



FOR RELEASE  
December 18, 2012

## **Arts funding supports artistic expression and community engagement**

WHITEHORSE—A number of projects encouraging artistic expression and community engagement are receiving Yukon government support. Six Yukon organizations will share \$126,717 in funding through the Yukon Arts Fund.

"The Government of Yukon is very pleased to support community projects that foster artistic development and public engagement," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "Yukon artists and audiences benefit from the opportunity to participate in favourite annual events as well as new projects exploring diverse aspects of Yukon culture."

Les EssentiElles is receiving \$10,467 to write and produce a new play by Yukon Francophone women living with an Anglophone partner. The play is scheduled to run in March during 2013 Rendez-vous de la francophonie.

"Bilingualism is part of our community's fabric," Les EssentiElles General Director Ketsia Houde said. "It touches almost all of us, whether it is in our own life or through our friends, families or colleagues. This unique project celebrates the richness and the vitality that living with two languages can bring and gives an opportunity to Francophone women to voice their reality of being in a relationship with an English-speaking partner."

The Arts Fund is also supporting four well-known festival events in 2013 including the Adäka Cultural Festival, the Whitehorse Poetry Festival, the Rotary Music Festival and the international snow carving competition during Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous.

The Yukon Fiddleheads are receiving support to help prepare young people for music and dance performances in many Yukon communities.

The Yukon Arts Fund is for arts-related projects by art collectives, organizations, industry associations and other eligible groups undertaking an activity related to the literary, visual or performing arts.

For more information on Yukon government funding for the arts, visit [tc.gov.yk.ca/arts](http://tc.gov.yk.ca/arts).

-30-

See backgrounder below.

Contact:

Elaine Schiman  
Cabinet Communications  
867-633-7961  
[elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca](mailto:elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca)

Heather LeDuc  
Communications, Tourism & Culture  
867-667-5318  
[heather.leduc@gov.yk.ca](mailto:heather.leduc@gov.yk.ca)

**Arts Fund – Sept 2012 recipients**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Adäka Cultural Society	To host and organize the 2013 Adäka Cultural Festival in Whitehorse celebrating Yukon First Nations arts and culture.	\$35,000
Donald Watt Collective	To organize the 10th International Snow Sculpture Challenge during Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous festivities in Whitehorse.	\$31,250
Whitehorse Poetry Society	To present the 2013 Whitehorse Poetry Festival, featuring poetry readings and panel discussions, along with craft and trade talks.	\$26,000
Fiddleheads Yukon	To deliver a multi-faceted program that includes artistic development in fiddling, dance and performance focused on youth and community engagement.	\$14,000
Les EssentiElles	To write a theatrical play <i>je parle en français (I Speak in French) And I Love in English</i> that explores the relationships between Francophone and Anglophone partners.	\$10,467
Rotary Club of Whitehorse	To present the 2013 Rotary Music Festival offering youth live performance, constructive feedback and music theory, along with music appreciation and enhancement skills.	\$10,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$126,717</b>

News Release #12-247



Stay up to date with the latest Yukon government news by subscribing to our RSS feed here: <http://www.gov.yk.ca/news/rss.html>. Or follow us on Twitter @yukongov.