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GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS CULTURAL PROJECTS THROUGH ARTS FUND

WHITEHORSE – Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor has announced the Arts Fund is contributing \$55,980 to nine projects that address the creative development of the arts in the Yukon.

The last fund intake received 13 applications with requests totalling over \$104,000.

“The Arts Fund supports a wide range of arts activities throughout the Yukon,” Taylor said. “I am pleased to note that so far this fiscal year, the Arts Fund has committed more than \$300,000 to 33 projects benefiting arts and culture in Yukon communities.”

The Arts Fund is an applicant-driven funding program that supports artists and communities in creative endeavours such as festivals, events, training, touring and art creation in all forms. The fund is adjudicated four times a year by the Yukon Arts Advisory Council in an arms-length process.

Brave New Works, founded by Yukon artist Trace de Jaray in 1999, has received \$5,600 in funding. Spotlight Shadows Arts Collective, founded by Emily Farrell, Heather Jones and Claire Strauss, is reviving the project.

Brave New Works is producing a series of five shows that will increase opportunities for Yukon artists, particularly emerging artists, to create and present new works to the public. Audiences will have an opportunity to view and comment on the new experimental work and to take part in discussions about the creative process.

“On behalf of Spotlight Shadows Arts Collective, I am happy to receive this funding as it will continue the work Trace began, allowing us to move forward with this exciting and innovative series comprised of music, theatre, dance, sound art, visual art, film, poetry and playwriting,” Spotlight Shadows Arts Collective spokesperson Heather Jones said.

The funding will be used for studio space requirements, publicity, equipment and props, honoraria to the artists, and community outreach.

For more information regarding the Arts Fund, please call 667-3535 or toll-free 1-800-661-0408, extension 3535.

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Attachment: List of Arts Fund recipients attached.

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ATTACHMENT - Recipients for the Sept. 15, 2005 Arts Fund intake:

1. Carmacks Family and Community Support Society receives \$5,600 for their *North Klondyke Highway Fiddle Project*: instruction and a community tour of fiddle music.
2. Spotlight Shadows Arts Collective receives \$5,600 for *Brave New Works 2005/06*, a performance series for emerging and established artists to present new experimental and collaborative works.
3. Dawson City Arts Society receives \$15,000 to go towards the 7th *Annual Dawson City International Short Film Festival* which offers training, presents national and international films to Yukon audiences and offers a venue for Yukon filmmakers to exhibit their work.
4. Frostbite Music Society receives \$5,500 for a community tour of Bob Wiseman and Anand Rajaram's *Cowboys and Indians*, a performance combining physical theatre and music.
5. Lorne Mountain Community Association and Bob Kuiper receive \$3,500 for a public event involving community barn dance music, dancing and calling workshop.
6. Saba Middle Eastern Dance Ensemble receives \$2,780 for a dancer development workshop and public performance showcasing Middle Eastern dance styles.
7. Lisa Turner's collective receives \$5,500 for the production of an operetta of the fictional Canadian tale *The Story of Rainman*.
8. Yukon Art Society receives \$2,500 for a series of pottery workshops for several skill levels, taught by Samantha Dickie.
9. Yukon Educational Theatre and L'Ark receive \$10,000 for a rural communities and elementary school tour of *Darwin: A Fish out of Water*, an original puppet play about bullying.

Total Arts Fund amount allocated: \$55,980