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ELEVEN LOCAL ARTISTS RECEIVE ADVANCED ARTIST AWARDS

WHITEHORSE – Eleven artists are sharing \$40,000 in funding to continue developing their personal artistic talents, Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor announced today.

“The Yukon government is pleased to support advanced artists,” Taylor said. “The various works that will develop from this latest round of recipients reflect the diversity, quality and range of artistic skills and talents in Yukon. Through fostering and developing the arts, Yukoners benefit both socially and economically.”

The Advanced Artist Award program is funded by Lotteries Yukon and is administered by the Department of Tourism and Culture. The program is assessed using a peer review process. Jury members for the fall intake were Mitch Miyagawa, Brian Fidler, Maryanne Annable Roots, Barbara Chamberlin and Mario Villeneuve.

One of the recipients to receive funding is artist Joseph Tisiga. He was awarded \$2,500 to assist him in researching and developing forms of drawing and illustrations that combine various styles of First Nations imagery with popular icons and illustrative designs.

“I very much appreciate the support and opportunity to develop my skills and techniques while working on this collection of drawings and illustrations,” Tisiga said. “I hope to share this work with the community and that this may lead to more work of critical and concise insight in the future.”

For information on the Advanced Artist Awards contact the Department of Tourism and Culture, Cultural Services Branch at 867-667-3535.

List of recipients attached:

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Note to media: If you wish to contact any of the recipients directly to discuss their projects, please contact Alicia Debreceni.

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ADVANCED ARTIST AWARD RECIPIENTS, FALL 2007:

	Applicant	Project Name and Description	Allocated
1	Paul Gort	to create a new body of work of handcrafted furniture for a solo exhibition	\$1,900
2	Stephanie Ryan	to create a body of paintings based on the historical areas of the Taku Arm of Tagish Lake	2,500
3	Joseph Tisiga	to research and develop forms of drawings and illustrations that combine various styles of First Nations imagery with popular icons and illustrative designs	2,500
4	Carrie Corcoran	to expand a creative non-fiction work into a submission-ready manuscript	2,500
5	Nicole Edwards	to record a CD of jazz standards and original compositions	5,000
6	Sharon Shorty	to research and perform stories based on the artist's Tlingit family and clan stories, with reference to their departure from Alaska during the epidemics of the late 1800s.	5,000
7	Joanne Jackson-Johnston	to produce a series of photographs documenting the days leading up to the freeze up of the rivers and creeks around Dawson City, Yukon	3,700
8	Joanne Bell	to write a children's novel set in the Dempster region of Yukon	3,100
9	Arlin McFarlane	to research, write and storyboard scripts for three short films	4,500
10	Michael Reynolds	to work with an editor to prepare a manuscript for forthcoming publication	4,500
11	Patricia Robertson	to research and write the first draft of a young adult fantasy novel	4,800

TOTAL: \$40,000