



FOR RELEASE
May 7, 2013

Touring Artist Fund allows artists to grow new audience appreciation

WHITEHORSE—Seven Yukon artists are sharing \$23,000 through the Government of Yukon's Touring Artist Fund to tour their work to outside audiences and develop their professional skills.

"Touring offers Yukon artists opportunities to interact with new audiences and to gain wider recognition for their work," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "This exposure broadens cultural identity at national and international levels."

The Dakhká Khwáan Dancers received \$5,600 to attend the Coastal First Nations dance festival that celebrated stories, songs and dances of the indigenous peoples of the northwest coast of North America. The festival took place in March in Vancouver, BC.

"The dancers were thrilled to participate in the festival held in the Great Hall of the Museum of Anthropology," Dakhká Khwáan dance group leader and manager Marilyn Jensen said. "This support allowed us to invite some of our Elders and junior dancers to accompany the troupe. All of us were honoured to represent our families, clans, communities and Yukon with the highest respect to our protocols and to our art form."

Sarah MacDougall is receiving \$5,000 to tour in May and June in the United Kingdom, Netherlands and Germany. As a four-piece band, she is touring with Tim Tweedale, MJ Dandeneau and Bob Hamilton. Their act will include multi-instrumentation and three-part harmony singing.

"Having the opportunity to showcase my music in Europe gives me the chance to further my career as an international touring artist," MacDougall said. "In addition, I am able to develop alliances with artists and the music industry from around the world, and to spread awareness about music from Yukon with others."

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.

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See backgrounder attached.

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Touring Artist Fund recipients for the December 15, 2012 intake

	Artist name	Activity	Amount
1	Dakhká Khwáan Dancers	To perform two new choreographies with a mixed age traditional dance group in Vancouver, BC.	\$5,600
2	Sarah MacDougall	To tour in United Kingdom, Netherlands, and Germany with a full band.	\$5,000
3	Joseph Tisiga	To present and exhibit in four visual art galleries in Ottawa and Montreal, and Massachusetts, USA.	\$5,000
4	Sharon Shorty	To present a workshop on traditional Canadian First Nations storytelling and perform at the <i>Eye of the Storm</i> festival in Alice Springs, Australia.	\$4,000
5	Lulu Keating	To present <i>Lucille's Ball</i> , a new feature film at the Vancouver International Women in Film Festival.	\$1,400
6	Nicole Bauberger	To exhibit, demonstrate and present a workshop of the visual art show <i>Get There From Here</i> in the Dawson Creek Art Gallery.	\$1,000
7	Kim Hudson	To deliver a workshop and seminar based on her writer's archetype book <i>The Virgin's Promise</i> at the Romance Writers of Australia National Conference.	\$1,000
		Total	\$23,000

News Release #13-120



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