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# Arts Connect

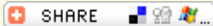


**ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL**  
**CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO**

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## Arts Connect - September 2008



### New name, new look for OAC Newsletter

We bring you our first issue of **Arts Connect** in the same spirit as our new strategic plan, [Connections and Creativity: A vision for the arts and the people of Ontario](#). We see this e-newsletter as a vehicle to share OAC news and stories that promote a broader understanding and appreciation of the arts. Our other e-bulletin, Newsflash, will be reserved for one-issue e-mail blasts.

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- Learn more about the Artists-in-Residence pilot program: [Listen to a song](#) about the nervous system or [watch a documentary](#) about daily high school life, courtesy of the students at Durham Alternative Secondary School (DASS)



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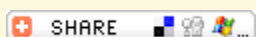
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## News



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## Update on OAC Budget and Strategic Plan

The printed version of OAC's new strategic plan is being mailed this month to a wide

range of individuals and organizations with a stake in the arts. We are now in the second year of the budget increase that took us from **\$40 million** in 2007 to this year's **\$55 million** and will reach **\$60 million** by 2009/2010.

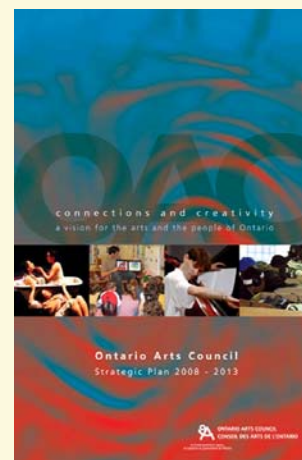
On the heels of our new strategic plan we are outlining OAC's budget priorities for 2008/2009.

### Granting

- All granting sector budgets have received increases of at least **11 percent**.
- OAC operating program grant increases are ranging from **10 to 21 percent**. A **\$1.2 million** funding pool has been established for **new** organizations that meet the assessment criteria for operating funding.
- We estimate that 50 new organizations will be successful this year.
- In keeping with the priorities outlined in our strategic plan, Aboriginal and culturally diverse organizations already receiving operating funding will receive increases to their grants of at least **40 percent**.
- Regional organizations, francophone organizations and historically underfunded organizations will see significant increases to their operating grants.
- The budget for project programs went from **\$11.2 million** in 2007/08 to **\$13.7 million** in 2008/09.
- A new national and international touring and residencies pilot program was launched this past July with a **\$500,000** budget. The budget for 2009/10 is projected to be **\$1 million**. The urgent need for this kind of support emerged early on in our strategic plan consultations.

[Download PDF](#)

[of strategic plan](#)



## Services

- During our consultations, we heard consistently that OAC needs to provide other kinds of support in addition to granting dollars.
- For example, under the category of services we are planning to do more outreach and initiate partnerships within and beyond the artistic community. Arts education continues to be a major priority.
- We are expanding our partnership with three school boards for our year-long *Artist in Residence* initiative to include at least one Aboriginal school board this fall. We are providing professional development to artists both through our partnership with York University in *Arts Education Certificate Course for Artists Working in Ontario Schools*, and through the recent workshop in Thunder Bay, *Developing Your Art Practice in the Community and Workplace*, for which some of the forty-four participants travelled from across the north.
- We are increasing the Research budget by \$200,000 to provide in-depth information needed by the arts community and to support advocacy initiatives. We have also increased our honoraria for jurors and advisors to \$240 per day.

## Administration

- To help us expand programs and services, we are establishing several new positions.
- We have hired a new Director of Research and we are currently recruiting for an Associate Arts Education Officer.
- We will be advertising for a Northeastern Ontario Arts Consultant and a Publications Coordinator and are developing a new position—Outreach Consultant—this year.

## The \$

| Granting Budgets                   | 2007-2008         | 2008-2009         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Anchor Organizations               | 9,477,000         | 10,901,500        |
| Granting strategies initiatives    |                   | 25,000            |
| New Organizations pool             | 300,000           | 1,269,000         |
| Aboriginal Arts                    | 598,000           | 957,000           |
| Access and career development      | 250,000           | 350,000           |
| Arts Education                     | 2,008,000         | 2,388,000         |
| Arts Service Organizations         | 1,064,000         | 1,191,000         |
| Bureau Franco-Ontarien             | 2,049,000         | 2,489,000         |
| Community and Multi-Arts           | 1,403,000         | 1,656,000         |
| Compass                            | 492,000           | 552,000           |
| Dance                              | 1,734,000         | 2,193,000         |
| Literature                         | 3,020,000         | 3,421,000         |
| Music                              | 4,645,000         | 5,298,000         |
| Northern arts                      | 350,000           | 400,000           |
| Ontario - Quebec artist residences | 30,000            | 30,000            |
| Theatre                            | 4,959,000         | 5,816,000         |
| Touring and Collaborations         | 1,019,000         | 1,594,000         |
| Visual and Media Arts              | 6,580,000         | 7,604,000         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                       | <b>39,987,000</b> | <b>48,135,000</b> |

