



## Media Release

For immediate release

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### Region of Waterloo Arts Fund awards 17 grants

**Waterloo Region** - The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund announces 17 grants for a total of \$120,250 in response to proposals submitted by artists and arts organizations throughout Waterloo Region.

The Arts Fund initially received 87 requests, for a total of \$596,469.90. After the first round of evaluations, 34 applicants seeking a total of \$234,200 were invited to submit more detailed Stage 2 applications from which the 17 grants were ultimately selected. Since it was established in 2002, the Arts Fund has supported more than 500 projects for a total of \$2,687,653.

Proposals selected for full or partial funding in the Spring round are:

**April Bulmer**, \$2,500 for **Creeds and Remedies**, a book of poetry based on the spiritual life, religious practices and mystical experiences of the women of Waterloo Region.

**Windjammers**, \$10,000 for **Hollywood, The Canadian Connection**, a live concert band performance and recording of popular music as a tribute to Canadian talent, with introductions by MC Harry Currie. ([windjammers.ca](http://windjammers.ca))

**Cambridge Symphony Orchestra**, \$8,000 for the inaugural **In Remembrance**: a special November 11th performance of Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* with mass choir guests Grand River Chorus and featured soloists joining the orchestra. ([cambridgeorchestra.ca](http://cambridgeorchestra.ca))

**Pomegranate Mural Collective**, \$5,000 for the new artist collective to design and produce their first community-based mural in partnership with volunteers at Welcome Home's new location.

**Magdalena Tomsinska**, \$1,250 towards a concert of Renaissance music by vocal and instrumental performers, and focusing on Italian and English madrigals from the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**J.M. Drama Alumni**, o/a The Registry Theatre, \$5,500 for concert presentations of **The Breithaupt Brothers Come Home to Kitchener**, featuring original compositions by brothers Jeff and Don, and performed by local established and emerging musicians. ([registrytheatre.com](http://registrytheatre.com))

**Dwight Storrington**, \$10,000 for **Finding John Lingwood**, a documentary film about local architect Lingwood, the effect his mid-century modern buildings had on individuals and institutions and his influence in understanding community, civic and cultural life in Waterloo Region. ([dwightstorrington.com](http://dwightstorrington.com))

**Owen Bloomfield**, \$12,000 for **Flow: River of words, music, and dance**, an interdisciplinary new work created by writer Rae Crossman, choreographer Michele Hopkins, and composer Owen Bloomfield, and performed at a public event by musicians, singers and dancers at the Cambridge Centre for the Arts.

**Peter Hatch**, \$8,000 for the finished production and presentation of **Entanglement** (funded previously as 'Algorithmyth'), an immersive performance/lecture that explores the effect of algorithms on society through music, sound and theatre. (<http://web.wlu.ca/music/Hatch/>)

**Karen MacLeod**, \$4,000 for **Grosse Isle** (working title) a new one-act stage drama with song cycle creating a comparable narrative about the experiences of the historic Irish potato-famine era's immigrants and the newly arrived Syrian refugees. ([reverbnation.com/gaedelica](http://reverbnation.com/gaedelica))

**Menno Singers**, \$15,000 for preparation and presentation in May 2017 of **The Farewell Concert for Peter Nikiforuk**, retiring after 18 years as artistic director of the Menno Singers; including a commissioned world premiere performance of *Years, Months and Days* by composer Colin Labadie and poet Amanda Jernigan. ([mennosingers.com](http://mennosingers.com))

**Kitchener-Waterloo Arab Canadian Theatre (KW-ACT)**, \$6,000 to research, write and perform **Rehearsals for Change**, based on real stories from the community, and introduce people to art through the creative and collaborative process of theatre.

**Sunil Thomas Kuruvilla**, \$7,000 for researching, writing and presentation of a stage play **Tunnels and Teetotalers: The hidden history of Prohibition-era Waterloo**, a fictionalized story about local citizens and the underground whisky industry.

**Sentient Community collective/Carl Hiebert**, \$12,000 for **Illuminative Forest of Storytelling Trees**, a full-sensory mobile art installation comprised of an interactive

visual and audio storytelling “forest” where participants will explore themes of identity, community and transformation.

**Alan K. Sapp**, \$4,000 for **The Nickel Mines Project**, a collaboration in words and music for the first phase of writing an original script for a play about the Pennsylvania Amish community’s response to tragedy and how it resonates with the Mennonite community and their belief in restorative justice and forgiveness.

([alansapp.workbooklive.com](http://alansapp.workbooklive.com))

**Amanda Rhodenizer** \$2,500 for **Constructing Narrative Paintings in Waterloo Region**, a project working ‘plein air’ to study different landscapes throughout the region, then creating large paintings of current and historic representation for local exhibition.

([arhodenizer.com](http://arhodenizer.com))

**Night/Shift Placehacking Festival** \$7,500 for the **Infinity Tunnel**, a giant interactive art installation of lights and mirrors by Nik Harron and Bernie Rohde, and presented as a marquee work within the annual November festival. ([nightshiftwr.ca](http://nightshiftwr.ca))

The objective of the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund is to make art happen in the community through active promotion of arts and culture, and by providing meaningful grants and other support to artists and to arts and culture organizations.

Annually, Regional Council generously allocates 40 cents per capita to the Arts Fund so that the people of Waterloo Region may benefit from the vibrancy of the arts and culture sectors.

Created in 2002, the Arts Fund is a not-for-profit corporation which provides arms-length funding for the performing, visual, media and literary arts. It welcomes grant applications in all arts disciplines from individual artists and arts organizations based in the Region of Waterloo (comprising the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo and the townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich).

The Arts Fund invites applications in the spring and fall of each year for projects that will occur within the following 12 months. The goal in the longer term is to enhance the ability of an artist or arts organization to make more art happen through future projects.

The Arts Fund is one of the few granting bodies in Canada that awards grants directly to artist-led projects. Often these supported projects are able to attract additional funds through earned revenue, grants from provincial, federal or private sources, sponsorships, private and in-kind donations.

There is a one-time only grant being offered in this Fall's round. 2017 is the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund's 15th anniversary, as well as Canada's 150th anniversary. The 15 / 150 Grant is an opportunity to reflect and celebrate these occasions, in particular the sesquicentennial.

For more information about initiatives such as peer-to-peer application support, Board-hosted open houses before application deadlines, Artist-at-Large Advisers, and the 15 / 150 Grant details, please visit the website: [www.artsfund.ca](http://www.artsfund.ca).

The next Arts Fund Open House for grant applicants before the fall 2016 round is on Tuesday, August 9, 2016, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Region of Waterloo Headquarters, 150 Frederick Street, Kitchener. This is an informal drop-in, where board members will be available to share general information about the fund and its mandate.

The next deadline for applications to the Arts Fund is 4:00 pm on Friday, September 9, 2016; full details are available on the website: [www.artsfund.ca](http://www.artsfund.ca)

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For more information, contact Stevie Natolochny at 519-575-4450 or via email: [snatolochny@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:snatolochny@regionofwaterloo.ca)