

## **Media Advisory**

For immediate release:

Friday, January 29, 2016

## **Region of Waterloo Arts Fund Hosts Open House**

Waterloo Region – The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund's board of directors is hosting an Open House for grant applicants in advance of the Spring 2016 round. This will be an informal drop-in session where board members will be available to share general information about the Fund and its mandate. Members will also welcome feedback on the newly revised application forms and the Grant Application Guidelines document.

This is not a grant writing session. Board members are restricted from providing specific application assistance.

What: Drop-in Open House

When: Tuesday, February 9, 2016

5 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Where: Region of Waterloo Administrative Headquarters

150 Frederick Street, Kitchener

Room 110, Ground Floor

No pre-registration required; just stop by.

The mandate of the Arts Fund is to "make art happen" – stimulate arts activity – immediately, by funding projects throughout the Region that will occur within the next 12 months and, over the longer term, will enhance the ability of an artist or arts organization to make more art happen through future projects.

Created in 2002, the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund is a not-for-profit corporation which provides arms-length funding for the performing, visual, media and literary arts in the Region of Waterloo. The Arts Fund invites applications in the spring and fall of each year. Applicants are first asked to submit a Stage 1 application outlining their project. On the basis of a review of those applications, a short list of applicants is then asked to submit a more detailed proposal in a Stage 2 application, augmented by budgets and additional support materials.

The Arts Fund is one of the very few funds in Canada that awards grants directly to artist-led projects. The Arts Fund also supports new projects initiated by local arts organizations in collaboration with artists based in the Region. The funds are generously made available through Regional Council's allocation of 40 cents per capita.

By investing in the community via the Arts Fund, the supported projects have the ability to attract additional funds through earned revenue, grants from provincial, federal or private sources, sponsorships, private and in-kind donations.

The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund welcomes 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 next deadline for applications to the Arts Fund is 4:00 pm on Friday, March 4, 2016. Full details are available on the website: www.artsfund.ca.

For more information about the Open House, contact Stevie Natolochny at 519-575-4450 or via email: snatolochny@regionofwaterloo.ca