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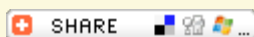
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Arts Connect - Summer 2012



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A member of the public tries out how to throw a pot of clay at Shenkman Centre

for the Arts in Ottawa during 2011

Culture Days.

Photo credit: Rémi Thériault

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Dates to Remember

- Click here for [Upcoming Program Deadlines](#), including [Theatre Projects](#), [Artistes visuels et des métiers d'art](#), [Aboriginal Arts Projects](#), [Culturally Diverse Dance Training Projects](#), [Media Arts Projects](#), [National and International Touring](#) and [Visual Artists: Mid-Career](#).
- New deadlines for [Aide à la diffusion artistique](#) and [Avance médias](#).

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Recent Results

Grant results are mailed once decisions are made, approximately three months after the deadline. They are posted on the website one month after that, listed by deadline date. [Click here for a listing of grant recipients](#).

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Artists in the GTA: [Reel Asian's Sonia Sakamoto-Jog brings business savvy to the non-profit world](#)

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Photo credit: Brennan Caverhill

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[Send Us Your Photos for Publication!](#)

If you have a Flickr account, please tag your **OAC-funded artistic project** photos "OACAOphotos" and feel free to [add us](#) to your list of Flickr contacts.

When you send your images, please let us know. Contact: Ashleigh Hodgins, Communications Assistant, 416-969-7462 / 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7462, ahodgins@arts.on.ca.



UNITY Staff with The Honourable Michael Chan, Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport

Videos

Subscribe to our channel on [YouTube!](#)

- [Access Ignites! Keynote Speaker Philip Akin](#)
- [Shapeshifters Bear Witness](#)
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- [Shapeshifters Jean Marshall](#)
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New Visual Arts Projects Program for Curators of Colour

Exhibition projects by curators of colour are eligible for up to \$30,000 in support from a new program in the Visual Arts Office. The **Culturally Diverse Curatorial Projects** program will fund visual, media art and craft exhibitions (and related publications) that take place in Ontario and are organized by curators of colour. The program will also support mentorships in curatorial research, writing, design, documentation or administration for curators of colour if they are components of the proposed exhibition.

Public art galleries, artist-run centres, festivals and other presenters working with an independent curator of colour are eligible to apply to this program. Independent curators of colour planning an exhibition in an Ontario gallery or other public venue may also apply.

The term "person of colour" is based on the government of Canada's definition of visible minorities, which is defined as "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour."

The budget for this program was created by redirecting small amounts from the existing budgets of programs within the Visual Arts office.

The application deadline is **October 1, 2012**. Guidelines for the program are available on the OAC website, at www.arts.on.ca, on the Visual Arts page.

Anyone interested in applying must contact **Carolyn Vesely**, Visual Arts Officer, at **416-969-7459 / 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7459** or cvesely@arts.on.ca for more information.

For services in French, please contact François Boivin, Program Assistant, at **416-969-7455 / 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7455** or fboivin@arts.on.ca or Anne Gardé Gravestock, Program Assistant, at **416-969-7461 / 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7461** or agravestock@arts.on.ca.

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New Initiative for Media Artists' Collectives in the Regional and Rural Communities

The Ontario Arts Council is incubating the next generation of media arts organizations in regional communities across the province. The [Regional Media Artists' Collectives](#) initiative will provide start-up funding to collectives of three or more local artists who wish to provide professional development opportunities in communities where there are no existing artist-run media arts production centres.

This initiative encourages artists who live in regional and rural areas to share work with colleagues and learn from each other. It provides low cost – but vital – equipment and resources. It also establishes a forum for these artists to identify needs in their communities and develop a vision to support this work.

Support for regional artists is one of the priorities in the Ontario Arts Council's strategic plan, so the budget for this program was created by dedicating small amounts of the existing budgets of the three project programs within the Media Arts office to it.

The application deadline is **December 3, 2012**. Guidelines for the program are available on the OAC website, at www.arts.on.ca, on the Media Arts page.

Artists and collectives interested in applying must contact Mark Haslam, Media Arts Officer, at **416-969-7453 / 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7453** or mhaslam@arts.on.ca to receive an application form.