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## OAC introduces steps to gather input from jurors and advisors

At the end of every OAC advisory panel and jury, we will ask assessors to complete a confidential questionnaire giving us direct feedback about OAC's assessment process and their experience as a panel member.

Questionnaires have been mailed to people who served on juries and panels since April 1, 2008 so that we can have a complete record for 2008–2009 fiscal year. All of the information gathered is confidential.

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## Moving beyond Ontario's borders. OAC launches new national and international touring program

In July, we announced the **National and International Touring and Residencies** pilot program for artists and arts organizations planning to tour either across Canada or internationally in the coming months.

The National and International Touring and Residencies pilot program has two categories:

### Touring Category

- The goal for the touring category is to increase Ontario's artistic visibility beyond our provincial borders and raise the profile of Ontario artists both nationally and internationally. This is a multidisciplinary program with no deadlines.
- Proposals are currently being accepted and will be assessed on an on-going basis.

### Residency Category

- The residency category was created to support Ontario artists who have opportunities for creative residencies in Canada or abroad.
- OAC is also exploring residency relationships with other countries. For example, OAC has established a relationship with the Akademie Schloss Solitude ([www.akademie-solitude.de](http://www.akademie-solitude.de)) in Stuttgart, Germany.
- Artists interested in applying for the 2009–2011 residency at the Akademie Schloss Solitude should contact the Akademie directly; the deadline is **October 31, 2008**.
- In support of OAC's residency initiative, the University of Toronto has offered living accommodation for artists from abroad who wish to work in Toronto or will be in the city to collaborate with Ontario artists.

[Program information and the application form](#)

[Click here for full story](#)

If you have questions, please contact Mark Hammond, Interim National and International Touring Officer, at 416-646-7466 or at [mhammond@arts.on.ca](mailto:mhammond@arts.on.ca)

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## Artists-in-Residence pilot program renewed for another year

Last year, OAC funded and partnered with the **Durham District School Board**, the **Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud** and the **York Region District School Board** to set up artist residencies in schools for the 2007-08 academic year. We are doing it again in 2009, and look forward to seeing the impacts artists have on student development.

Last year, over 1200 students shared a classroom with artists during the pilot year of the **Artists in Residence (AIR)** program. The teachers, students and artists wrote songs, produced radio plays and short films. Anne Marie Laginski, Durham Alternative Secondary (DASS) School Principal linked last year's increase in student attendance to the involvement of the artists at the school.

We are currently consulting with arts educators in the north to develop a strategy on Aboriginal arts programming in remote and First Nations schools.

**Learn more about the Artists-in-Residence pilot program:** [Listen to a song](#) about the nervous system or [watch a documentary](#) about daily high school life, courtesy of the students at Durham Alternative Secondary School (DASS).

**For more information:**

English language component  
 Nasreen Khan, Arts Education Officer  
 416-969-7428 / [nkhan@arts.on.a](mailto:nkhan@arts.on.a)  
 French language component

Eric Dubeau, Franco-Ontarian Arts Officer and Manager of Francophone Partnerships  
 416-969-7427 / [edubeau@arts.on.ca](mailto:edubeau@arts.on.ca)

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## Integrated database will make grant applications easier for organizations

For years, arts organizations have told funders they would like a more unified approach to the varied and complex funding-application processes — especially the financial and statistical data funding agencies have to gather.

An integrated financial and statistical online database is in the works; organizations applying for operating funding will submit only one set of financial and statistical information. The new database is called **CADAC (Canadian Arts Data / Données sur les arts au Canada)**.

Pilot testing of the database is expected to begin in October with a number of arts organizations and will proceed throughout the fall. Once the testing is complete, CADAC will be phased in gradually over the next two years, beginning in late 2008.

Since the project's beginning in 2004, several OAC staff have been very involved, including Pat Bradley, Feizal Bacchus, Steven Campbell, Michael Choo and Annemarie Stanescu. Pat will continue to be involved as the first Chair of the not-for-profit organization, also called CADAC, founded to manage the database. Feizal Bacchus will stay on as a board member. The Canada Council for the Arts will be the secretariat and host for CADAC.

