



FOR RELEASE

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## **Arts Operating Funds support arts and culture in Yukon communities**

WHITEHORSE—The Yukon government's Arts Operating Funds will provide nearly \$659,000 to 15 established arts organizations and six annual projects throughout the territory this year.

"Organizations and projects supported through Arts Operating Funds promote audience participation and artistic excellence at all levels," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "Every year these organizations create diverse events and programs that encourage all Yukoners and visitors to participate in the arts."

Reporting for last year showed Arts Operating Funds recipients earned revenue of more than \$1.4 million and leveraged almost \$1.6 million in other government funding. More than 2,100 people volunteered over 47,900 hours to help present 859 events, a significant increase from the previous year. The events attracted 90,226 audience attendees.

This year, the Junction Arts and Music Society is receiving \$35,000 in annual operating funds to build community partnerships and create opportunities that foster appreciation for the arts.

"We appreciate arts and music as important components of healthy communities," Junction Arts and Music Vice President and Technical Advisor Dieter Gade said. "This is particularly true for small northern communities like Haines Junction. Support from the Yukon government allows us to carry out our mandate to offer a broad range of high quality events in the Kluane region."

The Kluane Mountain Bluegrass Festival is receiving \$18,000 in annual project funding for their 2014 festival that will present bluegrass and folk music to the public as well as workshops for amateur musicians interested in the bluegrass music scene.

"We are very grateful for the funding in support of next year's Kluane Mountain Bluegrass Festival," Yukon Bluegrass Music Society President Robbyn Chiles said. "This support will allow us to fulfill our mission to teach, present and enjoy bluegrass and acoustic music in Yukon."

For more information about how the Yukon government supports the arts visit [www.tc.gov.yk.ca](http://www.tc.gov.yk.ca).

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See backgrounder attached.

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## **2013/14 Arts Operating Funds Awarded**

## Annual Operating Funds

Organization	Awarded
Guild Society	\$92,000
Yukon Art Society	\$60,000
Yukon Film Society	\$55,000
Nakai Theatre Ensemble	\$50,000
Dawson City Music Festival Association	\$45,000
Gwaandak Theatre Society	\$42,000
Junction Arts and Music (JAM) Society	\$35,000
Whitehorse Concerts	\$35,000
Breakdancing Yukon Society	\$28,000
Community Choir of Whitehorse	\$27,500
Extremely Moving Youth Society	\$27,500
Northern Lights School of Dance	\$27,500
Jazz Yukon	\$27,000
All-City Band Society	\$20,000
Northern Fibres Guild	\$4,990
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$576,490</b>

## Annual Project Funds

Organization	Awarded
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Blue Feather Music Society	\$25,000
Yukon Bluegrass Music Society	\$18,000
Association franco-yukonnaise	\$15,000
Rotary Club of Whitehorse	\$10,000
Village of Mayo	\$7,500
Skookum Jim Friendship Centre	\$7,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$82,500</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$658,990</b>

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