

THE REGION OF WATERLOO ARTS FUND

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

THE REGION OF WATERLOO ARTS FUND MAKES ITS LARGEST GRANT EVER

\$20,000 awarded to Open Ears Festival

Total of \$64,000 in grants to 14 individuals and organizations

KITCHENER (June 25, 2004) -- The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund (formerly Waterloo Regional Arts Foundation) has awarded more than \$64,000 to individual artists and arts organizations. The total included the Fund's single largest grant to date -- \$20,000 to the Open Ears Festival of Music and Sound, to support an expanded program of new music, outreach and education.

In all, 14 grants were announced to disciplines which included dance, silica arts, choral and popular music, visual arts and photography and theatre. Among those grants were \$6,000 awarded to the "Many to One" Youth Ceramic Project at Waterloo's Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery and \$5,000 to the Starlight Theatre to promote professional dance residencies in the Region.

Since its launch two years ago The Arts Fund, which accepts applications in the spring and fall each year, has awarded more than \$192,000 to organizations and individuals.

The awards announced today include:

- \$4,000 to the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra and the Renaissance Singers to present A German Baroque Easter in performances in Waterloo and Cambridge in March 2005;
- \$2,700 to folk musician Jack Cooper to present an inter-city concert series called Folk League, a series of concert "games" with "home" and "away" teams;
- \$4,000 to the Waterloo Region SONGWRITERFEST, a regional, three-day event of concerts, workshops, jams and songwriters' circles in September, 2004;
- \$3,000 to the Available Space Art Project, in which artists will display their artworks in vacant or disused storefront space throughout downtown Kitchener;
- \$5,000 to Starlight Theatre to assist in developing three dance residencies, including workshops and dance events with professional companies;
- \$2,800 to Peter D. Harris to create a new series of contemporary urban landscapes;
- \$2,000 to Next Level Theatre to assist in the premier staging of the play "House League" by William Kerhohan;
- \$20,000 to the Open Ears Festival of Music and Sound to support an expanded program of new music, outreach and education;
- \$2,000 to musician Shannon Lyon to create a new recording;

- \$6,000 to the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery towards its “Many to One” Youth Ceramic Project;
- \$3,000 to a group of friends and colleagues for completion of a CD by the late, much-loved singer Matt Osborne;
- \$2,000 to composer Kevin Ramessar to create Music for the Soul, based on the drawings of James Tughan;
- \$4,500 to The Grande Exposition, the pilot project for a projected new festival celebrating the evolving production and artistry of film, video, television and digital media;
- \$3,000 to artist Andrew Wright towards a catalogue for an exhibition being toured by the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery.

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. 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.

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 organization’s ability to make even more art happen in the future.

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: wleann@region.waterloo.on.ca.

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Note that applications for the fall, 2004 round are being welcomed:

Fall 2004	Application Deadline	Decision By
First application (2-page)	Friday, September 17	Friday, October 15
Second round full application	Monday, November 15	Friday, December 17

Interested persons or organizations should request a brochure from (519) 575-4410 or download it from the website of the Region of Waterloo
www.region.waterloo.on.ca
 or from the website of the Waterloo Regional Arts Council
www.waterlooregionalartscouncil.on.ca.