
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 27, 2009
File No.: 1853-01
To: City Manager
From: Director of Active Communities
Subject: Professional Arts Grant Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

THAT City Council approves grants of \$20,000 to the Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art, \$25,000 to Ballet Kelowna and \$50,000 to the Okanagan Symphony funded from the 2009 Cultural Services budget for Professional Arts organizations.

BACKGROUND:

In 2006 Council approved moving the administration and funding for professional arts organizations from the Kelowna Arts Foundation to the Cultural Services Department. Council also approved the creation of a peer review jury led by Cultural Services to adjudicate the professional arts grants.

The Professional Arts Fund is allocated to:

"Organizations that have ongoing paid professional artistic leadership and administration and that pay principle artistic contributors for their services in accordance with generally accepted professional standards. Eligible activities include creative collaboration between professional artists and community members."

In Kelowna the following groups that receive professional arts funding and are considered in the "professional arts category" are: Ballet Kelowna, Okanagan Symphony and the Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art.

In September 2009 the following individuals were chosen from the community for their professional expertise to adjudicate the professional arts grants applications: (Biographies are attached)

Manuela Ungureanu
Mary Smith McCulloch
Kevin Santos
Philappa Harding

Associate Professor, UBC Okanagan
Artist – Professor Emeritus, UBC Okanagan
CA, Grant Thornton Chartered Accountants
Professional Dancer, Teacher



City Staff: Jim Gabriel
Lorna Gunn

Director of Active Communities
Grants Manager, Strategic Initiatives & Intergovernmental
Partnerships

On January 20th, 2009 the jury met to deliberate the applications and to make funding recommendations based on available budget. Jury members commented on the continuing increase in artistic quality and programming within all three organizations. Applications were evaluated and scored on a number of specific criteria including:

Impact of programs in the community
Diversification of Revenues
Opportunities for new Artists and Youth
Exploration of new forms of expression
Audience development
Finances and Governance

- Ballet Kelowna has just celebrated its sixth season of performances. As the only professional ballet company outside the Lower Mainland, Ballet Kelowna enhances the image of ballet, making the art form more inviting, fun and personally meaningful. Ballet Kelowna has instituted monthly studio presentations, free education performances to Kelowna students, a low-price Saturday matinee enabling families to attend together, free tickets to disadvantaged and challenged members of the community and they support other art charities with free tickets to its performances.
- The Okanagan Symphony continues to grow under fresh new artistic leadership and is meeting the need and desire to connect with their audiences. Community outreach continues to be enhanced through accessibility to rehearsal programs for seniors, families, and audience members who are unable to attend a full length performance due to health issues or have financial constraints. Audiences may learn more about symphonic music through before concert lectures and "Afterthoughts", which provides audiences the opportunity to dialogue with the conductor and musicians immediately after a concert. Future programming plans includes vibrant mainstage productions and collaborations with other arts partners such as Ballet Kelowna, Chamber Music Kelowna, Community Concerts and the Kelowna Art Gallery.
- The Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art is the only professional artist-run space in the B.C. Interior and it plays a critical role in encouraging and supporting the exhibition, production and dissemination of contemporary art in the region. The Alternator supports the artistic community by providing an accessible space for emerging artists to display their work and exchange ideas and knowledge. The Media Arts Centre, which supports the production and dissemination of artist videos, is the only such facility open to the public in the BC Interior.

Jury members reviewed each application in detail and then deliberated as a group. Overall high marks were given by jury members in each area of evaluation. Members felt strongly that the citizens of Kelowna are fortunate to have the diversity of professional artistic offerings in our community and that the organizations are to be commended for the work that they do. That being said, members also recognized the continuing challenges facing all three organizations in the area of securing a higher level of on-going operational funding sources and they applauded the efforts of the staff and Board of Director's in their efforts to retain financial stability in a difficult economic climate.

INTERNAL CIRCULATION TO: General Manager, Citizen Services; Grants Manager, Strategic Initiatives & Intergovernmental Partnerships

FINANCIAL/BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS: The existing base budget for professional arts organizations for 2009 is \$95,000.

Considerations that were not applicable to this report:

LEGAL/STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

LEGAL/STATUTORY PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS:

EXISTING POLICY:

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS:

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

EXTERNAL AGENCY/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS:

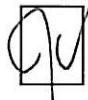
ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATION:

Submitted by:



J. Gabriel, Director of Active Communities

Approved for Inclusion:



GM, Citizen Services

Cc: Director of Financial Services

Attachments: Jury Bio's

2009 Professional Art Grants Adjudication Panel Biographies

Mary Smith McCulloch

Mary Smith McCulloch was educated at the Glasgow School of Art and immigrated to Canada in 1967. From 1973 until her retirement in May 2000 she was a professor of Fine Arts at Okanagan University College. She continues today as Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies UBC Okanagan.

Mary has exhibited extensively in Canada and Great Britain and has participated in numerous printmaking biennial and triennials in the former Yugoslavia, The Netherlands, India, Slovenia, Poland and Germany. Mary has her work in public art collection in Canada and Great Britain. Locally her work is in the permanent collections of the Kelowna Art Gallery, the Vernon Art Gallery and the Art Gallery of the South Okanagan, Penticton

Manuela Ungureanu

Dr. Ungureanu graduated in 1999 with a PhD in Philosophy of language from McGill University, Montreal, having obtained a BA Hon Major in Philosophy, and Minor in History from the University of Bucharest in 1986. In 2005 she started working as an Associate Professor at UBCO.

Manuela was a member of the Board of the Penticton Academy of Music and Penticton & District Arts Council until 2005 when she moved to Summerland. She also acted as organizer for the Children's Choir of the Penticton Academy of Music since its inception in 2003 and until 2006. She has a certificate in piano performance obtained in 1980, enjoys playing chamber music, singing in the Okanagan Festival Singers and organizing the new series of concerts and master classes for UBCO called Minds and Music.

Philippa J. Harding

Philippa is a dancer that trained in Kelowna with the Canadian School of Ballet and Robb Card Dance Studio. Through the years she has attended The Royal Winnipeg Ballet School, summer program, and 3 summers of intense training at the Banff School of Fine Arts. After graduating from Kelowna Secondary School she moved to Toronto to continue training. Performing on cruise ships and living in Paris and London were some highlights of her career. Philippa has taught all levels of tap, jazz and ballet.

Kevin C. Santos

Kevin is a Chartered Accountant with Grant Thornton LLP. Kevin graduated from the University of Northern British Columbia with a Bachelors of Commerce and then obtained his CA designation in 2002. Kevin works with a wide range of owner managed business' where he assists with their accounting and business needs.