



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** Members of the Finance Committee

**From:** Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner, Community Services

**Meeting Date:** January 16, 2023

**Subject:** Pilot Individual Artist Grant Program 2022, Report CSACH23-001

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## **Purpose**

A report to provide Council with the outcomes of the Pilot Individual Artists Grant Program in 2022.

## **Recommendation**

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report CSACH23-001, dated January 16, 2023 of the Commissioner of Community Services as follows:

That the Report from the Commissioner of Community Services be received for information.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

A one time grant of \$40,000 was a special budget pilot approved as part of the 2022 budget funded from the 2021 contingency. Staff were directed to report back to Council to consider future support for this initiative. The funding of the continuation of the 2022 pilot program is not contained in the staff prepared draft budget and would therefore require the costs to be added to the 2023 municipal tax levy.

## **Background**

In 2018, the Electric City Culture Council (EC3) conducted research on the Status of the Artist in Peterborough to assess the relative financial, social and professional “wellness” of artists working in the sector. These results revealed that most artists in the City of Peterborough worked at more than one job in addition to their work as artists, and still lived at or below the poverty line. This research indicated a risk that artists may have to leave the city, thus greatly impacting the arts sector in Peterborough. The evidence was clear that the arts made major contributions to the city’s social, economic and community well-being, was essential to the health and vitality of the downtown, engaged thousands of audience members, volunteers, donors and supporters and were highly valued by youth, senior citizens and those working in the mental health field. This precariousness was seriously exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

EC3 recommended to Council to provide direct financial support at the municipal level to individual artists, help make it possible for them to continue living and creating here and encourage young artists to stay in Peterborough and/or return home.

Prior to the pilot program described in this report, the City has supported the arts through the City of Peterborough Project and Investments grants which are targeted at organizations and not individual artists. The City also operates a public art program to support art installations in public locations across the city. EC3 had recommended an individual artist program during the 2022 budget deliberations as a means to support individual artists due to the unique impacts of the pandemic.

On December 13, 2021 Council passed the following motion:

- a) That 40k be set aside from the 2021 contingency and transferred to the Public Art Reserve to fund the costs of an Individual Artist Grant program to be administered by EC3 in 2022.
- b) That staff prepare a report for the 2023 budget on the outcome of the initial 2022 program and recommendations on whether it should become a permanent grant program.
- c) That an agreement be entered into with EC3 to operate the program in 2022 with the requirement that a full accounting of the usage of the funds including who the funds were distributed to, be submitted to the Commissioner of Community Services by August 31, 2022.

City staff entered into an agreement with Electric City Culture Council (EC3) to deliver this pilot program. A full report is attached as Appendix A from the EC3; however, the report was not provided until recently therefore causing the report to be provided to Council as part of the budget submission.

Some highlights from the EC3 report are:

### **Statistics**

- This program was launched in June 2022, as a follow up to Artsweek

- Program designed, delivered and administered by EC3
- Funding provided jointly by the City (\$40,000) and EC3 (\$7,720)
- Total budget: \$47,720
- Total Applications: 40
- Total Grants Awarded: 20
- Component One Grants: 11@ \$1,500 = \$16,500
- Component Two Grants: 9 @ \$3,500 = \$31,220

## **Program Description**

### **Component One: Mini Development Grants for Individual Professional Artists**

This grant provided up to \$1,500 for local professional artists to undertake a program of activities that aid their creative research and development, fuel innovation and imagination, and support the sustainability and/or advancement of their practice, including, but not limited to:

- Development of new projects or ideas, research, experimentation
- Advancing works in progress
- Transitioning to new disciplines or mediums
- Advancing skills and knowledge to build or strengthen their work
- Adapting existing works or developing new approaches to creating and producing their work, or distribution/presentation of their work including, but not limited to, the use of new technologies or digital opportunities

## **Professional Development**

While projects may include public presentation of a completed work or works, this is not a requirement of Component One of the program. The program welcomed applications from professional artists working in any form, or discipline, in cross-disciplinary, multidisciplinary, or interdisciplinary practice. This program strived to support proposals that reflect and promote the cultural diversity of Peterborough and Canada today and welcomes applications from artists in equity-seeking communities.

### **Component Two: Project Production and Presentation Grants for Individual Artists**

This grant provided up to \$3,500 to individual professional artists for the creation, production and presentation of innovative new projects or works in progress in any artistic discipline, taking place virtually or live in Peterborough, in the next two years. Projects may include works in any artistic discipline or combination of disciplines, in any form, for any location within the city or county, including new or established indoor

venues, outdoor spaces, mobile activities, broadcast, banners, billboards, publications, and/or for virtual projects including: social media, live streaming, websites, etc.

- This is a program of grants to individual artists; however, artists may work as part of collectives, ad hoc groups, or with established arts organizations, as long as the individual artist retains creative control over the project
- Project proposals may include the work(s) of one artist or several. Partnerships and collaborations with other community organizations are welcome and encouraged
- Live/in-person projects may take place anywhere in the City of Peterborough, pop-ups, one-time, short-run, series, or continuous project proposals are all eligible
- Artists' fees must be paid.