For services in French, please contact Anne Gardé Gravestock, Program Assistant, at **416-969-7461 / 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7461** or agravestock@arts.on.ca or François Boivin, Program Assistant, at **416-969-7455 / 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7455** or fboivin@arts.on.ca.

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Northern Arts Focus of First Visit for OAC's New Director & CEO

This interview with OAC's Director & CEO, [Peter Caldwell](#), was transcribed from a longer interview, available as a podcast. He talks about his first trip to northwestern Ontario since joining OAC in February. If you would like to listen to the whole interview, including information on everything Peter attended, please [click here](#).

Q: Some people might be under the impression that the majority of the arts that OAC funds takes place in Toronto. Is that the case?

Peter: Of course there is a lot of arts activity taking place in Toronto, but I think it's really important to note that OAC funds arts activity in every corner of Ontario. Last year, we funded artists and arts organizations in about 216 different communities across the province. The scale is different in some of these communities, for instance the less populated areas in the north, but we think that the arts that happen all over the province are important and worth celebrating.



Peter Caldwell, OAC Director & CEO

Q: Why did you decide to make northern Ontario your first out-of-Toronto visit since becoming head of OAC?

Peter: Since coming to OAC in February of this year, I've been attending a lot of events, mostly in Toronto and the surrounding area. But I was anxious to make my first trip out of town fairly early, because I thought it would be a great way to get a better understanding of the unique challenges faced by the artists and arts organizations we support throughout the province.

I was invited to Thunder Bay for the opening of the Roy Thomas Retrospective at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery. A week later I got invited to this really spectacular event happening in Red Lake, so I was able to tie the two together.

Q: Where did you go?

Peter: Our Northwestern Consultant in Thunder Bay, Marilyn McIntosh, who knows absolutely everybody in that community, was able to set up a really fantastic itinerary. We spent the first day in Thunder Bay, meeting with all kinds of people, and the next day we went to Red Lake, which is 9 hours northwest by car from Thunder Bay (although we flew in on Bearskin Airlines).

Q: What are some of the challenges facing artists in the north?

Peter: I had the privilege of participating in round-table discussions with artists in both Thunder Bay and Red Lake. We had some great discussions about what it means to be an artist in the north and the unique challenges that they face. Some challenges have to do with trying to get attention from the south. Actually, one of the funny things I learned in Red Lake is that when they talk about "the south," they usually mean Thunder Bay. But yes, they do want to get recognition from other areas.

There are also challenges with funding in the north. In the south, there are more sources that artists and arts organizations can apply to; for example, more corporate and municipal support options. The city of Thunder Bay is very supportive, but it's a bigger challenge in smaller communities. Northern artists are also more isolated. You can't just get in the car and quickly get to the next community to see a play or meet with colleagues. Equipment and materials are also more expensive and sometimes less accessible in the north, and there are fewer opportunities for professional development.

But I also have to tell you that northern artists get tremendous inspiration from their communities and from their spectacular natural surroundings. They *choose* to live where they do and think it is very important to live and make art in the north.

I also saw some great examples of larger, established organizations taking a mentorship role with newer, younger initiatives – for example, the key role that Thunder Bay Art Gallery played helping make possible the Wilderness Arts Council show in Red Lake. And I hope to see much more of that in future. If anything, I think that having a network emerge in the northwest will have a very tangible outcome.

Q: What kind of support does OAC offer northern Ontario in particular?

Peter: Well, the Northern Arts Program was created, I think, three years ago, to recognize and demonstrate the value that OAC places on the distinctive nature of arts that are produced in the northern regions.

I want to mention that we have two satellite OAC offices in the north, with Marilyn McIntosh in Thunder Bay, for northwestern Ontario, and Gouled Hassan in Sudbury, for northeastern Ontario. They are a tremendous resource for artists and arts organizations, to have this “one-stop shop” where they can go to someone directly and find out anything they want to know about OAC and its programs. These people really want them to succeed and can help them shape their applications.

