



Government of Yukon

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NEWSrelease

FOR RELEASE #10-169
September 1, 2010

Fund supports community arts and culture

WHITEHORSE – Yukon's Arts Fund is contributing \$57,900 to four organizations involved in developing and promoting the arts in their communities.

"The Yukon government is pleased to support community based programming that not only celebrates the arts with Yukon audiences but also gives participants a wealth of opportunities to share their talents and love of the arts with others," Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor said.

The Community Choir of Whitehorse Society is receiving \$21,000 to undertake a full production of *Mozart's Requiem* in the spring of 2011. The performance will give the choir opportunities to work with other choirs, to expand their repertoire of musical achievements, and improve their musical score technique, interpretation skills and knowledge.

"We're pleased with the support from Tourism and Culture, which will enable us to mount this major musical event," choir president Tom Parlee said. "It's the most ambitious and largest project the choir has ever undertaken. We've been working on sections of the *Requiem* for three seasons, under the direction of Barbara Chamberlain. Next spring's production will be the culmination of years of work. We appreciate the enthusiasm for the arts by government and the people of Yukon."

The Dawson Community Fiddlers Cooperative will receive \$3,900 to provide instruction and lessons to community members interested in learning to play the violin or cello. The professional instruction will offer students opportunities to expand their appreciation for traditional and classical music, and to develop their technical skills.

Selkirk First Nation Heritage Program will receive \$9,000 to support the *Live Art* program at Big Jonathan House. Local artists will demonstrate carving, knife-making, painting, beading, drum making, traditional sewing skills and story-telling at the First Nation cultural centre during the month of July 2011.

The Suzuki Strings Association Yukon will receive \$24,000 to bring to Whitehorse highly trained Suzuki instructors proficient in orchestral training and development to assist the senior ensemble to prepare for the *Mozart's Requiem* performance next spring and provide training and lessons to junior and beginner violin students. The funding will also support a music camp open to all youth and adults wanting to further their music development. The three-day music camp will be held in February 2011.

The Arts Fund encourages activities by communities, arts collectives, non-profit groups and First Nations in the performing, literary and visual arts. The applicant-driven program is adjudicated four times a year by the Yukon Arts Advisory Council.

The next Arts Fund deadline is September 15, 2010. Applications and guidelines are available at www.tc.gov.yk.ca/205.html. For more information, and to contact the fund administrator, call 867-667-3535 or 1-800-661-0408, extension 3535, or email artsfund@gov.yk.ca.

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See backgrounder below.

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Backgrounder: Arts Fund Recipients – June 15, 2010 intake

Applicant	Project	Amount Allocated
Suzuki Strings Association Yukon	To bring trained Suzuki instructors to Whitehorse for orchestral training and private lessons and to host a Suzuki String Camp.	24,000.00
Community Choir of Whitehorse Society	To undertake a full production of Mozart's Requiem.	21,000.00
Selkirk First Nation - Heritage Program	To have artists working on-site at the Big Jonathan Heritage Center.	9,000.00
Dawson Community Fiddlers' Co-operative	To provide affordable, quality strings lessons in Dawson City.	3,900.00
		\$57,900.00

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