This program strived to support proposals that reflected and promoted the cultural diversity of Peterborough and Canada today and welcomed applications from artists in equity-seeking communities.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for Component One or Two of the Grants for Individual Artists Program, applicants were required to meet the following criteria:

- Canadian citizens, permanent residents or persons upon whom refugee protection has been conferred, and who are legally entitled to work in Ontario
- Peterborough City or County Resident (including Curve Lake and Hiawatha)
- Professional Artist\*
- Age 18 or over
- Student projects are not eligible for this program
- Have completed and submitted all outstanding reports from previous EC3 grants

\*EC3 defines a professional artist or arts professional as someone who has developed skills through training or practice, is recognized by artists working in the same artistic tradition, has a history of public presentation or publication for at least one year, seeks payment for their work and actively practices their art. Short breaks in artistic work history are acceptable.

### **Adjudication**

A five-person peer assessment jury was established to review the applications.

### **Results: Overall Summary Disciplinary Breakdown**

The following is a breakdown of disciplines supported:

- Theatre and Performance: 8
- Music: 2
- Visual Arts: 3
- Poetry and Spoken Word: 3
- Multidisciplinary: 2
- Media Arts (Film): 2

A detailed list of successful recipients and amounts awarded along with a further analysis of the program are attached in Appendix A.

### **Recommendation:**

If Council wishes to extend this pilot program in 2023 it will result in an increase to the municipal tax levy as the \$40,000 cost is not included in the staff prepared draft budget. In staff's opinion, the Council motion was a one-time initiative due to the pandemic's impacts on this sector and therefore not included in the draft 2023 budget.

Such a program does require considerable planning and it would be staff's recommendation that if the program were extended it should be extended for multiple years so EC3 and the arts community knows the program will operate for multiple years without disruption. If Council wishes to extend this program into 2023 staff would recommend the following motion:

- a) That an Annual Individual Artist Grant be established and that \$40,000 be added to the Arts, Culture and Heritage Operating Budget as an increase to the municipal tax levy;
- b) That an agreement be entered into with EC3 to operate the program for 3 years 2023-2025 with the requirement that a full accounting of the usage of the funds be reported annually to the Manager of Arts, Culture and Heritage; and
- c) That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the agreement on terms satisfactory to the Commissioner of Community Services and in forms acceptable to the City Solicitor.

### **Summary**

As a follow up to Artsweek, a program also supported by the City, EC3 was able to deliver the Grants to Individual Artists Pilot program successfully. Covid 19 has been particularly hard on the arts, culture and heritage sector and recovery is ongoing. Existing community grants within the city are targeted at organizations and by introducing this new type of grant it allowed individual artists to seek support for their creating their work. It is being

presented for Council's consideration during its review of the 2023 budget for its potential extension into 2023 and beyond.

Submitted by,

Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner of Community Services

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**Attachments:**

Appendix A - EC3 Grants to Individual Arts Report



# Grants for individual artists

**Grants for Individual Artists**  
**2022 Grant Program Report**

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## Executive Summary

### Statistics

- This program was launched in June 2022, as a follow up to Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup>
- Program designed, delivered and administered by EC3
- Funding provided jointly by the City (\$40,000) and EC3 (\$7,720)
- Total budget: \$47,720
- Total Applications: 40
- Total Grants Awarded: 20
- Component One Grants: 11@ \$1,500 = \$16,500
- Component Two Grants: 9 @ \$3,500 = \$31,220

### Program Description

#### Component One: Mini Development Grants for Individual Professional Artists

This grant provides **up to \$1,500** for local professional artists to undertake a program of activities that aid their creative research and development, fuel innovation and imagination, and support the sustainability and/or advancement of their practice, including, but not limited to:

- Development of new projects or ideas, research, experimentation
- Advancing works in progress
- Transitioning to new disciplines or mediums
- Advancing skills and knowledge to build or strengthen their work

- Adapting existing works or developing new approaches to creating and producing their work, or distribution/presentation of their work including, but not limited to, the use of new technologies or digital opportunities
- Professional development
- While projects may include public presentation of a completed work or works, this is **not** a requirement of Component One of the program.
- The program welcomes applications from professional artists working in any form, or discipline, in cross-disciplinary, multidisciplinary, or interdisciplinary practice.
- This program strives to support proposals that reflect and promote the cultural diversity of Peterborough and Canada today and welcomes applications from artists in equity-seeking communities.

### **Component Two: Project Production and Presentation Grants for Individual Artists**

This grant provides **up to \$3,500** to individual professional artists for the creation, production and presentation of innovative new projects or works in progress in any artistic discipline, taking place virtually or live in Peterborough, **in the next two years**. Projects may include works in any artistic discipline or combination of disciplines, in any form, for any location within the city or county, including new or established indoor venues, outdoor spaces, mobile activities, broadcast, banners, billboards, publications, and/or for virtual projects including: social media, live streaming, websites, etc.

- This is a program of grants to individual artists; however, artists may work as part of collectives, ad hoc groups, or with established arts organizations, as long as the individual artist retains creative control over the project.
- Project proposals may include the work(s) of one artist or several. Partnerships and collaborations with other community organizations are welcome and encouraged.
- Live/in-person projects may take place anywhere in the City or County of Peterborough Pop-ups, one-time, short-run, series, or continuous project proposals are all eligible.
- Artists' fees must be paid.
- This program strives to support proposals that reflect and promote the cultural diversity of Peterborough and Canada today and welcomes applications from artists in equity-seeking communities.

## Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for Component One or Two of the Grants for Individual Artists Program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Canadian citizens, permanent residents or persons upon whom refugee protection has been conferred, and who are legally entitled to work in Ontario
- Peterborough City or County Resident (including Curve Lake and Hiawatha)
- Professional Artist\*
- Age 18 or over
- Student projects are not eligible for this program
- Have completed and submitted all outstanding reports from previous EC3 grants

\*EC3 defines a professional artist or arts professional as someone who has developed skills through training or practice, is recognized by artists working in the same artistic tradition, has a history of public presentation or publication for at least one year, seeks payment for their work and actively practices their art. Short breaks in artistic work history are acceptable.

## Adjudication

Five-person peer assessment jury.

## Results: Overall Summary Disciplinary Breakdown

Theatre and Performance: 8

Music: 2

Visual Arts: 3

Poetry and Spoken Word: 3

Multidisciplinary: 2

Media Arts (Film): 2

## Recommendations

Now that we have completed two successful rounds of this grant program, knowing that through extensive research and practice analysis, such programs of direct investment in individual artists are nationally and internationally recognized as the most effective and efficient way to advance the arts in any community, EC3 recommends that:

- The program be made permanent and receive \$50,000 from the City to start in 2023.
- The program continues to be administered by EC3, using arms-length peer assessment
- The program undergo a full review and evaluation in 2026, and an annual assessment be submitted to the City and ACHAC with the GFIA Annual Grant Report.

## Introduction

This Report provides a summary of the history, background, development, delivery, evaluation and recommendations related to the 2022 **Grants for Individual Artists (GFIA)** program funded jointly by the City of Peterborough and the Electric City Culture Council (EC3). The program was designed, developed, delivered by EC3. EC3 is responsible for the ongoing management and administration of the program, including communications, monitoring payments and Final Reports. The GFIA program is the follow-up to the trial program, Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup> provided in 2021. This Report includes both qualitative and quantitative reporting and assessment, a full list of successful applicants, descriptions of the activities and projects funded, and recommendations for the future of the program.

## GFIA History and Background

In 2018, EC3 conducted extensive research on the Status of the Artist in Peterborough to assess the relative financial, social and professional “wellness” of artists working in the sector. These the results, along with the panel discussions and work done by the Precarious Festival, though not unexpected, were shocking, revealing that most artists in the City of Peterborough worked at more than one job in addition to their work as artists, and still lived at or below the poverty line. Even the most ‘successful’ of our artists in every discipline (e.g. those who won awards, received federal or provincial grants, sold work or performed regularly) experienced great income precarity and other forms of social insecurity (housing etc.), and were at risk of having to leave town or give up their artistic practice due to low income and the imbalance between the time they had to spend on working to survive, and the creative time necessary to make and present their work.

The evidence was clear that the arts made major contributions to the city’s social, economic and community well-being, was essential to the health and vitality of our downtown, engaged thousands of audience members, volunteers, donors and supporters and were highly valued by youth, senior citizens and those working in the mental health field. One tried and true, evidence-based remedy:

provide direct financial support at the municipal level to individual artists, help make it possible for them to continue living and creating here, and encourage young artists to stay in Peterborough and/or return home. This seemed particularly important in a city where the university does not have a dedicated Fine Arts department/program to provide teaching or professional development opportunities. Such investments are particularly essential to commonly marginalized and disadvantaged artists (BIPOC, 2SLGBTQ+, disabled, deaf and hard of hearing artists).

The City's programs of Service, Community Investment and Project Grants provide critical support to various local arts and culture **organizations**, but unlike municipalities such as Kingston, Guelph, London and Ottawa, there was no direct support to individual artists.

This gap in public funding was proving detrimental to the development of the entire sector and this precarity was seriously exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. EC3 was mindful that without working artists, there is no art. No books, no plays, no music, dance, film or visual art. No content for our theatres, galleries or concert halls. Artists are the biggest subsidizers of the arts, but municipal funding to complement federal, provincial and private sector funding was essential to maintain the group of outstanding artists who live and work here and to make the most of the public funding investments that did exist. **The character of our city, its national reputation and identity as a great place to live were in jeopardy unless we took that critical step that so many municipalities had taken.**

### **Why Grants For Individual Artists Matter**

In addition to the arguments outlined above, it is important to note that support to individual artists at the municipal level is absolutely crucial to their success in leveraging financial support from other funders and sponsors. Public funding at the local level is often the 'first-in' investment in many creative projects, providing an early acknowledgement that the artist has gained respect and recognition in their community, and among their peers, in a competitive environment. It offers an initial boost, building confidence for future success.

## **ARTSWEEK SHIFT<sup>2</sup> 2021: The Trial**

Recognizing the practical realities and challenges of presenting a full-scale, totally in-person Artsweek Festival in 2020/2021, EC3 asked for and received permission from the City to develop and deliver an alternative program, **Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup> (AWS2)**, with Artsweek funds. This program served as a trial for the GFIA program. In designing this program, we consulted extensively with the arts community, with other municipal funders and reviewed federal and provincial granting programs for individual artists. This influenced our determination to develop two streams or components of the program: **Component One: Mini Grants to Professional Artists** and **Component Two: Project Production and Presentation Grants**. We were seeking a meaningful paradigm that would respond to real needs and lead to more and better creative outcomes for artists, audiences and the broader community. This initiative was extremely successful in every respect and we presented a complete Report and Evaluation of AWS2 to City staff, ACHAC and the City Councillors responsible for arts, culture and heritage. EC3 responded to the minor criticisms of the trial program and moved forward with a request for funding for the new, and hopefully permanent, program **Grants for Individual Artists**.

