



FOR RELEASE
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Funding enables Yukon artists to reach new international audiences

WHITEHORSE—Government of Yukon funding is supporting another seven Yukon artists in reaching international audiences. The artists will receive a total of \$22,515 in funding through the Yukon Touring Artist Fund.

"The Yukon government is pleased to support Yukon artists in their efforts to share their work beyond our borders," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "These tours will bring the creativity, diversity and energy of Yukon's arts community to new audiences while supporting the growth of these professional artists."

Helen O'Connor is receiving \$2,515 to present her original work at Watermarks 2012 in Cleveland, Ohio. O'Connor makes handmade paper from oriental and local fibre to create sculptural works of art influenced by the natural surroundings of her Yukon home.

"Having the opportunity to travel to a conference of this magnitude gives me opportunities to make important connections with artists in my field as well as learning opportunities with academics from the U.S., Europe, South America, Australia and Canada," O'Connor said. "It is this kind of touring that opens up national and international exposure for Yukon artists."

Donald Watt and Michael Lane are receiving funding to carve snow sculptures at events in Canada, the United States and Italy. Their sculptures have won awards and raised the profile of Yukon internationally.

Yukon Gold Comics, comprising Steve McGovern, Claire Ness, Jenny Hamilton and George Maratos, will be performing for audiences at the Adelaide Fringe Festival in Adelaide, Australia.

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 present their work outside Yukon at public events.

The next deadline for fund applications is December 15.

For information on Yukon government's support to artists, visit www.tc.gov.yk.ca/arts.

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See backgrounder below.

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Touring Artist Fund – Sept 2012 recipients

Applicant	Project	Amount
Donald Watt & Michael Lane	To tour six major snow sculpture exhibitions/competitions in Canada, the U.S. and Italy.	\$10,000
Yukon Gold Comics	Four comedians to perform an original variety/stand-up comedy show in Adelaide, Australia.	\$10,000
Helen O'Connor	To present original works at three exhibitions, attend workshops, and write reviews at Watermarks 2012 in Cleveland, Ohio.	\$2,515
	Total	\$22,515

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