Final Report for fall 2019
PEI Artist Grants

December 11, 2019

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 15 projects in total.

Stats:
Number of eligible applications received: 68  
Number of projects funded: 15  
Total amount requested: $408,713.96  
Total amount available to be awarded: $50,000.00

By Discipline:
Visual Arts: 5  
Interdisciplinary: 1  
Film and Media Arts: 1  
Music: 5  
Writing and Publishing: 3  
Theatre: 0  
Arts Admin: 0

By Artist Type:
Established: 10  
Emerging: 5  
Amateur: 0

By Grant type:
Creation: 12  
Dissemination: 2  
Professional Development: 1
Successful Applicants

**Gerald Beaulieu**
*Creation, Visual Art, $6,500*
To build a large mechanized dinosaur skeleton, covered in black tar, drinking from an oil drum full of black crude.

**Catherine MacLellan**
*Dissemination, Music, $2,500*
To perform at two festivals in Australia (Woodford, Cygnet) as well as two music conferences (Folk Alliance International in New Orleans and Americana UK in London, England.

**Damien Worth**
*Creation, Visual Art, $2,500*
To create eight large-scale paintings exploring the structures that exist 'below the surface' of natural environments and their potential for metaphor in relation to psychology.

**Atlantic String Machine**
*Creation, Music, $5,500*
To develop a program of music for Atlantic String Machine based on the life of William Critchlow Harris made of original compositions, classical repertoire, and arrangements of traditional and popular music.

**Emma Fugate**
*Creation, Film, $3,050*
To help create While Time Is Passing, a short musical film based on a single song by Island musician Jill Chandler in which she plays Lydia, a weary woman who has a final conversation with her husband, Ian Sherwood, before they go their separate ways. Funding will be used to complete the post-production.

**Melissa Peter-Paul**
*Creation, Visual Art and Fine Craft, $6,000*
To create a nesting set of six quill boxes using birch bark, porcupine quills, sweetgrass and spruce root all harvested by the artist and her family.

**Rebecca Griffin**
*Professional Development, Interdisciplinary $2,000*
To attend the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity Puppetry intensive in January 2020.
Jordan Beaulieu  
Creation, Visual Art, $3,000  
To reflect on how locality affects Island artists by producing a photo series and accompanying publication over 12 weeks from November 2019 to February 2020.

Kinley Dowling  
Creation, Music and Film, $4,500  
To create a new music video for KINLEY’s song, “Washington”. The music video will be directed by Prince Edward Island filmmaker Jenna McMillan and will be about women’s empowerment and equality.

Brielle Ansems  
Creation, Music, $3,500  
This project will be a full-length album recorded at The Hill Sound Studio. Subject matter will focus primarily on the complexities of self-worth told through thirteen original songs.

Troy Little  
Creation, Writing, $2,500  
To complete the colour and design of his next graphic novel and have it ready for print by mid-2020.

Evan Furness  
Creation, Visual Art, $2,500  
To create New Texts, an artist book that uses digital collages of poems, drawings, and photographs to explore the habitual collecting of images in the digital age.

Dave Stewart  
Dissemination, Writing, $1,132  
To produce 100 limited edition first-run copies of the short story collection entitled "Monster Man".

Bren Simmers  
Creation, Writing, $1,818  
To write a new manuscript of poetry and prose that explores living with uncertainty.
Ariel Sharratt and Mathias Kom
Creation, Music, $3,000
To create an album of contemporary folk songs about work within the context of automation and the gig economy.

Process for Selection of Grant Awards

The Director of Cultural Development oversees the administration of this funding program. The Creative Industries Development Officer 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 a 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:
Susan Rodgers (Film and Media/Writing and Publishing)
Margot Resjkind (Music)
Max Knechtel (Arts Admin/Visual Art)
Patricia Bourque (Indigenous Art/Visual Art)
Adam Brazier (Theatre)
Stephen B. Macinnis (Visual Art)

Timeline for Fall 2019 PEI Arts Grants:
September 20: Call for applications/jury members open
October 18: Deadline for applications
October 22 - November 10 Jury reviews applications
November 12: Jury meets face to face for adjudication
November 14: Results communicated to applicants