



FOR RELEASE
October 10, 2013

Touring Artist Fund benefits artist and audience through a shared experience

WHITEHORSE—Yukon's Touring Artist Fund is providing \$24,245 to four artists to grow professionally and reach new audiences through national and international touring opportunities.

"Yukon government is a proud supporter of the arts," Minister of Tourism and Culture Mike Nixon said. "Our ongoing work with touring artists gives these talented individuals the opportunity to experiment with their work, to learn from that experience, to network with others, and to showcase Yukon talent beyond our borders."

Musician Sarah MacDougall and her band members Bob Hamilton, MJ Dandeneau and Shawn Killaly are receiving \$10,000 to tour to Reykjavik, Iceland to take part in the Iceland Airwaves Festival, one of Iceland's major music festivals in October. Prior to the festival, they will tour in Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

"Having the opportunity to play Iceland Airwaves is a once in a lifetime opportunity," MacDougall said. "We feel extremely lucky to have been invited, and it will bring a lot of exposure for us in Scandinavia, as well as in Canada. The funding support made this trip a reality."

Playwright and actor, Brian Fidler received \$2,800 to tour his play *Broken* at the SummerWorks Performance Festival in Toronto, Ontario last August. *Broken* is a one-man performance—using theatre, puppetry and storytelling—about memory, aging and the bond between grandfather and grandson.

"I am very grateful to have been able to take my work out of the territory and access a larger audience for what I believe to be an important dialogue about aging and dementia," Fidler said. "The excellent press and good critical feedback the show received has given me confidence that opportunities will open up for future touring for Ramshackle Theatre."

The Touring Artist Fund fosters the development of the arts in Yukon by helping professional artists, ensembles and companies that create and produce original work to tour and attend out-of-territory public events.

There are four intakes per year: March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15. For information on Yukon government funding for the arts, visit www.tc.gov.yk.ca.

-30-

See backgrounder and photo.

Contact:

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

Karen Keeley
Communications, Tourism and Culture
867-667-8304
karen.keeley@gov.yk.ca

Backgrounder—June 15 intake recipients

Applicant	Project	Amount
Sarah MacDougall	To perform with her band in Scandinavia, and showcase at the Iceland Airwaves Festival in Reykjavik, Iceland this October.	\$10,000
Lulu Keating	To present <i>Lucille's Ball</i> , a new features film, in Sydney, Australia and St. John's, Newfoundland this past September.	\$6,300
Kim Beggs	To perform original music at Manitoba Showcase and at six other venues across Canada this September and October.	\$5,145
Brian Fidler	To present <i>Broken</i> at the SummerWorks Performance Festival in Toronto, Ontario this past August.	\$2,800
TOTAL:		\$24,245

News Release #13-248



Stay up to date with the latest Yukon government news by subscribing to our RSS feed here: <http://www.gov.yk.ca/news/rss.html>. Or follow us on Twitter @yukongov.