



PRINCE
EDWARD
COUNTY
ARTS
COUNCIL

artist fund

CAREER DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR ARTISTS

Supporting Artists

For more than 35 years, the Prince Edward County Arts Council has had the privilege of **supporting professional events** that showcase the work of local artists. Our events annually generate upwards of \$250,000 in sales of art.

In 2017, we expanded our **support of local artists** by offering career development grants through the **Artist Fund**, an initiative that has since awarded over \$20,000 to local artists.

As an equal opportunity organization, we are committed to reflecting and including the diversity of our community to **foster a sense of belonging within our organization** by integrating principles of diversity, equity, inclusiveness and responsiveness into our policies, programs, partnerships and services.

Programs

Our membership is a diverse group of artists including painters, makers, photographers, illustrators, cinematographers, authors, designers, performers, and more! Emerging and established artists may apply to the Fund's various programs.

- **Professional Development (\$1500)**

Strengthen artist careers through learning.

- **Market Development (\$1500)**

Support artists as they develop new markets for their work.

- **Public Art (\$2500)**

Encourage the realization of public art projects in the community.

- **Artists in the Community (\$2500)**

Newly launched in 2020, this grant helps the community engage professional artists to realize art-focused projects, or to assist artists in realizing projects which directly engage residents.

Successful Candidates 2017

In the program's inaugural year, three local artists were awarded funds to pursue professional development activities.

Total funds available: \$1,500

- ✧ **Janice Edwards**, Painter – \$150 to attend Brush it Bold facilitated by Sheila Davis in PEC.
- ✧ **Kate Golding**, Surface Pattern Designer – \$750 to attend School of Hustle facilitated by Instagram Business and Hedley & Bennett in Los Angeles.
- ✧ **Tess Girard**, Cinematographer – \$600 to attend a Cinematic Lighting workshop facilitated by the Canadian Society of Cinematographers in Toronto.

Testimonial



“Attending School of Hustle has given me a new perspective on my position as a designer and entrepreneur... and a renewed confidence that I can achieve my goals. The generous funds provided by the Professional Development Program grant were integral to me being able to participate.”

- Kate Golding, 2017

Successful Candidates 2018

Applications more than doubled in 2018, demonstrating a real need in the community. We supported a diverse range of artists and projects, and awarded our first Public Art grant!

Total funds available: \$4,500

- ✧ **Chrissy Poitras**, Printmaker – \$325 to take online course *Getting Your Work into Galleries* at Praxis Centre, New York.
- ✧ **Karole Marois**, Muralist – \$112 to gain her *Working at Heights* certification.
- ✧ **Katrina Tompkins**, Furniture Designer – \$600 to participate in *Zanzibar Professional* with CoDesign Abroad in Zanzibar, Africa.
- ✧ **Gavin North**, Performer – \$450 to attend *Winter Improv Festival and Tournament* in Stratford, ON.
- ✧ **ICE BOX PEC**, Event – \$1,500 to support the creation of interactive art installations by Chrissy Poitras and Andrea Piller.

Testimonial



“ Thank you so much for your support! It was much needed to help get this event off the ground in its first year. Thank you for believing in us and being part of the magic that was ICE BOX! ”

- Krista Dalby, 2019

Successful Candidates 2019

In 2019, we awarded our first Market Development grant. This program allows artists to travel with their work in order to develop audiences and partnerships in new geographic regions. We also awarded our second Public Art grant to help a charitable organization realize a new project.

Total funds available: \$4,500

- ✧ **Kamee Abrahamian**, Filmmaker – \$800 to premiere their short film *Transmission* at the Vancouver Queer Film Festival, Vancouver, BC.
- ✧ **Dawn Middleton**, Ceramist – \$425 to attend a *Slip-casting Mold Systems Workshop* with Peter Pincus, Richmond Hill, ON.
- ✧ **Danielle Reddick**, Visual Artist – \$1,500 commissioned by Glenwood Cemetery to create a sculpture in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of D-Day. Installed in the cemetery in summer 2020.

Testimonial



Artist Danielle Reddick (L) and Glenwood Cemetery Chair Sandy Latchford (R) with Danielle's Second World War wire sculpture soldier.

“I am absolutely privileged to be part of this project; the significance goes beyond the need to remember everyone who fought and the struggles and the success,” said Reddick.

- Danielle Reddick, 2020

Successful Candidates 2020

In 2020, we awarded our first Artists in the Community grant. This program assists artist members in realizing a community-based art project to directly engage residents. We also awarded two exciting Public Art grants that safely engaged the community during the global pandemic.

