



## Government of Yukon

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**NEWS** *release*

FOR RELEASE #11-092  
July 5, 2011



### Art and artists supported by Yukon government

WHITEHORSE—Three Yukon government arts funding programs are providing \$124,615 to Yukon artists.

"The Yukon government is proud to support the ongoing development of Yukon artists," Minister of Tourism and Culture Elaine Taylor said. "The role and inherent value of the arts is central to the creation of a balanced and thriving society. Allowing artists the opportunity to learn, grow and expand their talents is essential for a healthy, creative and inspiring platform for new works to emerge."

Nine recipients of the Yukon government's Advanced Artist Award will share \$40,353, while nine projects will share \$73,160 through Yukon's Arts Fund and eight artists will receive support under Yukon's Touring Artist Fund totaling \$11,102.

Advanced Artist Award funding recipient Meg Walker will use the funding for her drawings, which incorporate soundscapes created by her drawing action and the outdoor environment. "The Advanced Artist Award will allow me to take the next step in crystallizing the experiments I've been doing to explore interactions between drawings and sound," Walker said. "The grant provides me the opportunity to work with a mentor to sharpen my skills in recording and editing sound, and then I will also have time to apply that new knowledge to a series of outdoor drawings. I'm excited to continue the creative discussions with my fellow Yukon artists, and I'm honoured that the community has chosen to support me in this tangible way."

The Five Fingers Collective is receiving \$8,500 from the Arts Fund for their Five Finger Rapids visual story. The collective works will result in 15 pieces to be exhibited in Whitehorse, Carmacks and Pelly Crossing, following extensive archival and on-site research of the Five Finger Rapids area during the summer months.

"We are very pleased to receive funding for this collaborative project," ceramic artist Lynne Sofiak said. "With a ceramic artist, a painter and a fibre artist in the collective, we expect to tell a compelling visual story about Five Finger Rapids and we look forward to sharing it with Yukoners and visitors."

The Touring Artist Fund will help wood carvers Benjamin Gribben and Brian James Francis attend the Great Northern Arts Festival in Inuvik.

"I'm happy to receive the funding," Francis said. "It's a great opportunity to go to Inuvik to take part in the festival. Those of us in attendance will be attending workshops and learning new art forms while there. We'll also have two days to work with other artists and learn from them."

"It was a goal of mine to be able to attend the festival and I think it will open up doors in my art career," Gribben said. I thank the people who believed in me all these years and never gave up on me, Northern Cultural Expressions Society and Tourism and Culture for helping me, and seeing my strengths."

The department of Tourism and Culture contributes more than \$2.7 million annually in support of arts and culture.

For more information about Yukon government arts funding visit the [Arts section](#) of the Tourism and Culture website.

See backgrounder below.

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**Backgrounder:**

**Advanced Artist Award: Spring 2011 recipients**

	NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ARTISTIC CATEGORY	AMOUNT FUNDED
1	Al Pope	To workshop a novel with acclaimed author and mentor Audrey Thomas at the Banff Centre, then complete a final draft over the course of the summer.	literary	\$5,000
2	Dan Sokolowski	Post-production for Degrees North, a landscape documentary/road movie filmed from the southernmost point in Canada to the Arctic Circle in northern Yukon.	visual	\$5,000
3	Dennis Shorty	Develop and explore techniques of miniature mask carving with gemstone inlays and natural materials.	visual	\$5,000
4	Helen O'Connor	Attend International Association of Hand Papermakers and Paper Artists gathering in Caithness, Scotland June 18 to 25, and develop new work based on exploration of Yukon fibres such as willow and fireweed.	visual	\$5,000
5	James C. Kirby	To further develop jewelry making skills and casting techniques taught by David Ashley.	visual	\$5,000
6	Monique Romeiko	Examine and explore the interpretation of (de)constructed and (in)coherent dance performance and choreography in a personal practice.	performing	\$5,000

<b>7</b>	Charles Stankieveh	As part of the Canadian Forces Artist Program Residency, create a video art work at ALERT base at the tip of Ellesmere Island, Nunavut.	visual	\$4,883
<b>8</b>	Ken Searcy	Undertake an intensive period of self-directed study in drum set performance.	performing	\$2,970
<b>9</b>	Meg Walker	To continue to develop her time-based drawings which incorporate soundscapes created by her drawing action and the outdoor environment.	visual	\$2,500
			<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$40,353</b>

**Arts Fund: March 15, 2011 recipients**

	<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>NAME OF PROJECT</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>1</b>	Teslin Tlingit Council	Ha Kus Teyea Celebration	\$20,000
<b>2</b>	Sour Brides Theatre	Boston Marriage: a co-production with the Guild Hall	\$10,000
<b>3</b>	Selkirk First Nation	Live Art Program	\$9,000
<b>4</b>	Five Finger Collective	Five Finger Rapids - A Visual Story	\$8,500
<b>5</b>	Whitehorse Photography Club	Photography Weekend Workshop	\$8,000
<b>6</b>	Friends of Dempster Country Society	Art Magic in Tombstone	\$6,800
<b>7</b>	Kluane Quilters Guild	Weekend events workshop with Carol Taylor	\$5,000
<b>8</b>	Yukon Art Society	Resonance: Visual Arts Explorations with Sound	\$3,000
<b>9</b>	Anvil Range Arts Society	Anvil Range Arts Society Sheep and Crane Festival	\$2,860
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$73,160</b>

**Touring Artist Fund: March 15, 2011 recipients**

	<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>NAME OF PROJECT</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>

<b>1</b>	Rosemary Scanlon	Exhibition at Bedford Gallery, Leshar Centre for the Arts, California	\$3,000
<b>2</b>	Olivier Pellegrin	Storytelling tour dates in Quebec	\$2,200
<b>3</b>	Cécile Girard	Showcase works at Great Northern Arts Festival	\$1,000
<b>4</b>	Jessica Vellenga	Showcase works at Great Northern Arts Festival	\$1,000
<b>5</b>	Kara Went	Showcase works at Great Northern Arts Festival	\$1,000
<b>6</b>	Leslie Leong	Showcase works at Great Northern Arts Festival	\$1,000
<b>7</b>	Benjamin Gribben	Showcase works at Great Northern Arts Festival	\$951
<b>8</b>	Brian James Francis	Showcase works at Great Northern Arts Festival	\$951
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$11,102</b>

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