

FOR RELEASE 08-286  
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**FIFTEEN ARTS AND CULTURAL PROJECTS SUPPORTED THROUGH ARTS FUND**

WHITEHORSE – The Arts Fund is contributing \$166,400 towards fifteen projects to further support and develop the arts in Yukon, announced Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor.

"The Government of Yukon places a high value on arts and culture, and the contributions they make to our social and economic well-being," Taylor said. "We are truly fortunate to have such a talented, active and thriving arts and culture community in the North."

The Arts Fund is an applicant-driven funding program that supports artists and communities in creative endeavours such as festivals, events, training, and art creation in all forms. The fund is adjudicated four times a year by the Yukon Arts Advisory Council in an arms-length process. Nineteen projects were adjudicated for the September 2008 intake.

One project to receive funding is the Carcross Tagish Alphabet Flashcard Project. In a series of visual art workshops, elementary school students will work with First Nation Elders and seasoned artist Susan McCallum to create and illustrate Tlingit alphabet flashcards. Students will be introduced to basic drawing skills that will offer them further opportunities to learn about their culture and the Tlingit language.

"As Tagish and Tlingit learners, we tend to be visual learners, so it's good to see the arts represented in the development of a literary world," Kha Shade Heni Mark Wedge said.

The next deadline for Arts Fund applications is December 15, 2008. Applicants are encouraged to consult the Fund Administrator before applying. Telephone: 867-667-3535, toll free at 1-800-661-0408 ext. 3535. Email: [artsfund@gov.yk.ca](mailto:artsfund@gov.yk.ca)

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List of Arts Fund September 2008 recipients attached.

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**Arts Fund Recipients - September 15, 2008 Intake**

	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Amount Allocated</b>
1	Carcross Tagish First Nation	<u>Carcross Tagish Alphabet Flashcard Project</u> For a series of visual art workshops for children and youth that will result in the production of Tlingit Alphabet flashcards and friezes.	\$6,700
2	Catwalk Entertainment	<u>Barbara Chamberlin's Big Band Tour and Concert</u> For a CD release concert and tour with Yukon and international musicians.	\$10,000
3	Graceful Productions	<u>Brave New Works</u> For the production of a series of presentations of new works by emerging and established artists in theatre, dance, music and visual arts.	\$12,500
4	Longest Night Society	<u>True Stories youth show</u> For a youth arts development project which offers workshops and a performance to develop young musicians and performers.	\$10,000
5	Nakai Theatre Ensemble	<u>This is Cancer? presentation</u> To present the play <i>This is Cancer?</i> which will include a question and answer period and workshop.	\$3,000
6	Northern Writers Artist Collective	<u>2009 Yukon Writer's Conference</u> To provide the opportunity for senior Yukon authors to learn from and pitch writing projects to six acquiring editors from Canadian and international publishing houses.	\$12,000
7	Red Wagon Union	<u>Dark Days</u> For the presentation of visual arts displays and performance art that reflects artists' interpretation of the dark days of winter.	\$5,000
8	Saba Middle Eastern Dance Ensemble	<u>Concert presentations</u> For the presentation of two concerts of Middle Eastern dance and music in Whitehorse and Dawson City, plus dance and drum workshops.	\$14,000

9	Teslin Recreation Society	<u>Teslin Arts in the Community campaign</u> To provide arts programming for adults in the community of Teslin, including traditional arts, dance and music.	\$3,500
10	Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in	<u>After School Youth Art Program</u> For a series of workshops that will use a variety of artistic mediums to encourage artistic exploration and expression.	\$6,700
11	Whitehorse Poetry Collective	<u>Whitehorse Poetry Festival</u> For a celebration of contemporary poetry featuring reading, discussions and workshops with local and nationally renowned poets.	\$10,000
12	Yukon Association for Community Living	<u>Books and Bodies</u> For the development and production of a series of visual art exhibitions.	\$21,000
13	Yukon Bluegrass Music Society	<u>7<sup>th</sup> Annual Klwane Mountain Bluegrass Festival</u> Toward the production of the festival held in Haines Junction, Yukon.	\$17,000
14	Yukon Educational Theatre Society	<u>Inzanity!</u> Towards three community celebration projects that build community through ritual and folk art: <i>Burning Away the Winter Blues</i> , <i>A Celebration of the Harvest</i> and <i>A Yuletide Parade</i> .	\$12,000
15	Whitehorse International Snow Sculpture Challenge	<u>Whitehorse International Snow Sculpture Challenge 2009</u> For a Snow Sculpture Festival featuring world class sculptors and the Sundog Carvers.	\$23,000
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$166,400</b>