- [Learn about the benefits CADAC's unified approach will provide](#) for arts organizations, arts funders and the broader sector
- [Click here for CADAC Questions and Answers](#)

### What some members of the arts community are saying about CADAC

Jane Gardner  
 General Manager  
 Carousel Players

"Congratulations on this new arts database initiative. It's a long time coming and I know you put in a lot of work to make it happen. Many hours of applause for you!"

Eileen Keown, Executive Director  
 The Oakville Children's Choir

"I would like to pass along my great appreciation regarding the creation of CADAC! How wonderful! We arts managers all have had to fill out multiple variations of financial and statistical information for many years...this is great news! We will all have been saved hours and hours of time!"

For more information please contact: [CADACInfo@thecadac.ca](mailto:CADACInfo@thecadac.ca)

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## First spOtlight: festival captures the imagination



More than 300 artists engaged with the public in over 200 activities during last June's spOtlight: event, which took place in Cambridge, Guelph, Kitchener, Stratford and Waterloo (as well as the towns of Elora, Erin and St. Jacobs).

The five municipalities were part of the pilot project initiated by the Ministry of Culture and produced by the Ontario Arts Council from June 6 to June 8, 2008.

This weekend festival provided the opportunity for the public to peek behind the scenes, visit studios and have one-on-one conversations with artists.

The range of free activities over the weekend was impressive. They were designed to encourage people to learn more about the artists and arts organizations working in their communities. They included: sword stage-combat, Scandinavian throat singing workshops, orchestra conducting 101, gallery vault tours, guerrilla street improv theatre, jewellery-making and song-writing classes.

Our sincere thanks to the artists and arts organizations involved, the mayors and the city staff, and local businesses for their imagination and belief in the potential of this event.

- [Browse photos from more than 100 activities](#) in Cambridge, Guelph, Kitchener, Stratford and Waterloo during the SpOtlight: festival
- For more information, visit [www.spotlightfestival.ca](http://www.spotlightfestival.ca)

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## Arts Notes



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## CRA Proposed Policy on Fundraising to affect all registered charities

Earlier this year, the Canada Revenue Agency's Charities Directorate released a proposed new policy for fundraising that will affect all registered charities.

[Click here to review the full document and supplementary materials.](#)

There is concern in the arts about the implications of this policy on fundraising efforts. If you're not already familiar with the CRA proposal and how it might affect your fundraising, the briefs and submissions listed below will provide you with a good introduction and summary. OAC will continue to monitor this issue and highlight any new developments.

### Some selected resources:

- [Imagine Canada's](#) overview of the issue and links to its submission to CRA, supported by 86 charities
- The [Canadian Conference of the Arts](#) analysis
- The [Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations'](#) letter to CRA
- [Ontario Nonprofit Network](#) brief
- The legal analysis by [Carters law firm](#)

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## OAC-funded filmmakers featured at the Toronto International Film Festival

- **106** by Candice Day – Short Cuts Program
- **Green Door** by Semi Chellas - Short Cuts Program
- **Hers at Last** by Helen Lee (funded through Chalmers) – Short Cuts Program
- **Night Vision** by Philip Barker – Short Cuts Program
- **Sunday** by Jamie Dagg - Short Cuts Program
- **Under Rich Earth** by Malcolm Rogge – feature documentary

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## Winners of 2008 Premier's Awards for Excellence in the Arts announced

*Don't forget your nominations! Deadline for the 2009 Premier's Awards for Excellence in the Arts: December 1, 2008*

Visual artist and sculptor Ron Noganosh and publishing house Coach House Books received the 2008 Premier's Awards for Excellence in the Arts. [Click here to read their acceptance speeches](#)

[Check out photos](#) from the 2008 [Premier's Awards for Excellence in the Arts](#) ceremony, and [take a video tour](#) to learn more about the 2008 finalists.

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## Stay connected with OAC on Facebook and MySpace

- OAC invites artists and arts supporters in Ontario and beyond to join its group on **Facebook**, the popular social networking website. [Click here to join](#)
- The **Popular Music community** now has a virtual OAC home on **MySpace**. [Click here to connect](#) with Michael Murray, Popular Music Officer on Myspace

Both sites are places to share OAC-related information, such as upcoming granting deadlines, news and other announcements. You can engage in discussions or post images, videos and other information relevant to the arts community.

