



MEDIA ADVISORY

Arts Fund invests \$134,250 to make art happen in Waterloo Region, including:

50-Year Retrospective Exhibition of Works by Ann Roberts at The Clay & Glass

Can't Be Satisfied, a Conner Gains Band CD recording

Live Recording of "Tree" Stories, a Baden Storytellers Guild World Storytelling Day event

Artists Site Specific Exhibit led by visual artists Sheila McMath, Michael Ambedian and Nadine Badran

Mel Brown: Simply the Best, a documentary film project by the Blue Fusion film makers group

For immediate release:

Kitchener – (December 23, 2011) The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund announces that it has awarded grants totaling \$134,250 to artists and arts organizations in response to proposals submitted from throughout the Region of Waterloo.

A total of 29 grants are being made in the Arts Fund's Fall 2011 grants cycle. The Arts Fund has invested more than \$1,500,000 since its inception in 2002. The funds are generously made available through Regional Council's allocation of 40 cents per capita.

Grants approved in this round were:

- \$4000 to the **Baden Storytellers' Guild** for **Voices in the Trees**, a live recording of tree stories in conjunction with World Storytelling Day in March 2012

- \$6000 to the **Backyard Theatre Company** for creating and producing a community play
- \$8000 to the **Blue Fusion** film making group for **Mel Brown: Simply the Best**, a documentary film
- \$10,000 to **The Clay and Glass** for a **50-Year Retrospective Exhibition of Works by Ann Roberts**
- \$10,000 to **Chestnut Hall Camerata** for the **The Enchanter's Saga**, a music and visual art performance event at THE MUSEUM
- \$3000 to the **Conor Gains Band** for **Can't Be Satisfied**, a debut CD recording
- \$5000 to **The Decay** for **Loser Band: The Great Tour Story**, a documentary film about the trials and tribulations of a Waterloo punk band on a makeshift tour of Canada and the U.S.
- \$6000 to playwright **Douglas Campbell** for the development, workshop and staged reading of **The Shakes**, an ensemble play for eight actors
- \$2000 to **Finscott Films** for **The Last of Everything**, a 90-minute screenplay
- \$350 to visual artist **Jane Hook** for **i face Charlotte**, a sculptural work that will be presented as part of an exhibition at the Glenhyrst Gallery in Brantford March 10 - May 16 2012
- \$4000 to **Julius Dyen** for a film portrait of a Kitchener-based visual artist born and raised in rural Cameroon
- \$5000 to the **Kitchener Musical Society Band** to commission composer Glenn Buhr to create an original score for concert band with a theme that honours Kitchener's Cityhood Centennial
- \$5000 to **Krzysztof Pietroszek** for **2BR02B (To Be Or Not To Be)**, a 20-minute film adaptation of a short story by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.
- \$5200 to the **Lutherwood Children's Mental Health Centre** for **Transformation**, a community art project coordinated by the KW Art Gallery
- \$3000 to **Melissa Sky** for **Cherry on Top: Clits for Idiots**, a comedic short film
- \$8000 to the **Multicultural Cinema Club at The Working Centre** to launch the **MCC Local Film Production Program**
- \$3400 to **Nota Bene Baroque** for a special component to **An English Messiah** to be presented as part of the orchestra's 10th anniversary season in March 2012
- \$5000 to **RainDance Theatre** for **Creation Story**, a new play workshop at The Button Factory
- \$1000 to singer songwriter **Richard Garvey** for **Save the Arts, Cut the War**, a recording of a series of four songs that explore what it means to create art and earn a living as an artist
- \$4000 to visual artist **Robert Achtemichuk** for **Documenting the Urban Portrait**, a community art project that will focus on getting people to look and see anew the city around them
- \$3000 to photographer **Sean Puckett** for **Elegraphy 2012**, a series of photo essays that will record the present before it fades into the past

- \$4000 to visual artists **Sheila McMath, Michael Ambedian** and **Nadine Badran** for an artist-led exhibit of site-specific installations
- \$2200 to visual artist **Soheila Esfahani** for **Cultured Pallets**, an exhibit at the KW Art Gallery in April 2012
- \$3500 to **Standard Deviation Theatre** for a production of **Peep Show**, a new play under development in partnership with the Fall 2010 University of Waterloo Dramaturgy 101 class
- \$5000 to artist **Steven Tippin** for **Glass Photograms**, a series of glass art works created in a hot-glass blowing studio and a photographic darkroom
- \$4000 to **Tundra Filmworks** for **All But Forgotten: Canadian Landscape Painter Homer Watson**, a half-hour broadcast documentary
- \$5000 to the **Virginia Woolf Collective** for a production of **Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf** to be presented as part of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences Conference in Waterloo in June 2012
- \$6000 to the **Waterloo Historic Song Cycle Collaborative** to create and produce a song cycle related to the history of Waterloo Region which will premier at the 2012 New Hamburg Live! Festival of the Arts
- \$3600 to artist **Yin He** for the **Waterloo-Kitchener Chinese New Year Art Show**, a month-long exhibit at the Berlin Gallery at Kitchener City Hall

Created in 2002, the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund is a not-for-profit corporation which provides arms-length funding for the performing, visual and literary arts in the Region of Waterloo. The Arts Fund invites applications in the spring and fall of each year. Applicants are first asked to submit an initial Stage 1 application outlining their project. On the basis of a review of those applications, a short list of applicants is then asked to submit more detailed proposals.

The objective of the Arts Fund is to “make art happen” – stimulate arts activity – immediately through projects that will happen next 12 months and over the longer term through projects that will enhance the ability of an artist or arts organization to make more art happen in the future.

Applicants are encouraged to create new work, to bring art to the public, to benefit the Region of Waterloo and to create projects that might not happen without Arts Fund support. Applications in all arts disciplines are welcomed from individual artists and arts organizations in the Region of Waterloo (comprising the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo and the townships of Wilmot, Woolwich, Wellesley and North Dumfries). Adjudication of applications is done by the Arts Fund’s broadly based 14-member board.

The next deadline for applications to the Arts Fund is 4:00 pm on Friday, March 2, 2012; information is available on the website: www.artsfund.ca

For further information about this release, please contact Stevie Natolochny at 519-575-4450.

- 30 -

For a brochure or application information, please contact Stevie Natolochny, Council/Committee Support Specialist, Council and Administrative Services, Regional Municipality of Waterloo at 519-575-4450 or via email at: snatolochny@regionofwaterloo.ca