry: 17%

43% Female & Non-binary Directors
Industry: 10.7%

41 Filmmakers were hosted
17 Countries Represented
15 Languages Represented
## Programs in 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tasveer South Asian Film Festival</td>
<td>The 18-day festival focuses on screening high caliber films that explore social justice, LGBTQIA+ rights, and gender equality.</td>
<td>• Supporting filmmakers, showcasing their films • Hosting Q&amp;A with filmmakers in person • Bringing community back in person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasveer Film Fund</td>
<td>First ever funding South Asian Filmmakers</td>
<td>• Supporting filmmakers with $50,000 • Partnership with Netflix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Speaks</td>
<td>Storytelling on mental health with South Asian community</td>
<td>• First event back in person • Opening up about mental health in South Asian Community.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The festival kicked off the Opening Night Gala with a star-studded red carpet, featuring the cast of the film "Four Samosas." The Centerpiece film was Goldfish, which brought talented Kalki Koechlin and Deepti Naval, to town.

TSAFF also featured the Oscar-nominated Documentary of Shaunak Sen, "All That Breathes," the only film in history that has won both Sundance's Grand Jury Prize and Cannes' top Documentary Prize. Additionally, the festival showcased the work of talented up-and-coming filmmakers, such as Abinash Bikram Shah, whose film "Lori: Melancholy of my Mother's Lullabies" received a special mention at Cannes.

The festival also included a number of US premieres, including Pravesh Kumar's arranged marriage comedy "Little English" and Amrit Kaur's "Zindagi Dobara," which was made with the support of the Tasveer Film Fund and Netflix.

The Tasveer South Asian Film Festival (TSAFF) was a vibrant celebration of the diverse stories and perspectives of the South Asian diaspora. With themes ranging from diaspora stories and intergenerational relationships to health and wellness, and political oppression and censorship, TSAFF showcased a rich tapestry of experiences and perspectives.
Tasveer Film Fund

Tasveer granted $50,000 to 5 South Asian filmmakers in 4 categories, in partnership with Netflix:

- $15,000: Documentary, CHIRAGU (WING), Neelu Bhuman
- $15,000: Narrative Feature: HOMES, Hena Ashraf
- $10,000: Short Narrative: Billo Rani, Angbeen Saleem & Maryam Mir
- $10,000: Short LGBTQI+: SHAMS, Saif Jan

“I cannot thank Tasveer enough for taking off with us, on this dream journey, to pave the path for undying trans hope.”
- Neelu Bhuman, TFF 2023

11 JUDGES
Ameet Shukla
Apoorva Bakshi
Aruna Rao
Bedatri A. Choudhury
Bianca Harlow
Devashish Makhija
Jasmine Jaisinghani
Nina Chaudry
Raj Raghavan
Sheila Houlahan
Simone Ling

12 MENTORS
Geeta Malik
Guneet Monga
Kamran Khan
Nardeep Khurmi
Milan Chakraborty
Priya Giri Desai
Nisha Ganatra
Masashi Niwano
Niraj Churi
Neha Vyas
Stephanie Caleb
Sushmit Ghosh
Tasveer's second in-person event of the year was free and sold out completely as the community eagerly awaited the chance to connect in-person over free chai, wine and samosas.

Artists & Talent participated:

17

actor/writer/comedian queer Tamil- Sri Lankan-American artist D’Lo's bone tickling comedy set sent the audience laughing uncontrollably at the intelligent comic's take on South Asian culture and bold trans identity. The event also featured singer Ashavari along with a lineup of South Asian artists and storytellers from the Greater Seattle community presenting stories, poetry, comedy, music, performance art, and improv.

Partner: Unexpected Productions
Funding: Seattle Neighborhoods
Reflections through heART
Community Open Mic
Sept 24th, 7PM
Broadway Performance Hall!

Featuring Stand-Up Comedy By:
Tamil-Sri Lankan-American performer D’LO
singer Ashavari | hosted by comedian Jamal Dean Siddiqui
Tasveer re-opened its in-person events in 2022 with Community Speaks: Frames of Mind, a deeply powerful South Asian storytelling event at the grand Benaroya Hall on May 7th. Community Speaks uses the power of live storytelling to create empathy around important issues, shift perspectives and challenge social norms. Six bold South Asian storytellers performed their personal stories, honoring mental health while inspiring community members to break the stigma. The storytellers participated in a 2-month long workshop with facilitator Abhishek Kulkarni who supported them in writing and editing their stories.

