



## Arts Council of the Central Okanagan

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Dr. Sharon McCoubrey  
President  
Arts Council of the Central Okangagn

October 25, 2010

Mayor Sharon Shepherd  
City of Kelowna

Dear Sharon,

I had hoped to meet with you regarding the exciting development of the Spirit Festival for next February, and a request from the Arts Council of the Central Okanagan, however, your recent trip to Japan meant it was better to send this information and request in writing first.

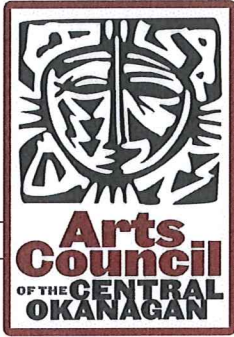
I would appreciate it if you would review the information in this proposal, and then get back to me. If it works for you to meet in person in order to discuss this further, that would be wonderful. However, I understand busy schedules, so if responding in other ways is better for you, that is fine.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter, Sharon.

I trust your trip was productive and enjoyable.

Sincerely,

Sharon



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### **Request:**

That the City of Kelowna host the 2011 Okanagan Arts Awards Celebration by providing the use of the Mary Irwin Theatre or the Kelowna Community Theatre, and a \$4,000 sponsorship.

### **Background:**

The fourth annual Okanagan Arts Awards will take place on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The inaugural Okanagan Arts Awards Program, which took place in 2008, was well received and has continued to grow and develop since that beginning into an important annual event in the Okanagan Valley. The response has increased each year as more artists and more supporters have come to confirm the value of acknowledging the arts in our communities.

The first event in 2008 took place at UBC Okanagan. In each of the previous years, the event had been hosted by a Municipality. Lake Country hosted the Okanagan Arts Awards in 2009, and West Kelowna in 2010. The hosting of the awards program included the provision of a venue, along with some technical support, and a grant of \$2,000 to enable the Celebration event to take place.

For reasons related specifically to the Spirit Festival, it was decided that the Okanagan Arts Awards Celebration in 2011 would be best hosted by the City of Kelowna.

### **Spirit Festival**

The Arts Council of the Central Okanagan has collaborated with 12 arts organizations in order to produce the Spirit Festival in February 2011! This Spirit Festival will consist of 14 events (please see Appendix A for a complete listing of these events) all within the month of February, a time when our communities might need some uplifting, creative events to fill a somewhat dull time of the year! Several strategies will unify these different events to create the month long festival. These strategies include a passport system that will provide prize opportunities, repeated onsite events, and collaborative

promotions. This type of collaboration of arts groups throughout the entire Central Okanagan is very positive and exciting.

The Spirit Festival will culminate with the Okanagan Arts Awards Celebration event on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Given the importance of launching the Spirit Festival, a significant event that aspires to be an annual festival in the Central Okanagan, it was decided that the finale of the Spirit Festival, the Okanagan Arts Awards Celebration, should take place in Kelowna.

We trust you will see the huge potential and benefit of the Spirit Festival, and will agree to host the culminating event, the Okanagan Arts Awards Celebration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon McCoubrey  
President  
Arts Council of the Central Okanagan

## **Appendix A**

### **Spirit Festival Participants:**

**Group:** Westside Plein Aire Group

Title: Inspirational Okanagan Valley on Canvas

Dates: Feb 18, 19 & 20

Venue: West Kelowna RCMP

Artists: Local Visual Artist Group

Event: Plien Aire Painting

Audience: 200

**Group:** Lake Country Museum/Heritage & Culture Society

Title: Spirit of Okanagan Heritage Exhibitions

Dates: Feb 1-28,

Venue: Lake Country Museum and Heritage Sites

Artists: First Nation

Event: Okanagan First Nation History, Heritage Exhibition & Tour

Audience: 500

**Group:** Okanagan Symphony

Title: Heavy Metal

Dates: Feb-27

Venue: Mary Irwin Theatre, Kelowna

Artists: Canadian Olympian Emily Brydon/Okanagan Symphony

Event: Concert- Celebratory music and winter culture & sports

Audience: 326

**Group:** Okanagan Institute

Title: Prologue

Dates: Feb 3, 10, 17 & 23

Venue: Bohemian Café. Kelowna

Artists: Local Artists as guest speakers

Event: Prologue investigates the enduring value of arts to the community

Audience: 400

**Group:** Chamber Music Kelowna

Title: Welcome the World

Dates: Feb-8

Venue: Mary Irwin Theatre, Kelowna

Artists: Afiara String Quartet of Canada

Event: International component of music

Audience: 650

**Group:** Lake Country Art Gallery

Title: Okanagan Spirit

Dates: Feb 1-27  
Artists: Okanagan Aboriginal Artists  
Event: Okanagan Aboriginal Artist Celebration  
Audience: 1900

**Group:** Okanagan Arts Awards  
Title: Spirit of the Arts  
Dates: Feb-17  
Venue: Theatre Kelowna  
Artists: Okanagan Artists  
Event: Celebration of Excellence  
Audience: 500

**Group:** Rotary Centre For the Arts  
Title: Bittergirl  
Dates: Feb 24-26  
Mary Irwin Theatre, Kelowna  
Artists: Toronto Theatre Co.  
Event: Theatre Production  
Audience: 1304

**Group:** Rotary Centre For the Arts  
Title: Alpha YaYa Daillo  
Dates: Feb-17  
Venue: Mary Irwin Theatre, Kelowna  
Artists: Juno Award Winner Alpha Ya Ya Daillo  
Event: Legacy of black Canadians -Concert ,French, English, Foulani, Souso  
Audience: 326

**Group:** Rotary Centre For the Arts  
Title: Romanza  
Dates: Feb-12  
Venue: Mary Irwin Theatre, Kelowna  
Artists: Juli Masi  
Event Local Theatre Production  
Audience: 326

**Group:** Ballet Kelowna  
Title: Ballet Building with Ballet Kelowna  
Dates: Feb: TBA  
Venue: Ballet Kelowna Studios  
Artists: Ballet Kelowna Dancers  
Event: Visit behind the scene  
Audience: 100



**Group: Youth Orchestra**

Title: Celebration of Young Musicians

Dates: Feb 26

Venue: First Lutheran Church, Kelowna

Artists: Okanagan Young Musicians

Event: Youth Concert

Audience: 300

**Group: Conduit Festival**

Title: Ecotone

Dates: Feb 5

Venue: Rotary Centre for the Arts, Kelowna

Artists: Local Artists-All arts

Event: Festival of Creative Expression

Audience: 2000

**Group: Alternator Gallery**

Title: White Edge

Dates: Feb 4-28

Venue: Alternator Gallery, Kelowna

Artists: Sue Bizecki

Event: Indigenous philosophies of ownership last 100 year

Audience: 1000

**Total Audience: 9658**