## **PROGRAM BUDGET**

EC3 requested \$50,000 from the City for the GFIA program, based on the results of the trial Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup> program. There needs to be enough money in the program to ensure a solid success rate and make certain that the time and costs of the administrative work on the program provides a good return on the dollar. This is a key principle of any such program, one that is valued by artists and the public whose tax dollars support the program. Our benchmark was the almost \$50,000 provided in 2021 through Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup>. The City approved \$40,000 and EC3 set aside \$8,000 from special COVID-19 funding to supplement the program. **These funds were part of our 2021-22 surplus and will not be available in 2023.**

## Grants For Individual Artists 2022 Program Description

EC3 moved forward, taking into account the evaluation of AWS2, and revised the Program Guide and Application Form to develop GFIA. This two-component grant program includes “mini grants” for the research, development, workshopping phase of original new works, as well as for professional development opportunities and mentorship initiatives. It ensures that a small amount of money have the necessary freedom and flexibility to encourage excellence in new work. The second component provides grants for the production and presentation of specific projects and supports costs such as artist fees, production materials, venue rentals, technical equipment, costumes, publication etc. Its an investment in particular projects that helps ensure that artists will have adequate time to initiate and complete proposals, a boost that encourages additional investments and builds confidence

### GFIA Component One: Mini Development Grants For Individual Professional Artists

- **Purpose of the Grant:** To support a program of work/activities (including research, development, professional development initiatives, scriptwriting, dramaturgy, etc.) to advance an artist’s practice in general or for a particular project.
- This grant recognizes the value of the artist’s previous body of work as well as the proposed program of activities, providing up to \$1,500 for local artists to undertake activities that aid their creative development and support the sustainability of their practice, including, but not limited to: the development of new projects, advancing works in progress, adapting existing works or developing new approaches to their work including, but not limited to, the use of new technologies or digital opportunities. Projects could include the public presentation of a completed work or works, but this was not a requirement of this Component.
- The objective of the program is to stimulate the overall development of an artist’s practice, encourage new directions, ideas and visions, deepen their current work, build new technical skills, support transitions to new or additional disciplines etc. Artists are evaluated on the impact their grant will have on advancing or enhancing their practice.
- **Value of the Grant:** Up to **\$1,500**



## Component Two: Project Production and Presentation Grants For Individual Professional Artists

- **Purpose of the Grant:** To support the creation, production and presentation of innovative new projects or the completion of works in progress in any artistic discipline, taking place virtually or live and in person, in Peterborough, in the next two years. This grant is awarded based on the support material provided by the artist, the quality of the project description, and the overall artistic merit of the proposal.
- These grants are intended to kick start the post-development phase of new work or the expansion of existing work for larger audiences and venues.
- Applicants must have a clear plan to produce and present their work to the public, a viable and robust budget and support material that illustrates their capacity to complete the project as proposes.
- **Value of the Grant:** Up to **\$3,500**

## General Information on The GFIA 2022 Program

### GFIA Application Workshop

EC3 presented a Zoom workshop for potential applicants on June 21, 2022. 20 people attended and an addition 42 people viewed the online PowerPoint presentation. The GFIA Application Workshop PowerPoint presentation remains on the EC3 website.

### Program Guidelines and Application Forms

Program Guidelines and the Application Forms were revised based on the evaluation of the Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup> program, and remain available on our website.

### Application Support

One-on-one application support was available by phone or email from EC3's Program Coordinator, Gabe Pollock, throughout the application period. Pollock also worked with applicants at the review stage of the application. Additional time was given to artists who had barriers to making a successful application.

## **Timetable**

Applications Forms were circulated by email, on all social media platforms, by Bulletin and by mainstream media platforms. Artists had 3.5 weeks to apply.

## **Jury Process**

The EC3 GFIA program is adjudicated through an arm's-length peer assessment process. Staff facilitated and managed the technical aspects of the jury, but did not have a voice in the jury's decisions. As these are grants to individual artists, jury decisions were final, and were reviewed by the EC3 Board. This is the 'gold standard' used by other arts councils, and other public funding bodies including the SSHRC and NSERC, the Governor General's Awards, etc. It is a methodology reviewed and approved regularly by the Auditor General and private sector auditors such as KPMG.

The composition of the jury was determined by EC3 staff in consultation with the EC3 Board along with other community advisors. Jurors must be active professionals in the field (may include critics and curators as well as artists) and have a broad knowledge of the arts. Final selection considered the nature of the composition of the specific competition to ensure a good balance of disciplinary knowledge and expertise, diversity, inclusion and accessibility, practical skills and overall understanding of the local arts milieu.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for Component One or Two of the Grants for Individual Artists Program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Canadian citizens, permanent residents or persons upon whom refugee protection has been conferred, and who are legally entitled to work in Ontario
- Peterborough City or County Resident (including Curve Lake and Hiawatha)
- Professional Artist\*
- Age 18 or over
- Student projects are not eligible for this program
- Have completed and submitted all outstanding reports from previous EC3 grants

\*EC3 defines a professional artist or arts professional as someone who has developed skills through training or practice, is recognized by artists working in the same artistic tradition, has a history of public presentation or publication for at least one year, seeks payment for their work and actively practices their art. Short breaks in artistic work history are acceptable.

