

# *Final Report for 2017 PEI Artist Grants*



July 25, 2017



Education, Early  
Learning and 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 12 projects in total.

### Stats:

Number of eligible applications received:	70
Number of projects funded:	13
Total amount requested:	\$304,915.00
Total amount available to be awarded:	\$50,000.00

### By Discipline:

Visual Arts:	3
Interdisciplinary:	1
Film and Media Arts:	1
Music:	3
Theatre:	2
Writing and Publishing:	1
Dance:	1

### By Artist Type:

Established:	6
Emerging:	5
Amateur:	1

### By Grant type:

Creation:	10
Dissemination:	1
Professional Development:	1

## Successful Applicants

### *Sirens*

Creation Grant, Emerging, Music \$5000

"Sirens will commission a choral work from the Canadian composer, Jeff Enns, with a text incorporating the "Snake Legend" (as told by PEI Mi'kmaq elder, Matilda Knockwood) and a key piece of feminist poetry. Sirens will work in collaboration with Julie Pellissier-Lush to further bridge Canadian choral and Mi'kmaq performance practices and premiere the piece at their concert weekend in May 2018."

### *Hans Wendt*

Creation Grant, Established, Visual Arts \$6000

"This grant will cover material and subsistence costs for the production of a new body of watercolour paintings that involve new experimentation and a departure from the style and subject matter of my work of the past decade. The work is to be shown in 2018, at the Michael Gibson Gallery in London, and the Toronto Art Fair."

### *Margot Rejskind*

Creation Grant, Established, Music \$4500

"I will research, arrange and program a three-concert season for my newly-created professional vocal ensemble Luminos Ensemble."

### *Melissa Mullen*

Creation Grant, Established, Theatre \$7000

"We plan to create a two-act multi-media stage production based on the works, recordings and photos of Sandy Ives. We think the magic Sandy captured during his visits to the Island is still potent and that when audiences see these stories and characters brought to life, they will feel the same wonderful sense of a "garden behind the moon" which so enchanted him."

### *Susan Rodgers*

Creation Grant, Established, Film and Media Arts \$6000

"*Still The Water* is a dramatic feature film about the men in a broken family trying to find their way back to each other. The film begins when an estranged brother, Jordie MacAulay, arrives home in P.E.I. because he has 'no place else to go.'"

### *Eric Broadbent*

Dissemination Grant, Emerging, Interdisciplinary \$2000

"The aim of the project is to expose Charlottetown to the hip hop culture through a day long festival at Victoria Park."

### *Linda Wigmore*

Creation Grant, Emerging, Theatre \$3520

"I will develop a script for stage which will explore the experiences of women who relinquished babies for adoption on Prince Edward Island. The project will culminate with script workshopping with actors and a staged reading for an audience."

### **Samantha Desjardin Joyce**

Professional Development, Amateur, Writing and Publishing \$345

"I am attending a professional development workshop focused on novel writing in July. The University of Prince Edward Island has partnered with Humber College to present "The Insider's Guide to Writing and Publishing for Young Readers." The workshop is for writers of literature for children and young adults and will focus on helping writers with concept, first draft and beyond."

### **Alexander Reuss**

Creation Grant, Emerging, Visual Arts \$4000

"I am going to explore and create three sculptural works of art that instigate the viewer to question the merits of the industrialization of processes in wood fabrication and the application of these products."

### **Jared Perry**

Creation Grant, Emerging, Visual Arts \$3000

"*All or Nothing* will explore the arena of human vulnerability by creating a mixture of paintings, drawings and sculptures. The focus will be on how vulnerability is experienced in opposite and conflicting manners."

### **Taryn Verkerk**

Creation Grant, Established, Dance \$6000

"We intend to create a contemporary dance piece showcasing PEI's beautiful landscape specific to sand and water. 7-10 local dancers will explore the artistic relationship between the ocean and the forces surrounding it."

### **Ben Aitken**

Creation Grant, Emerging, Music \$3000

"I plan to record, mix and master a four-song demo of songs I have recently written. I plan to use the funds for studio time, to rent good quality recording equipment for my home studio, and to hire session musicians to record additional instruments (bass, drums and guitar)."

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## **Process**

The Director of Cultural Development oversaw the administration of this funding program. 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 sufficient budget? 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:

Nigel Roe (Visual Arts)

Anna Karpinski (Visual Arts, Writing)

Rob Oakie (Music)

Monica Lacey (Visual Arts, Film)

Shannon Pratt (Film, Music)

Ann Thurlow (Writing)

### ***Timeline:***

May 19<sup>th</sup>: Call for applications/jury members open

June 7th: Information session Summerside

June 8th: Information session Montague

June 9<sup>th</sup>: Information sessions (English and French) Charlottetown

June 20th: Deadline for applications

June 21<sup>st</sup>-July 9th: Jury reviews applications

July 11<sup>th</sup>: Jury meets face to face for adjudication

July 12th: Results communicated to applicants