We also have a board member, Angela Maltese, who lives in Thunder Bay. She was quite active during my trip and introduced me to a lot of people. Our board is a terrific network for OAC. We have 12 board members across the province. These are people who open doors for us and understand the areas well, both broadly, at the provincial level, and more specifically, in the areas that they come from. It’s great to have these connections in various parts of the province on an ongoing basis.

Q: All in all, it was a good trip?

Peter: It was a terrific trip. I was very happy to find out how helpful people find OAC and its staff. I heard nothing but praise, especially for our arts officers. It made me very proud to be a part of the OAC. I met some wonderful people and saw some wonderful work, and I hope that I will get to visit again soon.

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Culture Days: It Just Keeps Getting Bigger and Better

[Culture Days](#) is on its way to a very successful third year with more than 700 activities already registered in Ontario. Hot spots include Brantford, Cambridge, Durham Region, Guelph, Hamilton, Kitchener-Waterloo, Muskoka District, Mississauga, Sudbury, Windsor, Ottawa, London, Toronto and many more. That’s an 82 per cent increase over last year!

Here is a small taste of the Culture Days activities planned for **September 28–30, 2012**:

London’s multicultural showcase: London, Ontario will be highlighting a wide variety of



A craft artist demonstrates how to make traditional Ukrainian Easter Eggs at the Ukrainian Senior Centre in

activities that focus on its multicultural community. Londoners will be able take in Irish, Israeli, Italian and Polish folk dances, catch a Korean film, learn how to make Latin American and Ukrainian crafts and origami (the Japanese art of folding paper), sample traditional cuisines and play steel drums.

Sudbury at the 2011 Culture Days.

Photo credit: Erik Lovin.

Culture Days hub at the Milton Centre for the Arts: One of the best ways to generate interest and increase attendance for your Culture Days activities is to have a varied program at one location – a hub. Arts Milton is presenting 21 different activities at the Milton Centre for the Arts, including dance, music, film, photography, literature, visual art and spoken word. Participants at the Milton Centre for the Arts will get a chance to:

- explore mime and living statue with theatre and movement artists Elizabeth Kmiec and Lakshmi Venkat;
- work with photographer Grant Rushton on all aspects of studio photography, including how to work with a model, lighting and capturing mood;
- learn how professional singers warm up their voices, try some vocal exercises under the guidance of soprano Genevieve Rushton-Givens and enjoy her performance of opera and art songs.

Explore Ontario's francophone culture

- **The Association des Francophones de Kitchener-Waterloo** presents *Identité francontarienne*: an artistic, educational and interactive journey exploring Franco-Ontarian identity and history through improvisation theatre. Actors will improvise based on questions from the public.
- The **Ottawa Stilt Union** presents a bilingual Circus Day Camp. If you are in Ottawa, you can take several mini-workshops in circus arts, including stilt-walking, juggling, acrobatics, mask making and costuming.
- The **Métis Fiddler Quartet** will hold a workshop at the Museum on Tower Hill in Parry Sound. This bilingual French/English group specializes in performing and interpreting Canadian Métis and Native traditional fiddle music, which has been passed down by elders from across Canada.

Globe and Mail registration incentive has launched

Register your Culture Days activity by **midnight EDT on Friday, August 3, 2012**, to participate in the **Culture Days Activity Registration Promotion**. Your activity could be featured in a Culture Days **Special Feature Insert** in the *Globe and Mail* during the lead up to the big weekend in September.

Local marketing materials now available

Culture Days offers activity organizers a wide range of [tips and tools](#) to help you plan and promote your activity. Local marketing materials now available for download include customizable posters, postcards, e-flyers and web banners. The new Sponsorship Toolkit is also now available.

The popular Bright Spots Schedule is back

Introduced last year, the [Bright Spots Schedule](#) is now available online. Use this online scheduling tool to create your own customized schedule of Culture Days activities. If you are hosting one or more Culture Days activities or are working with others in your community to present a Culture Days program, use the Bright Spots Schedule to create, print and/or upload a program guide of all of the activities taking place in your venue, block or neighbourhood.