### **Equity Diversity, Inclusion**

The Electric City Culture Council is committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in all our programs and encourages applications from self-identified members of marginalized/racialized, equity seeking communities (visible and invisible), including BIPOC artists, Deaf and hard of hearing artists, artists with disabilities, new Canadians, and those artists identifying as 2SLGBTQ+.

EC3 is committed to establishing fair and equitable practices for all of our programs and services in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to come forward at any stage of the application process to request accommodations, if needed. Members of our team will consult and can adapt processes wherever possible to provide individuals with disabilities with equal opportunity to apply.

EC3 encourages applications from all those who live in our diverse community and advocates for equal opportunity for all applicants in the application and selection process. EC3 is committed to supporting and promoting diverse artists, artistic practices, and arts communities that represent a wide cross-section of Peterborough and the surrounding area, including artists who identify as Indigenous, Black, or people of colour, as well as artists with disabilities, Deaf and hard of hearing artists and artists who are members of marginalized religious, sexual orientation, and gender identity groups. EC3 strives to make our juries, selection, and assessment committees equitable and inclusive by ensuring broad representation from the communities outlined above.

## **Pre-Jury Process**

- Application intake occurred between June 14 and July 7, 2022
- Initial review for completeness and eligibility completed by staff
- Follow up with applicants as required
- Competition analysis completed by staff and reviewed by EC3 Board Executive
- Work to build and select jury begins
- Jury members are selected and provided with jury material (applications and detailed process instructions)
- Follow-up if required with both jurors and applicants
- Jurors provided with Confidentiality agreements and Conflict of Interest forms
- Follow up, if required on Conflict of Interest (none in this competition)

## **Jury Meeting**

- Jury members (5) were provided with confidential, restricted online access to grant applications along with all policy and procedure documents on September 8, 2022.
- Jurors were encouraged to contact staff if they had any questions.
- Jurors were reminded to review and determine a preliminary mark on the form provided, (based on the published assessment criteria) in advance of the jury meeting
- The five-member Peer Assessment Jury met on September 25, 2022 via Zoom, and results/notifications went out on September 27, 2022. Most cheques went out later that week. These grants were all given in a single instalment.
- Notice regarding completion deadlines, final reports and funding acknowledgements were also sent to successful applicants

## Statistical Report

See **Appendix 1: Successful Applicants** (page 26) for list of successful applicants and their projects.

### Summary Granting Information: GFIA 2022 Components One and Two

Total applications received: **40**

Applications withdrawn: **2**

Ineligible applications: **1**

Total eligible applications in both Components: **37**

Total amount requested in both Components: **\$89,830.27**

Total number of grants awarded in both Components: **20**

Total amount awarded in both Components: **\$47,720.00**

### Component One: Grant Results Summary

Component One total applications: **19**

Component One total grants awarded: **11**

Component One success rate: **57.9%**

Component One total amount requested: **\$28,500.00**

Component One total amount awarded: **\$16,500.00**

### Component Two: Grant Results Summary

Component Two total applications: **18**

Component Two total grants awarded: **9**

**Component Two success rate: 50.0%**

**Component Two total amount requested: \$61,330.27**

**Component Two total amount awarded: \$31,220.00**

### **Disciplinary Breakdown**

#### **Component One**

Theatre and Performance: 4

Music: 1

Visual Arts: 1

Poetry and Spoken Word: 3

Multidisciplinary: 2

#### **Component Two**

Theatre and Performance: 4

Music: 1

Visual Arts: 2

Media Arts (Film): 2

### **Overall Summary Disciplinary Breakdown**

Theatre and Performance: 8

Music: 2

Visual Arts: 3

Poetry and Spoken Word: 3

Multidisciplinary: 2

Media Arts (Film): 2

## Qualitative Analysis

The overall quality of the proposed programs of development activities and production and presentation grants awarded in both Components was very high, there was a good mix of disciplines, an excellent range of initiatives from more traditional to cutting edge work and broad demographics in terms of age, gender, stage of career/practice development. Some of the artists are well known and some are new on the scene. There was representation from culturally diverse communities, but only one application from an Indigenous artist. The performing arts dominated this round of applications and grants awarded, but this is pretty standard. This is the kind of healthy mix we are looking for in a program like this. The jury had confidence in all of the successful applicants in terms of the quality of the previous work, the support material, the applications, and the artist's capacity to carry out and complete the project as described.

Grants awarded for activities that included:

### Component One: Mini Grants for Development

- Play development
- Book research
- Movement for older artists
- Visual arts exhibition development
- Community based storytelling and spoken word projects
- Visual and text research for project about cultural diversity and immigration
- Development of performance techniques (master classes)
- Development of books to pre-publication stage

## **Component Two: Production and Presentation Grants**

- Expansion of small-scale performing and visual arts projects to large-scale venues and wider public audiences
- New versions of performing arts work produced for new events
- Final production and release of albums
- Production, presentation and distribution of new films
- Production and presentation of new plays and musical theatre
- Visual arts exhibition for/by the visually impaired

## **Success Rates**

Programs like these need a sufficient funding base for a success rate that allows the jury to make meaningful decisions on grants awarded and sends a message to the applicants that that competition is not just a lottery. Component One achieved this, but the ranking in Component Two was very tight at the lower end and there was at least one project “below the line” that probably should have received funding. We would not want to drop below a \$50,000 budget or lower the success rate if we want to maintain the integrity of the program.



