



## MEDIA ADVISORY

# **Arts Fund invests \$135,225 to make art happen in Waterloo Region, including:**

***Wild Writers Literary Festival, a project of The New Quarterly***

***an Online Video Channel for the DaCapo Chamber Choir***

***Chamber Delights, a new Cambridge Symphony Orchestra concert series***

***a public art initiative led by the Cherry Park Neighbourhood Association***

***singer-songwriter and spoken word artist Janice Lee's debut album***

**For immediate release:**

**Waterloo Region – (June 21, 2012)** The Region of Waterloo Arts Fund announces that it has awarded grants totaling \$135,225 to artists and arts organizations in response to proposals submitted from throughout the Region of Waterloo.

A total of 20 grants are being made in the Arts Fund's Spring 2012 grants cycle. The Arts Fund has invested more than \$1,640,000 since its inception in 2002. The funds are generously made available through Regional Council's allocation of 40 cents per capita.

Grants approved in this round were:

- ✦ \$12,000 to Anne-Marie Donovan to write a first draft and organize a preliminary workshop of a new opera, *The Explosion of the Island Of Krakatau*, with composer Tim Brady and librettist John Sobol
- ✦ \$3,800 to the music group Bass Lions for *Body Doubles*, a short video featuring the band's music led and directed by Nathan Stretch
- ✦ \$7,000 to Cambridge Sculpture Garden for the installation of Gareth Lichty's *Water Tower* sculpture
- ✦ \$7,500 to Cambridge Symphony Orchestra for *Chamber Delights*, a new concert series featuring small ensembles of the orchestra's principal players and guest artists
- ✦ \$12,000 to the Cherry Park Neighbourhood Association for the *Agnes Street Public Art Installation*

- ⤴ \$6,300 to musician Christa Mercey to record and produce *Christa Mercey EP*
- ⤴ \$5,000 to the Contemporary Art Forum Kitchener and Area for *Interventions at the Walper*, a program of contemporary art installations
- ⤴ \$6,500.00 to the DaCapo Chamber Choir to develop an *Online Video Channel*
- ⤴ \$11,500 to filmmaker James Anthony Usas for *Dystopiana: House of the Gathering*
- ⤴ \$3,000 to singer-songwriter and spoken word artist Janice Lee to produce her debut album
- ⤴ \$3,000 to musician Kathryn Ladano for the *Potluck Concert Series* featuring improvised music across various styles and genres
- ⤴ \$1,000 to the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra for *Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra Interactive*, a new interactive concert series that will engage children and seniors
- ⤴ \$2,125 to KW Poetry Slam for their 2<sup>nd</sup> spoken word poetry showcase and competition season
- ⤴ \$4,000 to Lost&Found Theatre to workshop *On the Inside*, a 2-act play by Dona Massel
- ⤴ \$7,500 to filmmaker Melissa Sky for *Rainbow Reflections*, a feature length documentary
- ⤴ \$14,000 to The MT Space to develop *Occupy Spring*, a new production that will explore “recent movements of people taking to the streets”
- ⤴ \$10,000 to the Multicultural Cinema Club at The Working Centre for an expansion and reconfiguration of the *Local Focus Film Festival*
- ⤴ \$8,000 to media arts practitioner Tallen Kay for *The TrueUNetwork*, a film narrative told in the form of a social networking site

Created in 2002, the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund is a not-for-profit corporation which provides arms-length funding for the performing, visual 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 more detailed proposals.

The objective of the Arts Fund is to “make art happen” – stimulate arts activity – immediately through projects that will happen within the next 12 months, and over the longer term through projects that will enhance the ability of an artist or arts organization to make more art happen in the future.

Applications in all arts disciplines are welcomed from individual artists and arts organizations in the Region of Waterloo (comprising the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo and the townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich). Adjudication of applications is done by the Arts Fund’s broadly based 14-member board.

**The next deadline for applications to the Arts Fund is 4:00 pm on Friday, September 7, 2012; information is available on the website: [www.artsfund.ca](http://www.artsfund.ca)**

For further information about this release, please contact Stevie Natolochny at 519-575-4450.

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**For a brochure or application information, please contact Stevie Natolochny, Council/Committee Support Specialist, Council and Administrative Services, Regional Municipality of Waterloo at 519-575-4450 or via email at: [snatolochny@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:snatolochny@regionofwaterloo.ca)**