



FOR RELEASE

July 20, 2015

Annual funding announced for arts organizations

WHITEHORSE—Twenty organizations will share \$668,000 in support this year from the Yukon government's Arts Operating Funds.

Funding will be distributed to 15 arts organizations in support of their year-round work in theatre, film, dance, music and visual art. A further five organizations will receive funding for established annual arts events.

"The collective impact of these groups' creative activities and events on Yukon's economy and quality of life is immense," Minister of Tourism and Culture Elaine Taylor said. "The Yukon government is proud to support these important organizations and continue its investment in Yukon's creative economy."

Last year, groups funded by Arts Operating Funds generated almost \$2 million through ticket sales, earned revenue and fundraising. Together, they mounted over 700 events in Yukon that drew 74,000 people. Volunteers contributed over 30,000 hours of their time.

This year, Breakdancing Yukon Society will receive \$35,325 for a year of dance camps, performances and workshops. Funding will also help to support an internship program, the annual summer CypherFest Street Dance Festival and the development of original work.

"Breakdancing Yukon Society is very excited to receive an increase in our funding from the Arts Operating Funds this year," society president Mellisa Murray said. "It's a recognition of the work we do to engage youth in breakdancing through training, events, workshops and community tours. As well, the funding supports our successful internship program which supports youth to develop as performers, leaders and role models."

Whitehorse Concerts will receive \$35,000 for its 2015/16 classical concert season, which includes performances at the Yukon Arts Centre as well as school performances and workshops in Dawson, Haines Junction and Whitehorse.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors of Whitehorse Concerts, I'd like to express our gratitude to Minister Elaine Taylor and the Arts section of Yukon Tourism and Culture for the funding that they provide through the Arts Operating Funds," Whitehorse Concerts manager Steve Gedrose said. "Our mandate is to provide high quality live classical music to Yukoners and this funding makes it possible for us to do this important work. We feel that our efforts enhance the cultural richness of our community, which we can only provide with assistance from the Government of Yukon."

Arts Operating Funds are allocated every spring. The funding is provided by the Yukon government and Lotteries Yukon.

Learn more:

Arts Operating Funds

See list of funding recipients below.

Contact:

Elaine Schiman
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Lucie Wright
Communications, Tourism and Culture
867-667-5318
lucie.wright@gov.yk.ca

Arts Operating Funds Recipients

Guild Society	\$87,000
Yukon Art Society	\$69,000
Yukon Film Society	\$57,000
Gwaandak Theatre Society	\$52,500
Nakai Theatre Ensemble	\$50,000
Dawson City Music Festival Association	\$45,000
Breakdancing Yukon Society	\$35,325
Whitehorse Concerts	\$35,000
Junction Arts and Music Society	\$35,000
Jazz Yukon	\$29,500
Northern Lights School of Dance	\$27,500
Extremely Moving Youth Society	\$27,500
Community Choir of Whitehorse	\$27,500

All-City Band Society	\$20,000
Northern Fibres Guild	\$4,990
Blue Feather Music Society	\$27,500
Association franco-yukonnaise	\$13,500
Rotary Club of Whitehorse	\$10,000
Village of Mayo	\$7,185
Skookum Jim Friendship Centre	\$7,000
Total Awarded	\$668,000

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