



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Advanced Artist Award supports professional artistic development**

WHITEHORSE—Ten Yukon artists will share \$40,000 through the Advanced Artist Award to further their career development in the performing, visual or literary arts.

"Yukon government is proud to support professional artists who are enhancing their skills and exploring new ideas," Minister of Tourism and Culture Mike Nixon said. "The award provides opportunities for artists to experiment and take their work in new directions, which in turn contributes to the wider arts community."

Whitehorse artist Emma Barr is receiving \$5,000 to create a body of work that will reflect a new approach to painting that Barr learned after working with a mentor in 2010 and 2013.

"The cultural fabric of Yukon relies on artists who continually produce art that reflects our experiences living in close connection to the land and the people," Barr said. "Through this project I hope to share the beauty of the territory not only with Yukoners but to national and international audiences as well."

Dawson artist Riley Brennan is receiving \$2,500 to attend a mosaic workshop in Mexico.

"Some mosaic artists work on practical items while some, like me, view mosaic as a fine art form," Brennan said. "I feel a bit of an island as I know of no one else trying to do what I am doing, and I have gone beyond the level of education available locally. The Advanced Artist Award makes it possible for me to attend the workshop and increase my potential as a fine artist working in mosaic."

### **Learn more**

Advanced Artist Award: [www.tc.gov.yk.ca/aaa.html](http://www.tc.gov.yk.ca/aaa.html) or call 667-8789 or toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, extension 8789.

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See backgrounder below.

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### Backgrounder:

The Advanced Artist Award helps professional artists looking to advance their practice through individual artistic development. The funding is for innovative projects or educational pursuits that include learning through workshops, mentorship programs and informal study.

The Advanced Artist Award program is funded by Lotteries Yukon and is administered by the Department of Tourism and Culture. Submissions are adjudicated by a jury of professional artists. There are two intakes per year: April 1 and October 1.

Applicants are encouraged to consult with the fund administrator before applying.

### Spring 2014 Advanced Artist Award Recipients

	NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ARTISTIC CATEGORY	LEVEL	AMOUNT
1	Erling Friis-Baastad	To work for four months to complete <i>Fossil Light</i> , a new collection of poetry.	Literary	A	\$ 5,000
2	Declan O'Donovan	To mentor with professional vocalist, songwriter and career-strategy coach, Micah Barnes, while writing new songs for performance as a solo artist using voice, piano and acoustic guitar.	Music	A	\$ 5,000
3	Emma Barr	To produce a new body of large scale oil works using new techniques developed from a recent mentorship.	Visual	A	\$ 5,000
4	Helen O'Connor	To create a series of sculptural artist book works during a residency at Tyrone Guthrie	Visual	A	\$ 5,000

		Centre in Ireland.			
5	Sandra Grace Storey	To produce a life-sized ceramic caribou relief with other characters in a myth-based installation.	Visual	A	\$ 5,000
6	Sarah MacDougall	To work with and be mentored by master violinist Jesse Zubot on arrangements and recordings for string quartet for new songs on an upcoming album.	Music	A	\$ 4,495
7	Dennis Shorty	To produce a new body of work in jewelry and sculpture exploring the use of copper, brass and gemstones.	Visual	A	\$ 4,495
8	Riley Brennan	To participate in a world-renowned mosaic workshop in Mexico instructed by Carol Shelkin.	Visual	B	\$ 2,500
9	Lily Gontard	To attend a fiction workshop conducted by Helen Humphreys at the Sage Hill Writing Experience.	Literary	B	\$ 2,165
10	Emily Woodruffe	To attend a <i>Ceramics Surface Techniques</i> workshop at Metchosin International Summer	Visual	B	\$ 1,345

		School of the Arts.			
				<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>

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