

Final Report for Spring 2021 PEI Artist Grants



June 24, 2021



Economic Growth,
Tourism & Culture

This funding program was designed to support the development of artistic practice of PEI artists through a competitive award system. The process for assessment is modeled after the best practice of using peer juries to select successful projects and award funding amounts. This round of funding competition was able to support 16 projects in total.

Stats:

Number of eligible applications received: 85

Number of projects funded: 24

Total amount requested: \$411,214.80

Total amount available to be awarded: \$100,000.00

By Discipline:

Visual Arts: 5

Interdisciplinary: 1

Film and Media Arts: 4

Music: 6

Writing and Publishing: 3

Theatre: 1

Dance: 1

Craft: 2

By Artist Type:

Established: 12

Emerging: 12

Amateur: 0

By Grant type:

Creation: 19

Dissemination: 5

Successful Applicants

Alexis Bulman

Visual Arts, \$7000

Future Booths will be a body of work consisting of three elaborate produce booth art installations that celebrate the functionality, and modest absurdity of traditional road-side farm stands. Set up in rural locations, this project will promote awareness of climate change adaptation in agriculture by employing recognizable structures in new and unfamiliar ways.

Alicia Toner

Music, \$2000

A public presentation of the artists' new album, "Joan" on June 18, 2021, which will include a special filmed album release concert at PEI Brewing Company in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

Benton Hartley

Theatre, \$3400

The artist will be writing a new play based in Prince Edward Island called "The Dance." It features three actors and discusses the themes of loss, family, and career, and how they shape identity.

Bianca Pilar Garcia

Writing and Publishing, \$5000

"THE BLOCK" is the first magazine curated for BIPOC communities in PEI. The focus is tailored towards BIPOC communities, with fresh and innovative content. Funding will support the release of a second issue focusing on celebrating Pride and the Queer BIPOC community this summer.

Catherine MacLellan

Writing and Publishing, \$4800

The artist will be writing a biographical book on their father, songwriter Gene MacLellan, in collaboration with NB writer Bob Mersereau.

Corinne Chappell

Crafts, \$6390

Just as petroglyphs preserve and share traditional knowledge, I have been inspired to create art pieces that raise awareness of Mi'kmaq history and connection to this land. Through this project, the artist will gain a deeper understanding of the spiritual significance of Mi'kmaq petroglyphs and how to respectfully incorporate these ancient teachings into their art pieces.

Dale Sorensen

Music, \$1600

To create a series of works for solo trombone with a loop station.

Dennis MacKenzie

Music, \$4000

This project is the recording of a debut album which tells the story of the artists' time in the Canadian Armed Forces, suffering PTSD from serving in Afghanistan, and dealing with the loss of many friends. This record follows their story from recruitment, to training, to deployment, to tragedy, and finally release from the forces, all while highlighting the healing they have found in music.

Elizabeth Iwunwa

Writing and Publishing, \$5000

This project is an anthology of memoirs, essays, poems, food and drink recipes, paintings, short stories, photo essays, portraits, interviews, and illustrations by immigrants. It will encapsulate the Island immigrant life in words and pictures.

Geraldine Jadis

Crafts, \$800

This project will support the artist to purchase the fabric required to make traditional Indigenous regalia.

Jahan Bloch

Film and Media Arts, \$3700

The artist will be writing a feature film script titled 'The Bollywood Romance' a romantic comedy which would be a Western film heavily influenced by Indian (Bollywood) style of filmmaking.

Jordan Beaulieu

Visual Arts, \$3500

A series of mosaic sculptures made from clay and ceramic litter collected on the riverbanks of Three Rivers.

Megan Stewart

Theatre, \$7000

"Here's How it Ends" is a solo performance in development that examines loss, grief and renewal through scenes from a year of change amidst the covid-19 pandemic. The proposed project is for a seven-month research & development process in collaboration with two theatre artists, Julie Hammond & Cole Lewis, to complete a full-length performance script.

Michelle Bouey

Music, \$5000

The artist will be recording 5 songs on their debut EP.

Niyi Adeogun

Visual Arts, \$5500

This is an augmented reality pop-up (fashion & visual art) experience collaboration with ZeroResistance Studios and Truly Motivated.