Total funds available: \$6,000

- ✧ **The Department of Illumination**, Artistic Company - \$750 for the Boxtopia Canada Day Challenge, challenging community members to construct iconic Canadian imagery from cardboard
- ✧ **Nella Casson**, Multidisciplinary Artist - \$1500 to support *Looking Out, Looking Up*, a socially-distanced summer exhibition of window boxes with colourful and familiar painted and embroidered imagery, set in thriving storefronts on Picton Main St.
- ✧ **Dianne Kehoe**, Painter - \$1500 from the Artists in the Community Grant towards The Joy of Sketching and Watercolour Painting, a creative and therapeutic online workshop developed for seniors.

Testimonial



Looking Out, Looking Up in Books & Company's storefront, summer 2020

“This summer I was able to pick up and focus on my hand embroidery ... Receiving a Public Art Grant from the Prince Edward County Arts Council allowed me to build out these embroidered works. This summer I saw my stitching improve and my work became cohesive and more complete than ever before.”

- Nella Casson, 2020

Successful Candidates 2021

As the pandemic continued to impact our lives in 2021, we supported artists who found new ways to engage with audiences.

Total funds available: \$6,000

- ✧ **Ophelia Spinosa**, Filmmaker - \$400 from the Market Development program to help with distribution costs related to her short film *Fruits of Labour*. Ophelia is an early-career artist.
- ✧ **Arwyn Carpenter**, Dancer & Choreographer - \$1000 to support *Dancing with Rainbows*, an Artists in the Community project in partnership with Reaching for Rainbows, a program focused on empowering girls aged 6-9.
- ✧ **The Department of Illumination**, Artistic Company - \$1500 to support *Tiny Town Aglow*, a COVID-safe project to replace in-person artist-guided lantern-building workshops. Community-made lanterns were on display in Books & Company window on Main Street, Picton in fall 2021.
- ✧ **Conrad Beaubien**, Playwright - \$1500 from the Public Art program to support a free outdoor public reading of his new play based on local historical events, titled *The Boxcar Cowboy*.

Testimonial



*Fruits of Labour Directed by Ophelia
Spinosa, 2020*

“I would like to applaud the generosity of the Council and their philosophy of promoting the work of emerging artists in our community through various initiatives. The knowledge I take away from this project with the support of the Market Development Program, will last me my whole career. I encourage all young artists in the area to submit their work, and I look forward to working with the Council on future projects.”

- Ophelia Spinosa, 2021

Successful Candidates 2022

The Artist Fund continued to support artists in various ways in 2022, with projects engaging youth in the community, transforming downtown Picton, and assisting with artists' career education and development.

Total funds available: \$6,000

- ✦ **Kirei Samuel**, Glass Artist - \$2500 from the Artists in the Community program for The Power of Words project in partnership with The Hub, for youth aged 9 to 12 years to choose words that resonate with themselves and themes of self-esteem. The words, written on pieces of glass, were then fused together and hung as a piece of art.
- ✦ **Angela Lavender**, Mixed Media Artist - \$500 from the Market Development program to participate in Art Battle Québec, a live painting competition against 11 fellow artists.
- ✦ **Karole Marois**, Painter - \$500 from the Professional Development program to become a Lifetime Member of the Art Business Academy, to further artistic development and provide ongoing guidance and mentorship, following Jason Horej's online art workshops for artists.
- ✦ **Tomas Del Balso**, Multidisciplinary Artist - \$2500 from the Public Art program to fund *Forever Wild*, a semi-permanent mural hung on the outside walls of Carbon Art & Design in downtown Picton.

Testimonial



Youth participants working on the collaborative glass art piece at The Hub Child & Family Centre.

“A couple of students asked if we could do more of this type of work, as did the parents ... A lot of the kids came up [to me] after and said ‘thank you,’ as did the parents. I feel I will never really know the impact this piece had on the kids that participated. However, I realized it resonated much more than I had realized after the first day. It was great to see how important the words were to the kids and how proud they were when the piece was unveiled.”

- Kirei Samuel, 2022

Contact

Interested in learning more about the Artist Fund? Please get in touch!

Contact

Janna Smith, Executive Director

janna@countyarts.ca

“Stimulating economic growth starts by investing in innovation, and that means putting money into arts and culture.”

-Mélanie Joly, Former Minister of Canadian Heritage

