



## **Media Release**

For immediate release

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### **Region of Waterloo Arts Fund awards 34 grants**

**Waterloo Region** - The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund announces 34 grants for a total of \$196,460 in response to proposals submitted by artists and arts organizations throughout Waterloo Region.

The Arts Fund initially received 67 requests, for a total of \$487,072. After the first round of evaluations, 55 applicants seeking a total of \$412,552 were invited to submit more detailed Stage 2 applications from which the 34 grants were ultimately selected. Since it was established in 2002, the Arts Fund has supported 706 projects for a total community investment of \$3,803,880.

Proposals selected for full or partial funding in the spring 2019 round include organizations, collectives and individual artists. Grant recipients are:

#### **Organizations & Collectives**

Isabel Cisterna (Waterloo) Neruda Arts \$6,000 for “Feel the Music & Light Installations” - as a part of the Kultrun World Music Festival, a music presentation for the deaf, and light installations to enhance the festival experience.

Luisa D'Amato (Kitchener) Grand Philharmonic Choir \$5,000 for “Candide” with the Elora Festival Singers – melding amateur and professional voices for this Bernstein operetta.

Heather Franklin (Waterloo) Button Factory Arts/Waterloo Community Arts Centre \$8,000 to support “Celebrate!” – the Button Factory Arts Centre’s 25th Anniversary

Veda Hingert-McDonald (Waterloo) Compostable Concerts \$3,000 for “Compostable Concerts”: a pilot season for a concert series, focussing on zero waste.

Tessa Jennison (Kitchener) Waterloo Region Crossing Inc. \$9,500 for “There is Not Here Yet” – to finish a documentary film on our local housing crisis, using footage shot during Waterloo Region Crossing 2018 Winter Trek.

Kelly Kipfer (Waterloo) Waterloo Public Library in partnership with Mary Allen Studio Tour \$2,200 for “Arts in the Neighbourhood” – an interactive art exhibit with opportunities to engage with the artists.

Carin Lowerison (Kitchener) Green Light Arts \$10,000 to support “Sudden Death: the John Kordic story” – a two week run of a play about an NHL “enforcer”.

Leslie Maxwell (Kitchener) Belmont Village Bestival \$5,000 – to support “Belmont Village Bestival 2019”

Kenn Norman (Cambridge) Fashion History Museum \$1,500 for “Artist in Residence: Master Tambour Beadwork Embroiderer Robert Haven”

Pam Patel (Waterloo) MT Space (The Multicultural Theater Space) \$10,000 for “IMPACT 19 Young Company Showcase” – a creation process with and for young people.

Alan K. Sapp (Kitchener) Nickel Mines Collective \$4,000 for “Nickel Mines Project”, the next phase of the development of the play for text, movement, sound and music together.

Grace Scheele (Kitchener) HARP+ \$5,000 for “Homecomings” – described as a “concert, an installation and a playground” – an event with music and more.

Nathan Stretch (Kitchener) Bass Lions \$5,000 for the EP: “Imperfect Palindrome” – to record a 5 part song-cycle in collaboration with Gerard Yun.

### **Individual Artists**

Patrick Allaby (Kitchener) \$5,000 for a hand-drawn slideshow about the artist’s experience of moving to Kitchener from New Brunswick

Aaron Fletcher aka “Air Blaq” (Cambridge) \$7,860 for Professional Music Video Production for 6 songs.

Gary Kirkham (Cambridge) \$5,250 for Sand Pendulum – a performance art installation with sand and vocalists. Intended for Cambridge Centre for the Arts and Perimeter Institute.

Jon Knight (Waterloo) \$3,000 for a full-length studio album with supporting videos of original music.

Paul Knowles (New Hamburg) \$8,000 to support the creation of “Ed Brighton Mysteries”, Volume 2 – a book to follow on the success of the first.

Eva McCauley (Kitchener) \$5,000 for “Flux of Time” for works created by superimposing human figures from the 1800’s Stroh collection on to contemporary landscapes. To be exhibited in a non- traditional setting.

