



Region of Waterloo Arts Fund

Minutes

Thursday, June 17, 2021

1:05 p.m.

Meeting held electronically

150 Frederick Street, Kitchener

Present were: President B. Chesney, M. Braun, L. Golds, D. Kirton, R. Nixon, I. Ring, J. Rula, S. Scott, P. Shannon and C.A. Treitz

Regrets: H. Jowett and K. Redman

Artist at Large Advisors Present: I. Kimanje*, T. MacDonald, V. Marconi, T. Moher, D. Popplow, R. Ring, A. Sapp and J. White

1. Roll Call, Welcome and Introductions

B. Chesney welcomed the participating Artists at Large and Jax Rula, who has agreed to serve as a new board member.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest Under the Conflict of Interest Policy of the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund (Specific to Business Items)

There were no declarations. Declarations related specifically to the grant applications were made prior to the review of the Spring 2021 applications.

3. Approval of Minutes

3.1 Open Session – January 14, 2021

Moved by S. Scott

Seconded by I. Ring

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund approve the open session minutes of the meeting held on January 14, 2021.

Carried
3697227

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Ad Hoc Committee on Indigenous, Black and People of Colour (IBPOC) Inclusion Strategy: Proposal

B. Chesney advised that the board has recently put out a call to action for new board members. He summarized the ad hoc committee's review of options available to the Arts Fund board.

* I. Kimanje joined the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Moved by L. Golds

Seconded by P. Shannon

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund approve, in principle, the Indigenous, Black and People of Colour (IBPOC) Inclusion Strategy Proposal, as follows:

- Continue recruitment practices for new board members and Artists-at-Large, through contacts among current board members, with a specific emphasis and focus on increased diversity, through known IBPOC leaders, artists in the region, as well as past RWAFF grant recipients; and,
- Develop an Request for Proposal (RFP) and open call for a professional IBPOC facilitator(s) to assist the Arts Fund with the work of consulting with IBPOC communities and devising a strategy, for a fee of up to \$10,000.

Carried

5. Correspondence

5.1 Simon Rossiter, Treasurer, Designers Re: Urgent Call to Action: Join the Campaign for Fairness for Ontario Arts! (Coalition of Theatre, Dance and Opera, dated May 26, 2021)

B. Chesney provided an overview of the call to action, suggesting that the Arts Fund could use its social media to advocate to the Provincial government. He stated that is he aware, however, of the political sensitivities and sought input from the board.

The board discussed the matter and agreed that the organizations who are partners in this campaign are better equipped to advocate. There was general agreement among the board members not to take any action.

6. New Business

6.1 Membership/Nominating Committee – Recruitment Update and Board Appointments

B. Chesney provide a recruitment update on behalf of the committee, noting that there have been seven (7) expressions of interest and that personal interviews will be scheduled.

Moved by S. Scott

Seconded by P. Shannon

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund approve the appointment of Jax Rula to the Board of Directors for a two-year renewable term, effective May 1, 2021, to expire December 31, 2022.

Carried

6.2 Ratification of Grantee Requests (Approved via email exchanges in advance of the meeting.)

The Board ratified the following requests, which were approved via e-mail in advance of the June 17, 2021 Arts Fund Board meeting. Staff were directed to send written notifications of the Board's decisions.

Moved by I. Ring

Seconded by L. Golds

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund approve the following requests:

1. Richard Stephens, The Wizards Gallows - An Epic Fantasy Experience (F19-01), Project Revision
 - Approval of a project revision, as outlined in correspondence from January 21, 2021.
2. Bashar Jabbour and KW Poetry Slam, Present: Grand Poetic Showcase (F18-66), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until May 31, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
3. Tara Butler, Dance Takes Berlin (S20-10), Project Revision and Project Extension
 - Approval of a project revision, as outlined in correspondence from February 3, 2021.
 - Approval of a project extension until November 15, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
4. Shama Saleh and Project UP, Because of Her, I Am (F19-54) Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until August 31, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.

