



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon artists supported to present poetry and fashion to outside audiences

WHITEHORSE—Two Yukon artists are receiving funding through the Touring Artist Fund to showcase their work and create new audiences beyond Yukon borders.

"We have so many talented artists in all disciplines whose work is being recognized and appreciated outside the territory," Minister of Tourism and Culture Mike Nixon said. "The Touring Artist Fund assists artists to present their work at national and international events and allows outside audiences to experience Yukon culture."

Brenda Lee Asp is a fashion designer based in Haines Junction. She is receiving \$3,412 to attend the Tináa Fashion Show in Juneau and Western Canada Fashion Week in Edmonton.

"The Tináa Fashion Show is a prestigious event that features First Nation designers, while Western Canada Fashion Week is very large and provides international exposure to my work," Asp said. "My passion is to create unique prints and combine various textiles, shapes and colours to create a signature look. I am excited about this great opportunity to share my original designs with audiences in Alaska and Edmonton. I look forward to helping people feel confident and beautiful when they wear my clothes, while making an impact on the northern and Canadian fashion industries."

Writer Joanna Lilley is receiving \$3,870 for a reading tour for her first poetry collection, *The Fleece Era*. Her tour includes the Tree Reading Series in Ottawa, Readings by the Salish Sea in White Rock and a cross-country Bricks Books Reading Tour.

"I'm extremely grateful to the Touring Artist Fund for supporting my reading tour across Canada," Lilley said. "This is my first-ever book and therefore a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me. I'm very excited about this chance to share Yukon poetry with audiences all the way from Victoria to Fredericton and help spread the word about the terrifically creative community we have here in the territory."

A total of \$7,282 was awarded by the Government of Yukon for the December 2013 intake. The Touring Artist Fund supports literary, visual and performing artists, ensembles and companies in presenting their work at professionally curated exhibitions, concerts, festivals or showcases. There are four application deadlines on the 15 of: March, June, September and December.

Learn more

Visit the Touring Artist Fund webpage tc.gov.yk.ca/taf or call 667-8789 or toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, extension 8789.

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