



FOR RELEASE
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Community art projects supported through Arts Fund

WHITEHORSE—Twelve Yukon organizations are receiving a total of \$141,604 in funding from the Yukon government for projects encouraging participation in the arts and community engagement.

"Projects supported by Arts Fund provide many opportunities to take part in the territory's vibrant cultural scene," Minister of Tourism and Culture Mike Nixon said. "Whether they are creating art, learning new skills or enjoying a performance as audience members, Yukoners of all ages are building stronger relationships and communities through their participation in these activities and events."

Mellisa Murray and Zoe Verhees are receiving \$8,000 to produce *Brave New Works*, a multidisciplinary performance called *Colours*. Murray and Verhees are collaborating with Claire Ness who will mentor the producers, and with local playwright and dramaturge Celia McBride who will provide advice and critique performers.

"We are excited to be reviving *Brave New Works* and providing a unique forum for both established and emerging artists to showcase new and experimental work," Murray said. "Together with Claire and Celia we will produce an original, professional performance featuring Yukon talent."

"We also hope to have participants from as many artistic disciplines and communities as possible," Verhees added. "When *Colours* is performed in March 2014, audiences will have an opportunity to provide feedback to the artists who can then develop their work further."

Kluane First Nation members will be creating a mural with \$15,323 in support from the Arts Fund. The project will include a series of workshops by artists and Elders to provide instruction, inspiration and guidance to participating community members.

"The project encourages people of all ages and all levels of artistic ability to work with each other through workshops to create a vibrant expression of art. A mural will be developed with skilled artisans to be showcased in the heart of Burwash Landing," Kluane First Nation executive director Roberta Martell said. "The project will engage the whole community in celebrating our arts and cultural traditions, honouring our ancestors and homeland, and looking forward to a bright future."

The Arts Fund supports projects that foster the development of the arts in Yukon communities. The next application deadline is December 15.

Learn more

Government of Yukon funding and awards opportunities: www.tc.gov.yk.ca/arts_funding.html

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See backgrounder below.
Download high-resolution photograph.

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Backgrounder – Arts Fund September 15, 2013 Recipients

Recipient	Project	Amount
Donald Watt Collective	11th International Snow Sculpture Challenge in Whitehorse	\$28,000
Community Choir of Whitehorse Society	Yukon Choral Composition Project	\$22,155
Kluane First Nation	Burwash Art Mural Project	\$15,323
North Klondyke Highway Music Society	2013-14 Klondyke Music Program	\$15,000
Boys and Girls Club of Yukon	Creating an artistic outlet for young artists	\$14,000
Sundog Acoustic Music Society	Kluane Mountain Bluegrass Camp	\$11,000
Monique Romeiko and Aimée Dawn Robinson	Whitehorse Nuit Blanche	\$10,000
Northern Lights School of Dance	2013 community tour of The Nutcracker	\$8,027
Melissa Murray and Zoe Verhees	Brave New Works Presents: <i>Colours</i>	\$8,000
Gwaandak Theatre	<i>Paradise</i> play development and master classes	\$5,000

"It's Going to Happen" collective	Dawson City Youth Musical	\$3,735
Yukon College Extension Division, Ross River Campus	Visual arts workshops in Ross River	\$1,364
	Total	\$141,604

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