## Impact Stories

To gauge the value and impact of this grants program, we have gathered quotes from the Final Reports of Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup> grant recipients and the from GFIA 2022 grant applications. Successful GFIA applicants will also fill our Final Reports at the end of their grant term – see **Appendix: Component One Final Report** and **Appendix: Component Two Final Report** at the end of this document.

### GFIA

“In a time where the stories of significant women in history are being voiced for the first time, I feel it is important to tell Minnie’s story and I feel I have been called to do it.... This grant from EC3 would allow me to take the time away from my own client work to do the research necessary to write this story and get started on the project right away.... This would be a fantastic step in the development of my artistic practice. For most of my career as an illustrator I have been creating visuals for children’s picture books. However, I have always used other author’s words and never my own writing. While I have done lots of writing in my life I have never found the right story that felt worth telling, until now.” -Kathryn Durst, C1

“After facilitating the creative process for others during my 22-year career as an arts educator, a revival of my own personal art journey is long overdue.... To occupy space with my 50-year-old body is an authentic and powerful expression of freedom -- a visual statement that challenges conventional notions of what a dancer should be.” -Lesley Givens, C

“I intend to use this initial project as a starting point for a new and exciting trajectory in my career of self-created work that expresses my deep-seeded need to connect with audiences, and reveal to them the gritty truths of humanity.” --Kate Suhr, C1

“ENANTIODROMIA takes the lessons that I learned through the production of P//A [my last album, supported by an Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup> grant], and expands them both sonically and into a much more ambitious live performance. The music I'm producing is focused more on finding an interplay (rather than separate explorations) of structure and formlessness, and my sonic palette continues to expand, including more live instrumentation than ever. The performance I have planned for the album will use the TTOK black box theatre to its full advantage, giving the audience a one-of-a-kind and never-to-be-repeated performance of the album in the round.” --Karol Orzechowski, C2

“I want the opportunity for people to feel art, literally and figuratively.... It is almost impossible for persons who are blind or visually impaired to be described a work accurately. It makes me happy to provide tactile art that viewers can interact with and interpret. I'm eager to keep going in this direction and develop my artistic abilities with sculptured pieces and resin.” --Lynda Todd, C2

“Since 2015 I have thrown myself into supporting other artists - particularly through work at The Theatre on King, and the Precarious Festivals - as well as serving on boards for various organizations, helping nurture rising artists' works as a supporter and outside eye, and writing short fiction and novels. “Anxiety” represents a return to an autobiographical performance mode.... What I am trying to do is wake myself up; challenge my body; convey the idiosyncrasies of growing up in Newfoundland with my academic father; explore the beautiful tangle of the English language, colonizer and oppressor, through the lens of “Beowulf.” We invaders speak the tongues of invaders: Romans, French, and Norse. We are often unconscious of our own oppressions, and need to find ways to understand personal histories, bring them to consciousness - to address, in some small way, the rise of white supremacy and violence in this country. If I can do that while providing a moving, hilarious, and entertaining hour to audiences, all the better.” --Kate Story, C2

## Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup>

“Thank you so much for giving an opportunity for local BIPOC artists to get creative and produce something so special even in the middle of a pandemic. It was a really big boost for everyone involved. Gabe was a really great support and I can tell that everyone at Artsweek is working really hard and doing the absolute best they can. It is so impressive that you’ve been keeping the arts community alive during the pandemic. We need you. We love you. We thank you.” --Sara Shahsavari, C2

“As a result of this mentorship program, I have begun submitting work to literary journals and contests for the first time. I have also developed daily and weekly writing rituals, and am writing more regularly than I ever have before. I have developed peer relationships that I believe will be a support and inspiration in continuing on in this work.” --Ziysah von Bieberstein, C1

“We were given the opportunity to engage with new producers and artists, we were given the opportunity to explore and present the unique and creative ways that our community can use & ride the airwaves, we were able to develop new relationships with members of our artist community.” --Rob Hailman, C2

“Having quality footage of a sample experience is a new and necessary offering for us to secure paid contracts.” --Hilary Wear, C1.

## Evaluation and Recommendations

**EC3 followed up on the recommendations for changes from the evaluation of Artsweek SHIFT<sup>2</sup>, including:**

- Improving the budget forms
- More clearly articulation the geographical frame for eligibility
- Raising the total value of the grant available to \$3,500 in Component 2
- Including an Application Checklist
- Clearly articulating our policy on the need for Police Checks for applicants working with 'vulnerable populations'
- Expanded our outreach to BIPOC artists through direct communication and support from advisors

**The GFIA jury additionally recommended changes that we will incorporate in the 2023 program:**

- Change the timing of the program so that applications and adjudication are not happening in the summer (it is too hard to get jurors and many artists are away in the summer)
- Improve communications if results are delayed
- Work with the library on providing support to dis advantaged and marginalized artists
- Enhance description of what kind of activities are eligible in Component One
- Better articulation of core values in grading paradigm (see OAC)
- More specialized application workshops (youth and BIPOC)
- Consider changing the name of the program

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Now that we have completed two successful rounds of this grant program, knowing that through extensive research and practice analysis such programs of direct investment in individual artists are nationally and internationally recognized as the most effective and efficient way to advance the arts in any community, EC3 recommends that”

- The program be made permanent and receive \$50,000 from the City to start in 2023.
- The program continues to be administered by EC3, using arm’s-length peer assessment.
- The program undergo a full review and evaluation in 2026, and an annual assessment be submitted to the City and ACHAC with the GFIA Grant Report.