Catherine Mellinger (Waterloo) \$5,500 for “HashtagXIV” – a series of mixed media pieces inspired by the structure of the Stations of the Cross.

Jacob Meyer (Kitchener) \$4,400 for “Vekked” EP – a debut EP using the turntable as the primary instrument plus samples of traditional instruments.

Luke Michielsen (Kitchener) \$3,500 for “ Don’t be Afraid of the Forest” – recordings and video vignettes for 9 new songs.

Tim Moher (Kitchener) \$10,000 for a CD: “The Clefs of Moher” – the composition, creation and recording of a CD with Celtic and Jazz melodies.

Christine Moncrief (Waterloo) \$8,000 for “Us/We/Ours” – part of Impact19, this inter-arts live performance expresses 3 invisible disabilities – Autism, Schizophrenia and Tourette’s.

Sam Nabi (Kitchener) \$10,000 for “Attract Hazard” – a two part project that includes a hip-hop album of original music and a chap book about the local history of hip-hop.

Tom Nagy (Kitchener) \$4,550 for a CD “The Finest Moments from the Tom Nagy Christmas Experience Live Shows 2012-2018”

Eryn O'Neill (Waterloo) \$3,000 for “Desire Paths” – to create paintings inspired by her activities as a runner. To be exhibited at the Rotunda at Kitchener City Hall

Phillip Psutka (Kitchener) \$4,900 for “Weird” – a contemporary interpretation of the witches story from “MacBeth” featuring aerial acrobat artists.

Momcilo Simic (Kitchener) \$4,300 for “1000 Words +” an experimental installation of paintings in a new gallery space, for an established artist.

Nicole Smith (Cambridge) \$4,000 for “Mama Used to Dance” - for the development phase of a new play inspired by the community of Preston, and the artist’s grandmother’s story.

Mark Tonin (Kitchener) \$7,500 for “Tuques & Tunes” - to support the event and the video archive of a full day live music event at Rhythm & Brews in Cambridge.

Trevor Waurechen (Kitchener) \$4,000 for Parallell-O-Vision – a temporary public art exhibit during the Lumen Festival. Inspired by the View Master toy.

Matt Weidinger (Kitchener) \$10,000 for “Matt Weidinger's - Live Off the Floor" To produce promotional videos of live performances.

JoJo Worthington (Kitchener) \$4,500 for “Synesthesia Concert” – a concert event to promote her album.

The mandate of the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund is to contribute to the creative vitality in our community by providing meaningful grants and other advocacy support to individual artists and to arts and culture organizations.

Waterloo Region now generously allocates the equivalent of 67 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 served by a volunteer Board of Directors. The Arts Fund 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).

In June, the Arts Fund announced that with a donation from the Good Foundation, there will be an additional \$40,000 to distribute in the fall 2019 granting cycle through the usual intake. No separate application is required for these new funds, and grants will be awarded according to the Arts Fund's usual adjudication process.

The Arts Fund Board 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.

For more information about peer-to-peer grant writing assistance, Board-hosted open houses before application deadlines, Artist-at-Large Advisers and previous grant recipients, please visit the website: [www.artsfund.ca](http://www.artsfund.ca).

The next Arts Fund Open House for grant applicants before the fall 2019 round is on Tuesday, August 13 from 5-7 p.m. at the Region of Waterloo Headquarters, Room 110, 150 Frederick Street, Kitchener. There will be a brief presentation at 5:15 to provide an overview of the Arts Fund guidelines, with plenty of time for questions. First time applicants are encouraged to attend this brief presentation. Board members will be

available until 7 .p.m. to respond to questions and to share general information about the fund and its mandate. The next deadline for applications to the Arts Fund is 4 p.m. on Friday, September 6, 2019; full details are available on the website: [www.artsfund.ca](http://www.artsfund.ca).

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For more information, please contact staff and Board members via email:  
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