

# KANDU Connection



December 29, 2020



*A Message from  
Joel Chappelle,  
Board of Directors President*

Dear KANDU Clients, Staff, Families, Friends, and Community Partners:

My name is Joel Chappelle and it is my privilege to serve as the current President of KANDU's Board of Directors. Having only recently assumed that role, I wanted to reach out and share with you a little bit about how I view the Board's role and some of the goals I hope we can accomplish together.

First, and most importantly, I want to express my gratitude to each of you for your extraordinary efforts on behalf of KANDU during this tremendously difficult year. We have faced profound loss, hardship, and uncertainty, and through it all, your courage, adaptability, and indomitable KANDU spirit have been an inspiration to all of us. Thank you.

I believe the Board's most important jobs are fostering your success and finding new ways to serve those in need. To be sure, KANDU faces many challenges. Securing our long-term future will require us all working together to address the challenges directly. We will need to continue to grow and adapt. We must modernize KANDU's technology and maximize our production capability while eliminating inefficiencies. I have had the opportunity to meet and to hear from many of you in recent weeks, and I thank you for sharing your many great ideas and look forward to continuing those conversations in the future.

You have a right to expect an open and transparent relationship with your Board. I aim to foster that through various means, including these columns, where I will share information with you about the work we are doing and any changes we are making.

For now, I simply want to extend my warmest wishes during this holiday season. Please stay safe and healthy. There is light at the end of the tunnel. In the meantime, thank you for all you do. I look forward to working with you!



## Warm Wishes and Year End Reflections

Here at KANDU, we pride ourselves in overcoming obstacles and making the best out of all situations. In a year that will be known for its adversity, we would like to reflect on some positive highlights from throughout the organization.

- Gathering at The Armory in February for a wide variety of drinks, food and themed-costume fun during our only in-person event in 2020, Grapes & Hops.
- Experiencing the dedication and adaptability of our entire team this spring as staff from Best Events and departments throughout KANDU filled the production line in the absence of our client workers, ensuring customer deadlines were met.
- The reinventing of our most popular fundraising event, Party at The Pitts, to "We Can't Party at The Pitts", an online live auction and more.
- Discovering local talent during the introduction of our virtual art and music competition, Dragons on the Rock: Contest of Creativity.
- Spreading awareness with the Disability Perspectives video series.
- Sharing joy and laughter during our Halloween celebration.
- Teamwork and connection from 6 feet apart and smiles behind facemasks.

KANDU and Best Events would like to extend the warmest of season's greetings and a happy new year to everyone. Whether you are a donor, sponsor, volunteer or customer, your contributions have a profound impact on our community. We hope your holidays were merry and bright and your new year is filled with good health and happiness.



## And The Winners Are...

On Saturday, December 12th, KANDU announced the winners of Dragons on the Rock: Contest of Creativity via Facebook live. Winning contest entries were determined by online voting, along with votes cast by participating 2019 dragon boat team captains.

Congratulations to the first place poster design winners Anna Coleman and Lindsay Gilge, with second place going to the design team at Rock University High School. [Aaron Aegerter](#) won first place theme song with [RJ Halstead](#) winning second place. Brodey won the drum solo competition.

# POSTER DESIGN

*Dragons on the Rock*



*All proceeds benefit Kandu industries in their mission of providing opportunities for people with disabilities*

# DRAGONS ON THE ROCK



All proceeds benefit KANDU and our mission of providing opportunities for people with disabilities and disadvantages.



**1ST PLACE**

ANNA COLEMAN AND LINDSAY GILGE

**2ND PLACE**

DESIGN TEAM AT ROCK UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

# THEME SONG



**1ST PLACE**

AARON AEGERTER



**2ND PLACE**

RJ HALSTEAD

# DRUM COMPETITION



**1ST PLACE**  
**BRODEY**

First place winners in each category will be featured in advertising for Dragons on the Rock 2021. A huge thank you to all the talented contest participants, along with everyone who voted and our generous sponsors.

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

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# When the Weather Outside is Frightful

## Inclement Weather and Agency Closing Information

In the event that severe weather (or other unforeseen circumstances) would interrupt our operations, we will post this information on our website ([www.kanduindustries.com](http://www.kanduindustries.com)) and announcements will be made on the following radio stations: AM 1230 (WCLO) and also FM 99.5 (WJVL). Checking the closings list on the WJVL or WCLO website may be the easiest way.

If KANDU is open during some questionable weather, those who are able to safely report to KANDU are encouraged to do so. However, if you do not feel that it is safe for you or your client to be outside or to travel, we recommend that you stay home and notify your Supervisor or Program Manager that you are not coming in.

For more information and the full list of scheduled agency closings for 2021, [click here](#).

## ADDITIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS

KANDU is looking forward to hosting events again after the need for social distancing has passed. For questions regarding any upcoming event, please contact Liz Menz at [lmenz@kanduindustries.com](mailto:lmenz@kanduindustries.com)

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