## APPENDIX 1

### Successful Applicants/Grant Recipients

#### GFIA Component One: Mini Development Grants Successful Applicants and Projects

	Name	Project Title	Project Summary	Request	Awarded
1	Blackwell, Kim	<b>THE AUCTION</b>	Development of a theatrical new work exploring hoarding, difficult relations between a father and daughter set against a backdrop of 1970s nuclear proliferation, the Cold War and the soundtrack to "Jesus Christ Superstar."	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
2	Durst, Kathryn	<b>FIRST LADY OF THE ACCORDION: MINNIE WHITE RESEARCH PROJECT</b>	Biographical and visual research about Canadian folk music icon Minnie White of Newfoundland, with the goal of illustrating a new book based on her life.	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
3	Givens, Lesley	<b>MOVING: BEYOND COMFORT ZONES</b>	Veteran arts educator revives her personal practice, building upon her body of work as a visual artist with dance and movement to create a new performance work. "To occupy space with my 50-year-old body is an authentic and powerful expression of freedom."	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Project Summary</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Awarded</b>
4	Hall, Sarah Elise	<b>STACKS</b>	An accomplished sculptor and installation artist explores the state of our environment, pollution, climate change and our global future, using recycled and discarded plastic containers to create large sculptural pieces that reflect natural minerals and erosion.	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
5	Hedderwick, Jon	<b>ONE CITY COMMUNITY UNIVERSITY: STORYTELLING AND SPOKEN WORD AS ADVOCACY</b>	Outreach to those experiencing homelessness, precariously housed and economically marginalized members of our community to engage in writing, storytelling and recording.	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
6	Huỳnh, Julia	<b>nhạc xuân, ở đây và ở đó (spring music, here and there)</b>	Exploring Vietnamese migration and cultural preservation through re-imagined archives, photography, sound, and plants, leading to the creation of sound and video works.	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
7	Malbeuf, Nicole	<b>AERIAL ARTS: HAIR SUSPENSION PRACTICE</b>	Circus artist explores techniques in ‘hair suspension,’ acts flying high in the air suspended only by the performer’s long hair, through professional instruction, culminating in a workshop performance of a new performance piece.	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Project Summary</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Awarded</b>
8	Million, Justin	<b>CARRY IT ALL (POETRY MANUSCRIPT)</b>	Following years of performing and releasing chapbooks with the Show and Tell Poetry Series, the artist will research and write their first book-length poetry collection of unpublished work.	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
9	Stamou, Ireni	<b>MEDIA, MEDUSA, CASSANDRA UNEARTHED</b>	Experimenting with texts and devised theatre for a new choreographic creation inspired by feminine archetypes found in Ancient Greek theatre and mythology.	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
10	Suhr, Kate	<b>GRACE</b>	Development of a new autobiographical show that uses music and storytelling to describe the effects of addiction on children in the home.	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
11	von Bieberstein, Ziysah	<b>MANUSCRIPT MENTORSHIP</b>	Engaging professional edits, revisions and consultation for the artist's next manuscript and publication process, while simultaneously mentoring an emerging poet to develop their first self-published chapbook.	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00



## GFIA Component Two: Production and Presentation Projects Successful Applicants and Projects

	Name	Project Title	Project Summary	Request	Awarded
1	Brackenridge, Brad	<b>THE LEAR PROJECT</b>	Dance, puppetry, and song come together for a theatrical production based on the life and work of Victorian nonsense poet Edward Lear (for presentation at the Market Hall).	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
2	Elchuk, Jennifer	<b>WEATHERING AND WAITING</b>	Evolving their work with the flying 'aerial canoe,' including expansion of technical and narrative techniques, culminates in a circus arts performance at the Canadian Canoe Museum's grand opening.	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
3	Orzechowski, Karol	<b>ENANTIODROMIA</b>	Local musician Garbageface (Karol Orzechowski) releases a new album, exploring the polarized nature of our society, with a unique, one-time, live performance at The Theatre On King in Fall of 2023, which will be documented for later digital release.	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
4	Rahman, Kaz	<b>EXPERIMENTAL DOCUMENTARY FILM: DIGITAL DERVISH (WORKING TITLE)</b>	An experimental documentary featurette that mixes performance footage of the internationally touring Digital Dervish dance performance, with interviews, verite-style sequences and animated shots.	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00

	Name	Project Title	Project Summary	Request	Awarded
5	Rubacha, Elisha	<b>LOOP</b>	Workshop process and work-in-progress performance at The Theatre on King for a stage play about ambiguous family history, intergenerational trauma, mental illness, and fascism.	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
6	Snell, Matt	<b>FORTUNE COOKIE</b>	In this unique and comedic short film, a man attempting to live without a smartphone, finds himself increasingly addicted to fortune cookies instead. A new work from this award-winning director.	\$3,220.00	\$3,220.00
7	Story, Kate	<b>ANXIETY</b>	A one-person devised theatre/dance performance work from this GG nominated artist exploring the Old English epic poem "Beowulf," the current rise of white supremacy, language, the artist's childhood and her father's work as a Newfoundland lexicographer	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
8	Todd, Lynda	<b>TAP: PLEASE TOUCH (TACTILE ART PROJECT)</b>	Creating accessible, tactile art designed for diverse audiences, including blind and visually impaired audience members, with a live exhibition at The Mount Community Centre, online, and on social media.	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
9	Turnham, Gillian	<b>INTERLACED</b>	Visual artist shares her explorations of traditional Islamic geometric art with three non-gallery popup exhibitions, connected to an online gallery with instructions on drawing each pattern using ruler and compass.	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00

## APPENDIX 2



### GFIA Component One Final Report

Thank you for participating in the first-ever **Grants for Individual Artists** program! This Final Report provides invaluable information to guide future EC3 programming and help secure the funding needed to ensure that the Grants for Individual Artists is a permanent program funded by the City of Peterborough.

