

PRESS RELEASE

\$80,000 granted to Waterloo Region artists and arts organizations

Cambridge's Nova Stage to present new play

Dance residencies to spark workshops, new works and public performances

The Notebook Project funded to tour nationally

KITCHENER (December 15) – Grants totaling \$80,000 have been made to individual artists and arts organizations by The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund. These included funding for a schools program associated with the Open Ears festival, for a docent training program at the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, and support for an evening of literary readings by contributors to GRIMM magazine.

In all, 15 grants were announced at the end of the fall 2006 round, assisting artists and arts organizations in disciplines which included visual arts, music, theatre and literature.

Since it was founded, in 2002, The Arts Fund has made grants totalling more than \$495,000 in support of the arts and artists in Waterloo Region.

The grants approved this week were:

- \$5,000 to the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery of Waterloo to support a docent program, providing interpreters and tour guides for the gallery.
- \$5,000 to Timothy Corlis to create a compact disc of three new works showcasing the talents of local emerging cellist Ben Bolt-Martin. This includes works commissioned by Da Capo Chamber Choir and a cello sonata composed by local composer Leonard Enns
- \$6,000 to Waterloo Dance Projects support a series of dance residencies in the region, providing young dancers with access to professional workshops and choreography and providing performance opportunities.
- \$4,700 to sculptor Karen Fletcher to create a series of ceramic works.
- \$2,000 to the Kitchener Blues Community Inc. to contribute to a program bringing blues into the schools.
- \$20,000 to the Open Ears Festival of Music and Sound to support a number of free public events.

- \$5,000 to Lockston Productions to assist in producing a documentary on the Grand House Cooperative project, being carried out by University of Waterloo School of Architecture students to create "net zero energy healthy homes"
- \$2,000 to Dona Paul Massel to enable production and performance of a suite of poems to be presented on the 150th anniversary of St. Mary's of the Seven Sorrows Roman Catholic Church in Kitchener
- \$1,500 to Nova Stage Theatre of Cambridge to assist in staging *Harris Superman*.
- \$2,000 to painter Salomé Perez to create a series of paintings about "Diversity in Waterloo Region"
- \$6,000 to Contemporary Art Forum of Kitchener and Area (CAFKA) for a cooperative advertising and promotion program to assist in expanding the forum region-wide.
- \$5,000 to artist Isabella Stefanescu to assist in a national tour of *The Notebook Project*.
- \$10,000 to NUMUS Concerts Inc. to create and stage a collaborative work, Reaching for Nothing, conceived by composer Peter Hatch and Dereck Revington (visual artist/architect)
- \$1,800 to GRIMM magazine to stage a literary reading event.
- \$4,000 to Kitchener Waterloo Opera to assist with school outreach presentations in Waterloo Region schools.

The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund is a not-for-profit corporation created in 2002 to provide arm's length funding for the performing, visual and literary arts in the Region of Waterloo. It receives its funding from the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo in the form of a per capita grant. The Arts Fund's aim is to "make art happen" (i.e. stimulate arts activity), both in the next 12 months and with projects that will enhance an individual or organization's ability to make even more art happen in the future.

Twice a year (spring and fall) applicants are asked to first submit a brief (maximum two pages) letters of intent. Based on those letters, a shortlist of applicants is asked to submit detailed proposals. PLEASE NOTE: The deadline for spring 2007 applications is [TK]

Applicants are encouraged to create new works, to bring art to the public, to benefit the Region of Waterloo and create works that might not happen or might not happen as well without such support. All disciplines are welcomed and applications are encouraged from both individuals and arts organizations throughout the Region, made up of the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo and the four townships of Wilmot, Woolwich, Wellesley and North Dumfries. Adjudication of applications is done by the broadly based 14-member board of the Fund.

For further information: David Scott, Chair, (519) 653-4813

For a brochure and application information, call Lee Ann Wetzel, Manager, Council and Administrative Services, Regional Municipality of Waterloo at (519) 575-4410. E-mail: wdeann@region.waterloo.on.ca. or visit the website: www.artsfund.ca.