Partner: Seattle Raga Institute, Seattle Symphony
Funding: Gary & Parul Houlanan

Storytellers
6
“Today, young South Asian actors don’t have to make the choices I had to make to reach where I am. 2022 is a lot more inclusive for people like us. Thanks to the work of advocates and organizations like Tasveer. It’s rare to find an organization like Tasveer that has worked for 20 years to change the lives of artists.” -Kal Penn

Actor Kal Penn was the featured keynote speaker who was introduced by dir Mira Nair and hosted by comedian Sonal Aggarwal.

Some of our Sponsors of the Gala were
Himalaya Homes
K&L Gates
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Group Health Foundation
Madison Avenue Realty

Funds Raised
$127,000
Tasveer Pride Month

Tasveer celebrated the Pride Month with several fun events-

**Tasveer Open Mic (TOM): Pride Edition**

The open mic series brought together brilliant storytellers from the LGBTQIA+ community who shared stories and poetry, hosted by stand-up comedian Rohini Jayanthi.

**Tasveer Book Discussion:**
We were also honored to host a book discussion of Kal Penn's Book "You Can't Be Serious."

*Participants took part in TOM Pride edition: 11*

**Tasveer Book Club**

- **Who:** Everyone
- **TBC session Limit:** 30 persons
- **Where:** Online, Zoom meetings

**Tasveer Film Screening: The Booth**
- **Date:** June 17, 7:30 PM PST
- **Film by Rohin Raveendran**

**Tasveer Film Screening: The Lonely Prince**
- **Date:** June 10, 5PM
- **Film by Shivin & Sunny**
Tasveer Youth Council

In April, Tasveer Youth Council (TYC) presented “In Your Own Words”, a free creative writing workshop for South Asian youth and students (age 10 - 18 years old) to discuss and produce original stories, prose and poems about the pandemic. This event was sponsored by the WA State Department of Health (DOH). We received two standout submissions from Kushi and Donya whose poems were published in a multi-media showcase on the Tasveer youth page.

In November, Tasveer Youth Collective presented a youth shorts screening on the subject of identity featuring a live Q&A moderation with filmmaker Anuka Sethi whose film Hide & Seek won the award for best short documentary in the 17th annual TSAFF.
Thanks to Tasveer for showing FLEE. I knew that it won an Oscar but that still didn’t prepare me for such an emotional story of the journey that this refugee took. It’s one of those movies that will have a lasting impact on you.”- Mery Shetye, BECU

Tasveer’s Virtual Open Mic series began during the pandemic to create a safe virtual space for brilliant budding storytellers, artists, comedians, poets and anyone from the South Asian community who wished to share their talent. The virtual space quickly became a place for community members to connect when they could not meet in-person and encourage talented artists. Over 5 virtual Open Mics were held in 2022 with 60+ participants.

TASVEER REELS

“Thanks to Tasveer for showing FLEE. I knew that it won an Oscar but that still didn’t prepare me for such an emotional story of the journey that this refugee took. It’s one of those movies that will have a lasting impact on you.”- Mery Shetye, BECU
Financial Highlights

Based on 2022 Statement of Activity as of 1-19-23
CONSOLIDATED FOR PIE CHARTS

Income

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<th>INCOME</th>
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<td>Corporate/ Business</td>
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<td>Foundation</td>
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<td>Grants - Government</td>
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<td>Merchandise</td>
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<td>Interest Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$544,852.00</td>
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Expenses

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<th>EXPENSE</th>
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<td>Airfare &amp; Lodging</td>
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<td>Office Costs</td>
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<td>Professional Fees</td>
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<td>Funds &amp; Artist Fees</td>
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<td>Staff Cost</td>
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<td>Documentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$655,630.00</td>
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Thank you to our supporters

Government Grants
ArtsWA
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City of Issaquah
City of Kirkland
City of Renton
City of Seattle
King County
National Endowment for the Arts
WA State Department of Commerce
WA State Department of Health

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ACS Solutions
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Sadiq Khan Mohammed
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Nuzhat A Mustafa
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