

# *Final Report for Fall 2020*

## *PEI Artist Grants*



**November 27, 2020**



Economic Growth,  
Tourism & Culture

This funding program was designed to support the development of artistic practice of PEI artists through a competitive award system. The process for assessment is modeled after the best practice of using peer juries to select successful projects and award funding amounts. This round of funding competition was able to support 16 projects in total.

### Stats:

Number of eligible applications received: 69

Number of projects funded: 16

Total amount requested: \$324,764.06

Total amount available to be awarded: \$50,220.00

### By Discipline:

Visual Arts: 4

Interdisciplinary: 4

Film and Media Arts: 2

Music: 2

Writing and Publishing: 2

Theatre: 1

Dance: 1

### By Artist Type:

Established: 8

Emerging: 8

Amateur: 0

### By Grant type:

Creation: 11

Dissemination: 4

Professional Development: 1

## Successful Applicants

### *Gerard Clarkes*

#### **Visual, Established, \$2000**

To frame paintings to be included in a solo retrospective exhibit at The Confederation Centre Art Gallery, opening January 2021.

### *Emmanuelle LeBlanc (Vishten)*

#### **Music, Established, \$4000**

Recherche et création d'oeuvres originales à être présenté pour une série de spectacle en février 2021. // Research and creation of original works to be performed during a series of shows in February 2021.

### *Reequal Smith*

#### **Dance, Emerging, \$2000**

Oshun's showcase will bring forth voices that will be demonstrated through dance and sound; while incorporating a Bahamian Twist of culture and diversity.

### *Melissa Peter Paul*

#### **Visual, Established, \$4500**

Visit Mi'kmaq quillwork collections in 4 communities, meet with the elders, harvest from a live porcupine and create 8 pieces of works based on the pieces that I viewed and interpreted.

### *Deborah Montgomery*

#### **Music, Emerging \$1950**

Fine-tune and push the musician's ability as a violinist by working one-on-one with a concert soloist.

### *Jay Gallant*

#### **Theatre, Emerging \$2000**

A dramatic play reading of they're one-act play What's Eating You? The play is an educational piece on gender diversity and this project is the first step in a larger project with the purpose of touring the play at schools and community centers across PEI (when COVID-19 restrictions allow).

### *Julie Pellissier Lush*

#### **Film, Established \$8000**

Take the theatre group Mi'kmaq Heritage Actors and move them into multimedia.

### *Dave Stewart*

#### **Film, Emerging \$2070**

Edit a six-part online documentary video project called "Before Grindr: The Secret Social History of Gay & Lesbian PEI" that explores the undocumented history of gay and lesbian people in Prince Edward Island.

*Rebecca Griffin*

**Interdisciplinary, Emerging \$4000**

Workshopping the creation and build of two major puppet characters and a table-top puppet stage for a production idea called "Catching Fish."

*Damien Worth*

**Visual, Established \$2500**

Creating no less than eight large scale paintings that examine uncertainty as it relates to location, logic, and navigation.

*Julie Bull*

**Interdisciplinary, Emerging \$2000**

Bring their multi-disciplinary spoken-word performance piece, Land Back, to the stage at The Guild in Spring 2021.

*Renee Laprise*

**Visual, Established \$2600**

The creation of four large scale paintings exploring the theme of interaction/intersection of the physical and non-physical planes. These will be part of a series of new work to be exhibited in a solo show in 2021.

*Richard Lush*

**Writing, Emerging \$4000**

The creation of the first book in a three book series for children on being Indigenous but having light skin with light colored hair. The hope is to help provide other Youth with the authors' stories of pride and growth of becoming a proud Indigenous person though the adversity of being light skinned.

*Meaghan Blanchard*

**Writing, Established \$4000**

"Hello Sweet Boy..." is a collection of autobiographical letters that shine a light on the most intimate experiences of a young farm family in rural Prince Edward Island during the global pandemic, the challenges of living as a new mother with postpartum anxiety and the healing power of coming together as a family to play music around the kitchen table.

*Somnia Lucent*

**Interdisciplinary, Emerging \$1600**

To build a uniquely beautiful musical instrument made out of sea glass and plastics collected from the shores of Epekwitk/PEI to capture the melody of the wind. Inspired by Anemophilia "wind-loving", and Anemophily "the pollination of plants through the action of winds".

*Sarah Hagen*

**Interdisciplinary, Established \$3000**

The creation of 32 pieces of visual art to accompany the 32 movements of Bach's Goldberg Variations, with the goal of translating a pianist's imagination to canvas. The artist will record the Variations "live" (unedited) so that people can listen to the music on their phones and tablets while they walk through a gallery viewing the corresponding artwork, the overall result being an exploration of a different version of a physically distanced performance.

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## **Process for Selection of Grant Awards**

The Director of Cultural Development oversees the administration of this funding program. A contracted program administrator coordinated the grant applications and jury selection, process. The program used a "peer assessment" model where a jury of six peers reviewed all applications and then were brought together to assess each application on the following criteria:

### *Artistic Merit 25 points*

Questions the artist(s) should be able to answer within this section:

- Why do I/we make art? Why am I a musician/film-maker/visual artist etc?
- What is my arts practice about (a general statement that speaks to an overarching vision?)
- Where is this project situated within my practice and does it demonstrate growth of my practice?

Other things to consider - are the concepts in language that is understandable (not too jargon filled, academic)

Is this about business or about artistic merit?

### *Achievability 15 points*

Does the artist(s) have a track record of successfully completing projects? Does the plan seem reasonable? Is their budget sufficient? Does the artist have a well thought out timeline?

### *Impact 10 points*

This criteria relates to impact for the PEI Arts community. Essentially the question is: Will the project contribute to PEI arts? It can be understood in many ways: growth of the individual artist/group, raising the profile of the artist within the community, contributing to the growth of the arts community, or raising the profile of PEI arts outside of the province.

### *Selection of Jury*

Jury members were solicited from an open call for applications. Jury members represented a mix of disciplines and experience in the arts community. The jurors were:

Ryan McCarvill (Film and Media Arts)

Kate Gracey Stewart (Arts Admin, Performing Arts)

Alexis Bulman (Visual Art)

Patricia Bourque (Visual Art, Indigenous)

Todd MacLean (Writing and Publishing)

Catherine MacLellan (Music)

### *Timeline for Fall 2020 PEI Arts Grants:*

September 25: Call for applications/jury members open

October 23: Deadline for applications

October 26 – November 13: Jury reviews applications

November 19: Jury meets face to face for adjudication

November 23: Results communicated to applicants