Noah MacDougall

Music. \$5000

Funding from the PEI Arts Creation Grant will support the exploration and production of an 8-song, debut album to be released in April 2022. Pulling from the artist's musical tapestry of genres and influences, the project aims to capture the complexities of their existence as a small town queer artist in 2021 through production experimentation, lyrical veracity and unabashed self-expression.

Oneil Kuku

Visual Arts, \$1984

The objective of the Island Photo Exhibit II is to showcase the beauty of Prince Edward Island to the public. The artist will highlight the stories, journeys and experiences of Immigrants on the Island.

Reequal Smith

Dance, \$2000

"Euphoria- A Rainbow in the Sky" will glorify goddesses and kings who are revealed in a moment of intense social change - a moment within our glow in the spectrum of human connection in a continuum of our most precious possessions; to bring forth the color of euphoric self-realization, stories, beauty, music and culture that corresponds with every shade. We are euphoric, our essence is rooted with the swish in our hips and vibration of the goat skin.

Richard Pellissier-Lush

Film and Media Arts, \$7466

The artist will create 14 short professional videos that capture beautiful scenery of Epektiwk (PEI), the Mi'kmaq culture (drumming, dancing, regalia's), and any other places or things that may bring inspiration and motivation to the audience. The artist wants to inspire and motivate the audience to create happiness, and potentially motivate them to create their own art one day.

Robin Gislain Shumbusho

Visual Arts, \$2000

The artist will participate in a solo exhibition via This Town Is Small.

Sarah Eddie

Music, \$4860

This creation project will involve recording, mixing, mastering, and releasing three songs composed by Sarah Eddie (Sasha's Ambulance) and releasing them as an EP, entitled "Impasse."

Sharlene Kelly

Film and Media Arts, \$2000

St Bernard's Cult is an eight episode comedic series set in Prince Edward Island. In order to go to pitch the series requires some dedication to the editing process.

Susan Rodgers

Film and Media Arts, \$5000

This funding is in support of screenplay Kristian's Cross, a feature film the artist intends to produce and direct, from first to second draft. This will involve the hiring of an experienced professional story editor.

Tanya Davis

Interdisciplinary, \$5000

The Web is a suite of poems for interdisciplinary presentation, rooted in performance poetry and incorporating elements of music and theatre.

Process for Selection of Grant Awards

The Director of Cultural Development oversees the administration of this funding program. A contracted program administrator coordinated the grant applications and jury selection, process. The program used a "peer assessment" model where a jury of six peers reviewed all applications and then were brought together to assess each application on the following criteria:

Artistic Merit 25 points

Questions the artist(s) should be able to answer within this section:

Why do I/we make art? Why am I a musician/film-maker/visual artist etc?

What is my arts practice about (a general statement that speaks to an overarching vision?)

Where is this project situated within my practice and does it demonstrate growth of my practice?

Other things to consider - are the concepts in language that is understandable (not too jargon filled, academic)

Is this about business or about artistic merit?

Achievability 15 points

Does the artist(s) have a track record of successfully completing projects? Does the plan seem reasonable? Is their budget sufficient? Does the artist have a well thought out timeline?

Impact 10 points

This criteria relates to impact for the PEI Arts community. Essentially the question is: Will the project contribute to PEI arts? It can be understood in many ways: growth of the individual artist/group, raising the profile of the artist within the community, contributing to the growth of the arts community, or raising the profile of PEI arts outside of the province.

Selection of Jury

Jury members were solicited from an open call for applications. Jury members represented a mix of disciplines and experience in the arts community. The jurors were:

Tamara Steele - music/interdisciplinary

Shawnte Burrell - theatre/film

Ryan Drew - music

Patricia Bourque - visual art/indigenous art

Louise Lalonde - film/writing

Lindsey Ross - visual art

Timeline for Spring 2021 PEI Arts Grants:

April 16: Call for applications/jury members open

May 14: Deadline for applications

May 17 – June 11: Jury reviews applications

June 16: Jury meets face to face for adjudication

June 17: Results communicated to applicants