The Final Report is **mandatory** for all Grants for Individual Artists Component One grant recipients. You must complete a satisfactory Final Report before you can apply to another EC3 program in most cases.

**TO COMPLETE, PLEASE DOWNLOAD THIS FILE, FILL IT OUT, AND EMAIL THE COMPLETED REPORT TO [EC3.RESEARCH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EC3.RESEARCH@GMAIL.COM).**

#### Artist Information

Name:

Mailing address:

Email address:

Phone number:

Website (if applicable):

## Project Details

Project Title:

Amount of Grant:

Other Project Members (if applicable):

Partner Organizations (if applicable):

Please list any artist fees that were paid as part of your project:

## Event Details

*(If your project included any public events, please fill out this section.)*

Event Date(s):

Event Title:

Event Location(s)/Platforms:

Attendance:

Revenue:

## Written Report

Please write a brief summary of how you utilized your Grants for Individual Artists funding. How did this funding help to advance your work/practice? Did you achieve your goals and objectives? Were there any unforeseen challenges? Did the final project change from the original proposal? What impact did it have?

Will your project continue beyond the date you are submitting this report? If so, how?

Do you have any feedback for EC3?

If your project received any media coverage, please list it and provide links where possible.

## Signature

*I certify that the Grants for Individual Artists funds have been fully spent on the activity for which the grant was awarded and that the information recorded in this Final Report is accurate.*

Signature:

Name:

Date:

**Thank you for filling this out, and for your participation in the Grants for Individual Artists program! Please send the completed report back to [ec3.research@gmail.com](mailto:ec3.research@gmail.com) by **September 30, 2023** at the latest.**

## Contact

Gabe Pollock

Program Coordinator and Research Lead (EC3)

[ec3.research@gmail.com](mailto:ec3.research@gmail.com)

(705) 930-9279

## APPENDIX 3



### GFIA Component Two Final Report

Thank you for participating in the first-ever **Grants for Individual Artists** program! This Final Report will provide invaluable information to guide future EC3 programming and help secure **Grants for Individual Artists** as a permanent program funded by the City of Peterborough.

The Final Report is **mandatory** for all Grants for Individual Artists Component Two grant recipients. You must complete a satisfactory Final Report before you can apply to another EC3 program in most cases.

**TO FILL OUT, PLEASE DOWNLOAD THIS FILE, FILL IT OUT, AND EMAIL THE COMPLETED REPORT TO [EC3.RESEARCH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EC3.RESEARCH@GMAIL.COM).**

#### Artist Information

Name:

Mailing address:

Email address:

Phone number:

Website (if applicable):

## **Project Details**

Project Title:

Amount of Grant:

Other Project Members (if applicable):

Partner Organizations (if applicable):

## **Details of Your Event/Presentation**

Title:

Date(s):

Location(s)/Platforms:

Brief Description:

Attendance:

Revenue (if applicable):

## **Written Report**

Please write a brief summary regarding the outcomes of your project. Was it successful? Were there any unforeseen challenges? Did the final project change from the original proposal? What impact did the grant have?



How did Grants for Individual Artists funds assist the project?

Will your project continue beyond the date you are submitting this report? If so, how?

Do you have any feedback for EC3?

If your project received any media coverage, please list it and provide links where possible.

### Financial Report

Provide a Financial Report of how you spent Grants for Individual Artists funds. Please relate this to the proposed budget, as stated in your original Grants for Individual Artists application.

Please do not attach receipts; keep them for your own files.

*Revenue and Expenses must balance.*

	Proposed Budget (from grant application)	Actual Budget
<b>REVENUE</b>		
EC3 Funding		
Other Grant Revenue (specify)		
Sponsorships		
Box Office		

	<b>Proposed Budget (from grant application)</b>	<b>Actual Budget</b>
Other Revenue (specify)		
<b>Total Revenue</b>		
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Artist's Fees		
Wages (other)		
Technical Fees		
Production Equipment Costs (sound, lighting, projection, etc.)		
Other Production Costs (specify)		
Materials		
Audience Development Materials (print, online, educational/ promotional, etc)		
Other (explain)		
Other (explain)		
<b>Total Expenses</b>		

## Signature

*I certify that Grants for Individual Artists funds have been fully spent on the activity for which the grant was awarded and that the information recorded in this Final Report is accurate.*

Signature:

Name:

Date:

**Thank you for filling this out, and for your participation in the Grants for Individual Artists program! Please send the completed report back to [ec3.research@gmail.com](mailto:ec3.research@gmail.com) by **September 30, 2023** at the latest.**

## Contact

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