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## Summer 08 graduates of OAC and York University Course for Artist Educators

Artists who participated in the OAC/York University *Arts Education Certificate Course for Artists Working in Ontario Schools* gathered together to share their experiences at a reception organized by York University and OAC. [View photos](#)

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## 20 Questions Board Members of Not-for-Profit Organizations Should Ask about Strategy and Planning

The Risk Management and Governance Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (RMGB) has developed this briefing to help members of not-for-profit boards of directors understand their responsibilities for strategy, planning and budgeting.

[Click here to download the document](#)

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## Ministry of Tourism seeks input in study for future of tourism in Ontario

The Ministry of Tourism is looking for feedback from a variety for industry stakeholders, including the arts community, to devise a tourism strategy.

You can participate in a discussion of key issues regarding the future of Ontario tourism in a variety of ways.

### Register for formal consultations being held throughout Ontario this fall

To view the consultation schedule, go to [www.tourismstudy.ca/en/consultations.php](http://www.tourismstudy.ca/en/consultations.php)

### Respond to the ministry's Competitiveness Study Discussion Paper

Submissions are being accepted until September 30, 2008. Your response will provide vital information on the current state of Ontario's tourism industry. You will also have the chance to submit ideas on how to make Ontario a world-leading tourism destination.

A copy of the paper and options for communicating your submission are available at [www.tourismstudy.ca/en/discussionpaper.php](http://www.tourismstudy.ca/en/discussionpaper.php)

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## Staff Comings and Goings

- **OAC hires Kathryn Townshend as Director of Research, Policy and Evaluation as part of plan to expand research capacity**  
**Kathryn Townshend's** experience in research, policy and evaluation spans 25 years, much of it related to the arts and the not-for-profit sectors. With her expertise, we'll inform the arts community and decision-makers so we can increase understanding of the value of the arts. [Click here for more](#)
- **Filmmaker, writer and activist Sara Roque appointed as Aboriginal Arts Officer**  
**Sara Roque** joined OAC in September 2007 as Acting Aboriginal Arts Officer. Before that, Sara worked on a number of community-based arts projects and organizations in Canada and abroad. [Click here for more](#)
- **Performing Arts veteran Mark Hammond joins OAC as Interim National and International Touring Officer**  
**Mark Hammond** has worked in the performing arts for 35 years, in Toronto, Montreal, New York, Amsterdam and Antwerp. As the Interim National and International Touring Officer, Mark will administer the recently launched [National and International Touring program](#). [Click here for more](#)
- **Lorraine Filyer, Literature Officer, and Diane Eaton, Music Program Assistant, announce retirement**  
**Lorraine Filyer** will be retiring this year after over 18 years as the OAC's Literature Officer. She has been a tireless advocate for the needs of the large literary community in Ontario. Her colleagues not only benefited from her years of granting and policy experience but also her editing skills. After 20 years of service, **Diane Eaton** will retire in January 2009. Diane has been such an important member of our music team that it's hard to imagine OAC without her. Our heartfelt thanks to both.
- **Our best wishes to Georgina Braoudakis , Francophone Arts Associate, and Sheena Lessard, Franco-Ontarian Arts Program**

Assistant, who have moved on to pursue other projects.

- **Congratulations to Jessica Deljouravesh, Heather Meek, Virginie Ouellette-Berruel and Luciana Pierre**

We are pleased to announce that **Luciana Pierre** replaced Georgina Braoudakis as the new **Francophone Arts Associate Officer**. Luciana's successor is **Heather Meek**, who is now **Arts Education Program Assistant**. As of October 13, 2008 **Virginie Ouellette-Berruel** will replace Sheena Lessard as the new Francophone Arts Program Assistant. **Jessica Deljouravesh** will carry on as Program Assistant in the Music Office after Diane's departure.

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## Supporting cultural diversity in dance training in Ontario

Dance organizations that offer professional training in non-Western dance forms now have additional support through [Culturally Diverse Dance Training Projects](#). This program provides funding to culturally diverse dance organizations to train Ontarians for professional dance careers at the highest levels in artistic practices based on culturally diverse dance traditions.

For more information, please contact Myles Warren, Dance Officer, 416-969-7422, toll free 1-800-387-0058 extension 7422, [mwarren@arts.on.ca](mailto:mwarren@arts.on.ca) or Helen Floros, Dance Program Assistant, 416-969-7440, toll free 1-800-387-0058 extension 7440, [hfloros@arts.on.ca](mailto:hfloros@arts.on.ca)

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