



Government of Yukon

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NEWSrelease

FOR RELEASE #10-111

June 17, 2010

Touring Artist Fund supports literary, visual and performing arts

WHITEHORSE – A total of \$19,975 Touring Artist Funds will be given to five recipients to present at national and international venues.

"The Yukon government recognizes that artistic excellence requires innovative thinking, experimentation and exposure," Minister of Tourism and Culture Elaine Taylor said. "The Touring Artist Fund enables artists to expand their horizons and share with others, which ultimately enriches cultural experiences at home and abroad."

The Done Gone String Band will tour to Saskatchewan to teach and perform at the Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Tyme Music Camp and Festival. The tour will give the five-member band opportunities to develop new materials, reach new audiences and build on their repertoire.

Jessica Simon will promote her debut novel *From Ice to Ashes* in Toronto as part of a reading tour with senior crime writer and NeWest Press author Garry Ryan, who created the Detective Lane mystery series. Her novel is nominated for an Arthur Ellis Award for the best first novel.

Charles Stankievecch drew international attention to his work titled the DEW project when it, the Distant Early Warning System, was exhibited as part of the ODD Gallery in Dawson City. His resumé includes curating the Yukon-focused *Magnetic Norths* exhibition at Concordia University, and capturing international attention in Paris and New York with his unique Beaufort Sea aerial videos. Tours to Europe and western Russia will expand his artistic scope through exhibitions, performances, artist talks and a residency program.

"There currently is unprecedented interest in the northern regions due to contemporary scientific and political issues," Stankievecch said. "My research in arctic sovereignty and military history in the polar areas is of relevance not only to peoples of the North, but to all who realize how connected the world is today."

Amy Tessaro will travel to Juneau to attend the Sealaska Celebration 2010. Mentored by her father, Tessaro has specialized in stained-glass for more than 10 years. She has mentored students through the Artist in the School program and taught in rural communities. Tessaro will enter artwork into a juried competition at the celebration and network with fellow artists.

Brian "Bud" Young, owner/operator of Spirit Wolf Arts, will demonstrate his carving skills and techniques during the Great Northern Arts Festival in Inuvik. The 10-day festival will provide Young the opportunity to meet other Canadian artists, exchange ideas and discuss sales strategies.

Touring Artist Fund applications are accepted four times a year. For more information go online at www.tc.gov.yk.ca and consult the fund administrator by calling 897-667-8789, toll-free 1-800-661-0408 extension 8789, or by emailing artsfund@gov.yk.ca.

See backgrounder below.

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Touring Artist Fund – March 15, 2010 recipients

Recipients	Project	Amount
Done Gone String Band	Tour and teach in Saskatchewan	\$10,000
Charles Stankieveh	Eastern Canada and European tour	\$5,775
Jessica Simon	Toronto-area reading tour and Bloody Words Mystery convention	\$2,000
Amy Tessaro	Travel and shipping to the Sealaska Celebration	\$1,200
Brian "Bud" Young	Travel and shipping to the Great Northern Arts Festival in Inuvik, NWT	\$1,000
	Total	\$19,975

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