



**PRESS RELEASE**

**\$50,950 in arts grants awarded by  
Region of Waterloo Arts Fund**

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*Waterloo fabric artist will explore 'sin, redemption and salvation'*

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*Documentation project by Arts Council supported*

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*Elmira-based Shadow Puppet Theatre to stage Macbeth*

KITCHENER (December 13, 2005) – Grants totaling \$50,950 have been made to individual artists and arts organizations by The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund. These included support for a documentary film about the artist Carl Beam and his family, a grant for the premier “mini-season” of a fledgling musical theatre company called Encore! Musical Stage, and a grant for a cross-disciplinary art installation by a young Kitchener musician and artist.

In all, 16 grants were announced at the end of the fall 2005 round, assisting artists and arts organizations in disciplines which included visual arts, popular music and theatre. Among those were grants to assist the emerging Waterloo Regional Guitar Summit and a music and art program for youth, presented by the Fresh Ayr Festival.

Since it was founded, in 2002, The Arts Fund has made grants totalling more than \$350,000 in support of the arts and artists in Waterloo Region.

The grants approved this week were:

- \$2,200 to Waterloo fabric artist Arlene Turkington, to assist in creating a body of work patterned after the seven deadly sins.
- \$2,300 to Kitchener artist Marilyn Batte, to enable her completion of a series of 24 large-scale portraits of orchids.
- \$1,500 to guitarist Bob MacLean to assist in the development of workshops as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Waterloo Regional Guitar Festival.
- \$1,600 to playwright Brian Van Norman to assist in workshopping his new play ‘Refuge’.
- \$3,000 to Kitchener sculptor Mary Catherine Newcomb to assist in research and development for an experimental visual technique to be unveiled at a two-artist show in September 2006.

- \$3,350 to artist In-Sun Kim of Kitchener, towards a show called “Modular City”, to open in the Rotunda Gallery in August, 2006.
- \$5,000 to musician and artist Jascha Narveson, to help create “Transference”, a performance art project blending sound and visual elements
- \$3,000 to Next Level Theatre to help produce “Secrets”, a new piece of documentary theatre, a play based on secrets shared with the playwright William Kernohan by citizens of the Region.
- \$4,000 to writer and filmmaker Paul Eichhorn to assist in creating a documentary tentatively called “The Beam Family”, about the dynamic family of the celebrated artist Carl Beam.
- \$4,000 to YES (Youth Education for Success), a youth theatre development project in Kitchener done in collaboration with MT Space.
- \$3,000 to the “groove rock” group *Snack* to assist in production of a compact disc.
- \$6,000 to the Waterloo Regional Arts Council in support of a documentation project called Capturing Art in Action.
- \$2,500 to assist the first year pilot project “mini season” of *Encore! Musical Stage*, a new company based on Waterloo, intending to present classic musical theatre to the Region.
- \$3,000 to the Fresh Ayr Festival to assist in youth visual arts and musical programming.
- \$4,000 to the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery of Waterloo to support a publications project
- \$2,500 to Shadow Puppet Theatre, a new venture from Elmira that plans to present the Shakespearean play Macbeth using handmade shadow puppets.

The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund is a not-for-profit corporation created in 2002 to provide arm’s length funding for the performing, visual and literary arts in the Region of Waterloo. It receives its funding from the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo in the form of a per capita grant. Twice a year (spring and fall) applicants are asked to first submit a brief (maximum two pages) letters of intent. Based on those letters, a shortlist of applicants is asked to submit detailed proposals.

The Arts Fund’s aim is to “make art happen” (i.e. stimulate arts activity), both in the next 12 months and with projects that will enhance an individual or organization’s ability to make even more art happen in the future.

Applicants are encouraged to create new works, to bring art to the public, to benefit the Region of Waterloo and create works that might not happen or might not happen as well without such support. All disciplines are welcomed and applications are encouraged from both individuals and arts organizations throughout the Region, made up of the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo and the four townships of Wilmot, Woolwich, Wellesley and North Dumfries. Adjudication of applications is done by the broadly based 14-member board of the Fund.

For further information: David Scott, Chair, (519) 653-4813

For a brochure and application information, call Lee Ann Wetzel, Manager, Council and Administrative Services, Regional Municipality of Waterloo at (519) 575-4410. E-mail: [wleann@region.waterloo.on.ca](mailto:wleann@region.waterloo.on.ca). or visit the website: [www.artsfund.ca](http://www.artsfund.ca).