5. Jessie T Treneer, Jessie T: Album 2 (The Mixtape of my Life) (F19-33), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until October 1, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
6. Megan Brenneman and Age of Majority Singers, Branches (F19-40), Project Revision and Project Extension
 - Approval of a project revision, as outlined in correspondence from February 16, 2021.
 - Approval of a project extension until July 31, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
7. Mary Neil, Exploring the Diversity in the Region of Waterloo through Community Compositions and Junk Music (F19-12), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until November 30, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
8. Viktorija Kovac and Cosmic Fishing Theatre, Le Roi se Meurt (Exit the King) (F19-60), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until February 28, 2022, at which time a Final Report will be due.
9. JoJo Worthington, The Company You Keep Release Concert (S19-44), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until September 30, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
10. Luke Michielsen, Don't be Afraid of the Forest (S19-59), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until September 30, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
11. Eda Dede and Sanctuary Refugee Health Centre, Unique Ceramic Mural Art Work (F19-07), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until November 15, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
12. Sarah Kernohan, Snow-Blind (S20-27), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until April 1, 2022, at which time a Final Report will be due.
13. Earl McCluskie, Livestreaming Non-profit Performing Arts Venues and Organizations (F20-52), Project Revision
 - Approval of a project revision, as outlined in correspondence from March 31, 2021.

14. Vincent Marcone, aka My Pet Skeleton, The Tornographers (Season 1) (F19-44), Request for Extension
 - Approval of a third project extension until November 15, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
15. Glodeane Brown and CAFKA, White Elephant (F19-03), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until July 24, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
16. Brenda Asselstine and Open Ears Festival of Music and Sound, Art and Sound Walk (F19-14), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until June 30, 2022, at which time a Final Report will be due.
17. Danielle Deveau and Midtown Radio Project, Midtown Radio Dramas (F19-25), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until April 30, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
18. Rebekka Fry and Waterloo Chamber Players, All Good Things: A Farewell Concert (F19-56), Project Revision
 - Approval of a project revision, as outlined in correspondence from March 16, 2021.
19. Jessica Smith, The Set Up (S20-33), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until November 30, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.
20. Dylan Langan and Vera Causa Opera, The Gondoliers: An Opera Movie (F20-49), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until March 31, 2022, at which time a Final Report will be due.
21. Joe Mancini and The Working Centre, Alfred Kunz Documentary (F17-50), Project Extension
 - Approval of a project extension until August 1, 2021, at which time a Final Report will be due.

Carried

6.3 2022 Regional Budget Review

B. Chesney advised that Regional Council will be reviewing and finalizing its 2022 budget before the end of the year. The Region will be considering all available options

to reduce base budgets, including that of the Arts Fund, possibly by more than \$20,000 for 2022.

6.4 Conflict of Interest Policy – Per the Region of Waterloo Code of Conduct Policy

S. Natolochny provided an overview of the new requirement for all members of advisory committees, boards and foundations associated with the Region of Waterloo to sign the Region's Conflict of Interest (COI) Policy, in addition to the forms required by the Region of Waterloo Arts Foundation. The form will be sent to all board members to sign and return in the coming weeks. The board will deal with any amendments to the Arts Fund's own COI policy at the September board meeting.

6.5 Grants Reimbursed – Update

B. Chesney advised that the following grantees have returned their grant funds:

Returned in 2021:

Isabella Stefanescu (S18-46) - \$7200

Bonita Wagler (F18-16) - \$5625

Marley Sullivan (F20-16) – \$2205

Returned in 2020 (end of year):

Earl McCluskie (S18-48) – \$10,000

Veda Hingert-McDonald (S20-15) - \$5850

In addition, a successful grantee chose not to accept an approved Fall 2020 grant due to accessibility concerns. Some of the expressed concerns involved the accessibility of the online application. These issues have since been addressed and an Accessibility Statement has been posted to the Arts Fund's home webpage.

B. Chesney responded to a board question about how issues with granted projects are tracked. He provided an overview of the requirement for and review process of Final Reports.

6.6 Final Reports Review Committee – Update

B. Chesney stated that the committee, which includes L. Gold, C.A. Treitz, I. Ring and himself, have reviewed approximately 25 Final Reports submitted by grantees. Aside from late and overdue submissions, there were no critical issues with the Final Reports submitted.

The board took a recess at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m.

7. Review of Spring 2021 Grant Applications

8. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest under the Conflict of Interest Policy of the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund (Specific to Grant Applications)

3697227

Board Member	Application ID	Reason:
Susan Scott	S21-14	She is personally acquainted with the applicant
Susan Scott	S21-31	She supervises the applicant
Jax Rula	S21-09	She is consciously objecting to project due to the overtly religious messaging and recusing herself from the conversation
David Popplow	S21-13	He is personally acquainted with the applicant
David Popplow	S21-17	He is personally acquainted with the applicant and a colleague

9. Motion to Go into Closed Session

Moved by J. Rula

Seconded by L. Golds

That a closed meeting of the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund be held on June 17, 2021 at approximately 2:25 p.m. electronically, for the purpose of considering the following subject matters:

- a) Personal matters about identifiable individuals related to current and active grant files
- b) Personal matters about identifiable individuals related to current applications

Carried

The board took a recess at 3:45 p.m. and reconvened at 3:50 p.m.

