

Media Release  
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### **More than 100 arts organizations receive investments through the Edmonton Arts Council**

*Edmonton...* The City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Arts Council have just invested in 108 not-for-profit arts organizations that produce and perform artistic works for the benefit of all Edmontonians. The distribution of the Edmonton Arts Council's Arts Operating Grants marks the most significant investment that the City makes in the arts annually.

"We invest in a wide variety of arts organizations through the Arts Operating Community Investment Grant," said Stephen Williams, Director of Grants, Awards and Support Programs at the Edmonton Arts Council. "The organizations receiving these investments range in discipline and function, and include arts production organizations such as Sadhana Music and Dance Society, participatory art-making organizations such as the Edmonton Junior Children's Choir, and support organizations for artists such as the Alberta Craft Council and the Alberta Playwrights' Network."

The process entailed several months of review and panel meetings by Edmonton Arts Council staff and the ten Edmontonians who make up the review committee for the Arts Operating Grant. Grant amounts vary depending on the type and size of the organization. Some of the smaller community groups receive less than \$1000, while the largest grant totaled \$1.04 million. Support through the City of Edmonton Community Investment Program may be provided to a maximum of 25 per cent of the applicant organization's operating budget.

"Metro Cinema moved to the Garneau Theatre in 2011 and with that move, our organization essentially doubled in size overnight, with more screenings, more partnerships with more organizations, more screenings of work by local filmmakers, more staff - and quadruple the attendance," said Marsh Murphy, Executive Director of Metro Cinema. "Of all of our funders, the Edmonton Arts Council has been the most responsive to our changing circumstances. Artists and arts organizations in Edmonton are fortunate in that not only does the City of Edmonton devote significant resources to the Edmonton Arts Council, but the Edmonton Arts Council staff, board and jury members are closely connected to the art and artists in Edmonton and can be responsive to the work that's happening."

To be eligible for an Arts Operating Community Investment Grant, an organization must be a not-for-profit society that has been registered for at least one year. The primary activities of the organization must be in the arts and must take place within the corporate limits of the City of Edmonton. The grants are not intended to support organizations that are primarily training or educational institutions.

For more information on the Arts Operating Community Investment Grant or the Edmonton Arts Council, please visit [edmontonarts.ca](http://edmontonarts.ca)

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The Edmonton Arts Council is a not-for-profit organization that supports and promotes the arts community in Edmonton. The Edmonton Arts Council works to increase the profile and involvement of arts and culture in all aspects of our community life.

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