



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Advanced Artist Award fosters professional development**

WHITEHORSE—Eleven advanced artists will share \$37,855 through Yukon's Advanced Artist Award for their literary, performing or visual arts development.

"We are blessed to have talented individuals who embrace the arts and strive to make a positive impact in Yukon," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "Their contributions help to celebrate the territory as a unique jurisdiction within Canada, helping to grow public awareness about northern talent and artistic excellence."

The Advanced Artist Award supports professional artists looking to advance their practice through their personal artistic development. Artists apply to undertake innovative projects or educational pursuits that may include learning through workshops, courses or working with a mentor. They may also pursue artistic development through critique, collaboration or exploration.

Evan Rensch is receiving \$2,500 to create a series of portraits of Keno City residents using a large format camera.

"I am very excited to begin working on a new body of photographic work in Keno City, a town known both for its industrial history and natural beauty," Rensch said. "With the support of the Advanced Artist Award, I will have the opportunity to spend an extended period of time within the community, engaging with local residents and learning more about the site's history. It is a privilege to be given a chance to further develop my skills as a photographer and artist in this quintessential Yukon community."

Elaine Corden is receiving \$2,305 to attend the Sage Hill Writing Experience in Saskatoon where she will receive guidance and feedback on a collection of essays for her first book.

"I'm delighted and grateful for the assistance provided by Yukon government's Advanced Artist Award," Corden said. "It's a privilege to be part of the rich history of arts and culture in the North, and I'm optimistic that continued public support will allow artists in the Yukon to flourish far into the future."

The Advanced Artist Award program is funded by Lotteries Yukon and is administered by the Department of Tourism and Culture. Submissions are adjudicated by a jury of professional artists.

The next intake for the Advanced Artist Award is October 1. Artists interested in applying are encouraged to contact the fund administrator at 667-8789 or toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, extension 8789 for assistance with the funding application process.

Learn more about the Advanced Artist Award.

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See backgrounder below.

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Advanced Artist Award

### Spring 2012 Recipients

| Name                  | Project Description   | Artistic Category       | Amount Funded |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|---------------|
| Arlin McFarlane       | To research, write, and workshop a one-woman show on the theme of neuroplasticity.  | Literary/<br>Performing | \$5,000       |
| Clea Roberts          | To attend the Writers Union of Canada Conference, write new works, attend a writing residency at the Banff Centre for the Arts Leighton Artist Colony, and work with a mentor to edit a manuscript. | Literary                | \$5,000       |
| Jamella Hagen         | To write a second collection of poetry.   | Literary                | \$5,000       |
| Michael Reynolds      | To continue work on a new manuscript of poems intended for publication.   | Literary                | \$5,000       |
| Shiela Alexandrovich  | To devote self-study to explore felted clothing production including eco-dyeing and plant and acid dyeing techniques.   | Visual                  | \$4,250       |
| Amelia Rose Slobogean | To compose, arrange, and workshop new compositions inspired by "Balkan jazz" musicality.  | Performing              | \$2,500       |
| Andrameda Hunter      | To attend the Suhila Salimpour School of Bellydance for three weeks of intensive training in San Francisco.   | Performing              | \$2,500       |
| Brenda Lee            |   |                         |               |

|                 |   |            |                 |
|-----------------|---|------------|-----------------|
| Katerenchuk     | To compose four original jazz compositions.   | Performing | \$2,500         |
| Evan Rensch     | To develop large format portrait studies in Keno City.  | Visual     | \$2,500         |
| Elaine Corden   | To attend the Sage Hill Writing Experience and prepare a manuscript for a first book of essays.                                 | Literary   | \$2,305         |
| Emily Woodruffe | To attend the ceramics workshop "Throwing with Design" at Metchosin International Summer School of the Arts near Victoria, B.C. | Visual     | \$1,300         |
| <b>Total</b>    |   |            | <b>\$37,855</b> |

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