* T. Moher left the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

The closed portion of the meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

10. Motion to Reconvene into Open Session

Moved by L. Golds

Seconded by I. Ring

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund reconvene into Open Session 4:59 p.m.

Carried

Moved by S. Scott
3697227

Seconded by M. Braun

That the following Spring 2021 applications receive Arts Fund grants, as follows:

ID#	Project Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization or Collective	Grant
S21-03	KW Flamenco Fest	Claudia	Aguirre	CaluJules Flamenco Plus	\$3,000
S21-09	There's Power in His Blood--The Truth Behind the Music	Justin	Hamilton		\$5,000
S21-11	Anna Kaljas: The Untold Story – Production Phase	Dwight	Storring		\$12,270
S21-14	Rock This Town	Betty Anne	Keller	"Rock This Town" Film Collective	\$10,000
S21-17	LOCAL CONSTELLATIONS - Costume and B Unit Filming	Andrew	Smith		\$4,500
S21-18	Video documentary -- 100 years of choral music in the Region of Waterloo	Luisa	D'Amato	Grand Philharmonic Choir	\$8,000
S21-24	Andromeda Trio and Karen Sunabacka Collaboration	Miriam	Stewart-Kroeker	Andromeda Trio	\$2,500
S21-27	UW A Cappella Club Music Collection	Ruju	Jambusaria	University of Waterloo A Cappella Club	\$1,767
S21-30	A Baroque Christmas - Contemplation and Celebration	NBPS	Office	Nota Bene Players and Singers	\$8,500
S21-31	"manifest romantic destiny": A debut album from contemporary harpist, composer, and improviser Grace Scheele	Grace	Scheele		\$8,513
S21-32	Trio for Three Violins	Chia Yin	Wu	N/A	\$4,265

ID#	Project Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization or Collective	Grant
S21-37	Original Concert Band Commission	Jessica	Larmer	Waterloo Concert Band	\$3,000
S21-38	Johanna Daze - Self-Titled Album Recording	Johanna	Daze		\$5,000
S21-42	Rainbow Reels Queer and Trans Film and Arts Festival	Hannah	Enns	Rainbow Reels Queer and Trans Film and Arts Festival	\$6,500
S21-45	A Hole in the Ground	Sheila	McMath	Inter Arts Matrix	\$15,000
S21-47	Songs of Birds	Andrew	Rinehart		\$8,000
S21-49	The Adventures of Widget Live Streaming Production/Touring Show After the Pandemic	Arlene	Thomas	Puppets & Shadows Theatre	\$2,000
S21-51	Rescued waste becomes art	Andrea	Filiatrault		\$3,000
S21-52	Through the Looking Glass	Nicholas	Dinka	Only Connect	\$5,000
S21-56	Mural for SPECTRUM, Waterloo Region's Rainbow Community Space	Scott	Williams	SPECTRUM, Waterloo Region's Rainbow Community Space	\$3,500
S21-60	Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery Ceramic Artist Residency	Denis	Longchamps	Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery	\$5,000
S21-61	So Nature deals with us, and takes away	Robert	Achtemichuk		\$7,500
S21-62	Victoria Park	Colin Boyd	Shafer		\$8,300
S21-66	Cambridge Poppy Project	Sue	Sturdy	Cambridge Poppy Project	\$8,000
S21-69	Indigenous Community Mentorship	Suzanne	Luke	Robert Langen Art Gallery	\$6,540
S21-72	The Curator of Forgotten Things	James	Bow		\$6,000

ID#	Project Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization or Collective	Grant
S21-76	Two Women	Carrie	Snyder		\$6,000
S21-78	Biography of Afghani human rights lawyer and activist, Kitchener's Wazhma Frogh	Valerie	Hill		\$8,000
S21-80	Living On – The Gift Of Wings	Carl	Hiebert		\$6,000
S21-83	I am a Big Elephant	Aoe	Girard		\$3,300
S21-85	Dark River Podcast	Phillip	Psutka		\$7,300

Total Granted \$ 191,255

Carried

The following applications did not receive Board approval for an Arts Fund grant:

