# Final Report for the Spring 2023 PEI Arts Grants



June 15th, 2023



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: 100

Number of projects funded: 16 Total amount requested: \$898,001.57

Total amount available to be awarded: \$50,000.00

# By Discipline:

Visual Arts: 6 Interdisciplinary: 2 Film and Media Arts: 2

Music: 2

Writing and Publishing: 2

Theatre: 2

# By Artist Type:

Established: 10 Emerging: 5 Amateur: 1

# By Grant type:

Create: 13 Share: 2 Learn: 1

# Successful Applicants

# **Cameron MacDuffee (Farmgate Theatre)**

# Theatre, \$3,500

Farmgate Theatre is requesting assistance to develop and workshop a new theatre piece entitled The Good Time Radio Variety Show(GTRVS); an original stage play about a PEI radio station doing a live broadcast of their weekly variety show.

# Carlie Howell (Spontaneous Soundtrack)

#### Interdisciplinary \$3,500

The-Not-So-Silent Feminist Film Fest is a four-part series of screenings of classic and contemporary silent films with spontaneous soundtracks created by improvising musicians. It also includes panel discussions exploring the world of music and film through an intersectional feminist lens.

# **Chris Bailey**

# Writing and Publishing, \$2000

Chris Bailey will attend the Banff Centre for their 2023 Summer Writers Residency to work on adapting a previously written short story into a full length novel. A Cold East Wind will be set in Prince Edward Island.

#### **Damien Worth**

#### Visual Arts \$2,800

Visual Artist Damien Worth will be producing a new body of multi-disciplinary artwork that researches themes related to the idea of rural existence and (dis)location in (Epekwitk) Prince Edward Island landscapes.

#### Eberechi Okwuwolo

## Interdisciplinary, \$3,500

Black Face: Requisite Reflections on Seeing and Being is a process and technology-driven installation involving multiple simultaneous projections.

#### Emmanuelle LeBlanc

#### Music, \$5,000

Emmanuelle LeBlanc and Pascal Miousse are continuing to bring Vishtèn's music to light through the Connexions project, a collaborative effort that promotes creativity and the advancement of practices while honoring traditions and paying tribute to bandmate Pastelle LeBlanc. The group wants to honour Pastelle's legacy by finishing, sharing, and making her compositions accessible to everyone.

#### **Evan Furness**

#### Visual Arts, \$3,500

For this project Evan Furness will create 5-7 large scale mixed media artworks that explore connections between his experiences growing up on a farm and the depiction of rural farm spaces in science-fiction, horror and disaster films.

# John Hopkins

#### Film and Media Arts, \$5,000

First Nations Mi'kmaq filmmaker Tom Johnson (Executive Producer and Co-Director) and filmmaker John Hopkins will produce a treatment and a 4-minute development trailer for their project Etuaptmumk - Two-Eyed Seeing.

#### **Kierrah Titus**

## Music, \$2,700

Kierrah Titus will be recording and releasing 3 singles in 2023.

#### Kirstie McCallum

#### **Visual Arts, \$3,450**

Kirstie McCallum will create outdoor works of public art that encourage audiences in the contemplation of nature. The sculpture is designed to gather rain and condensation and funnel it into a clay drinking vessel. This funding will support the creation of a 4'x'4'x4' wooden structure that will allow the artist to slip-cast the ceramic vessels that will form the water-collecting containers for the sculpture.

#### **Lisa Theriault**

# Visual Arts, \$1,600

Funding will cover the framing costs to present a series of drawings and other works for upcoming exhibitions by artist Lisa Theriault.

#### **Luc Trottier**

#### Theatre, \$3,500

Luc Trottier will write Order Up! a 90-minute play employing elements of farce in the writing and staging of it - all in the service of story. The stakes will be high, the characters will feel animated, and it will be suitable for all ages.

#### Melissa Peter Paul

#### Visual Arts, \$5,000

Melissa Peter Paul will harvest spruce root and porcupines in Epekwitk and New Brunswick to create a large quill box. She will do this while mentoring youth from the community and with guidance from Elders and Knowledge Keepers.

#### **Nathan LaCroix**

#### Film and Media Arts, \$950

Nathan LaCroix will attend The Screenwriting Fundamentals course offered by Vancouver Film School.

# Patricia MacAulay

## Visual Arts, \$2,000

Patricia MacAulay will create 14 wool 'paintings' using naturally dyed wool on burlap, measuring 8 by 8 inches, presented in a 12 by 12 black wooden frame with a white matte, inspired by Islanders who will share their thoughts and feelings as a result of Hurricane Fiona in September 2022. A flipbook of all pieces will be created to document the work.

# Sadie McCarney

# Writing and Publishing, \$2,000

Sadie McCarney will complete a draft of the manuscript-in-progress and prepare it for submission to respected Canadian literary presses. Hunt Poems will be a book-length poetry collection by the artist, seeking to interrogate themes of hunting and being hunted - for sustenance, for companionship, and for self-knowledge.

# **Process for Selection of Grant Awards**

The Director of Cultural Development oversees the administration of this funding program. 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:

Annie Martin - Craft/Indigenous Art
Bren Simmers - Writing & Publishing
Elizabeth Iwunwa - Writing & Publishing
Rachel Beck - Music
Rob Riselli - Film/Screen
Trudy Spooner - Visual Artist

## **Timeline for Spring 2023 PEI Arts Grants:**

April 12: Call for applications/jury members open

May 17: Deadline for applications

May 18 – June 12: Jury reviews applications

June 14: Jury meets face to face for adjudication

June 15: Results communicated to applicants