ID#	Project Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization or Collective
S21-01	Living Art in Public Spaces (Artists On Demand - Working Title)	Sarah	Nairne	
S21-04	Cultures Combine to Create through Song (CCCS)	Ron	Hiller	SoPlato (collective)
S21-05	Life of Cy	Mark	Ramitt	
S21-06	Pilot Project video and promo	Grant	Gimpel	
S21-07	Deep Sleep Academy film trailer	Stephen	Young	
S21-08	BAD	Clarissa	Diokno	
S21-10	The Inclines - Permanent Vacation Music Video	Sam	Belanger	The Inclines
S21-12	Music Video "Dirty Water"	John Paul	Sunga	
S21-13	Coffee	Kris	Langford	
S21-15	Arts Heroes	Carlos	Parada	
S21-16	Living with Puppets	Christopher	Torti	The Rainbow Beat
S21-19	The Long Pier (short film)	Dave	Mansell	Tilted Arts Inc.
S21-20	Original Jazz CD - "Moon Rising"	Adrian	Dennis	
S21-21	Yet to be titled LP	Ben	Waugh	
S21-22	Music for Self-Isolation	Mariette	Stephenson	

ID#	Project Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization or Collective
S21-23	Third Time's a Charm; My parents struggle with mental health, addiction and dementia.	Sara	Geidlinger	
S21-25	"Sing Yourself Home" by ItheMountain	Allyson	Dyjach	I The Mountain
S21-26	A Forest in a City	Corey	Linforth	
S21-28	Orkestral : A Self Titled Metal Album with Local Musicians	Ben	Moore	
S21-29	Elliott And The Audio Kings - Out Of My System	Mike	Elliott	
S21-35	Summer 2021 Live Stream Series	Matt	Weidinger	
S21-36	Black Balloon - EP	Andrew	MacFarlane	
S21-39	Agri(CULTURE)	Jeff	Stager	
S21-40	HopeFest 3: Virtual Music Festival	Kyle	Wappler	Have Hope
S21-41	Mental Health Podcast	Sarah	Pearson	
S21-43	The Things You Don't Say: Stories of Young Women Coming of Age in the Suburbs of Waterloo	Anne	Doelman	University of British Columbia
S21-44	"Curiouser: A New Musical" Cambridge-Wide Return to the Arts Event, Featuring Penny & Pound Theatre Productions and The Cambridge Symphony Orchestra	Piper J.	Distel	Penny & Pound Theatre Productions
S21-46	Magickal Mystic Cart	Elfie	Kalfakis	
S21-48	Mixed(er)	Alten	Wilmot	Unwrap Theatre
S21-50	Witches in the Woods: A Queer Re-spinning of Hansel and Gretel	Amy	Neufeld	
S21-53	Phoebe Watson: Renaissance Woman	Tabatha	Watson	Homer Watson House & Gallery
S21-54	The bliss of atypical	Andy	McGeoch	
S21-55	Grimm Girls	Eekta	Trienekens	
S21-57	Dominion Lane Art Walk	Tracy	Van Kalsbeek	Uptown Waterloo

ID#	Project Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization or Collective
S21-63	"If I Can Talk to Myself, Which One is Me?" An Art Zine by Nikolina Kupcevic	Nikolina	Kupcevic	
S21-64	Let This Be Mine	Catherine	Mellinger	
S21-65	The Empty Arms Project	Michlynn	Schweitzer	
S21-67	Menstruation Is...	Kevin	Hiebert	O.K. Period
S21-68	Fantum Studios: Volume One	Micheala	Clair	Fantum Studios
S21-70	Colouring book based on my most popular art pieces I've created	Alana	Decker	
S21-71	Juni's Journey (working title of a children's book)	Angela	Grasse	
S21-73	Every Flower Has Kept Me: a novel	Nicole	Smith	
S21-74	Under the Shield	Stephen	Kotowych	
S21-75	The Ibis King (Book #1 in Albatross Trilogy)	Paula	Sanchez Nunez de Villavicencio	
S21-77	Home: a book of poetry, essays and photography by Julie Dring	Julie	Dring	
S21-79	A Hippopotamus in Bondage Gear, and other travel stories	Paul	Knowles	
S21-81	For Reference Magazine	Rachel	Watson	For reference
S21-82	Japanese Canadian Internment Book for Kids (kindergarten to grade three)	Kate	Kamo McHugh	
S21-86	Spoken Word in the Waterloo Region	Dylan	Langan	Vera Causa Opera

Total Requested \$346,445

11. Other Business

There were no items for discussion.

12. Next Meetings:

- **Thursday, September 9, 2021**
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
3:00 p.m. – Held electronically

- Regular Board Meeting to follow

13. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Board President, W. Chesney

Corporate Clerk, S. Natolochny