About Culture Days

Culture Days invites everyone to **explore, discover** and **participate** in arts and culture in every community across the country. In 2011, Culture Days took place in more than 800 Canadian cities and towns, with attendance topping 1.2 million Canadians. Last year, more than **1,265** activities were presented across Ontario, a **36 per cent increase** over the first year's participation levels.

This year's Culture Days weekend takes place on September 28, 29 and 30, 2012. Once again, the event will feature free hands-on, interactive activities that invite the public to participate "behind the scenes" and to discover the world of artists, creators, historians, architects, curators and designers at work in their community. For more information on presenting an activity or to find activities in your area, please visit [Culture Days](#). Connect with us on Twitter, Facebook, Flickr and YouTube.

Culture Days in Ontario is supported by the Ontario Arts Council, the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Government of Ontario in recognition of Celebrate the Artist Weekend.

For more information about Culture Days in Ontario please contact:

Catherine McLeod, OAC Culture Days Animator/Coordinator

Email: on@culturedays.ca

Telephone: 416-961-1660 ext. 5124

Toll-free telephone: 1-800-387-0058 ext. 5124

Aubrey Reeves, Ontario Culture Days Manager

Email: aubreyreeves@culturedays.ca

Telephone: 416-646-7469

Toll-free telephone: 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7469

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Ontario Not-for-Profits Bracing for Legal and Accounting Changes

Organizations that are eligible for OAC funding are preparing for a host of changes in legislation and regulation. We have prepared a "reader's digest" guide to some of the most important modifications:

Canada Not-For-Profit Corporations Act

This act (abbreviated *CNCA*) was legislated in 2009 and comes into force in October 2012. Organizations that were incorporated under Part II of the old *Canada Corporations Act* are now covered by the new *CNCA*.

The most important action items are:

- to file a certificate of continuance by October 17, 2014, or face dissolution;
- to review letters patent to ensure that new requirements under *CNCA* are fulfilled;
- to pay particular attention to classes of members, as the legislation now gives voting rights to non-voting members.

There are other changes. All federally incorporated not-for-profits (including those that are also charities) should ensure that they're in compliance with the new act. For example, the new act does not allow for ex-officio board members.

As well as the Industry Canada links below, Chartered Accountants of Canada has issued a [bulletin for directors of not-for-profits](#).

A guide to the act can be found [here](#); and a comparison of the old and new acts is [here](#).

Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act

The Government of Ontario passed similar legislation in 2010, and this new act is scheduled to be proclaimed in the fall of 2012. The act, preceded by explanatory notes, can be found [here](#).

Like the federal Act, the *ONCA* gives voting rights to non-voting members, and there are other changes organizations should look into. Unlike the federal act, however, there is no requirement to file for continuance. The Ontario Nonprofit Network has done [extensive research on the act](#) and its potential impacts on Ontario not-for-profits.

Accounting standards

Accounting standards for all Canadian not-for-profits changed for fiscal years beginning January 1, 2012. These changes, brought into effect by the Accounting Standards Board for private (as opposed to government) organizations, require not-for-profits to choose new standards to which they must adhere. For many arts organizations, the changes will be minimal – among affected areas are hedge accounting, intangible assets and defined benefit pension plans. However, some organizations will be affected by changes in valuation of capital assets.

The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants has developed a [guide for private sector not-for-profit organizations](#), and an [FAQ](#).

By now, organizations should have already discussed with their auditors how the transition will affect, if at all, the presentation of their financial statements.

Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) – guidance on fundraising

Finally, in April 2012, the CRA reissued its 2009 fundraising guidance. The guidance structure has been simplified, and the tests for fundraising definitions, with lists of direct and indirect activities considered to be fundraising activities, have been replaced. The new guidance can be found [here](#).

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Ontario Arts Council Launches *Shapeshifters* Video Series

Shapeshifters is a series of nine video profiles featuring Aboriginal artists in Ontario and speaks to the diversity and breadth of Aboriginal Arts in the province. The videos explore indigenous approaches to art, cultural revitalization and offer tips on applying for a grant. The series was co-produced by Thunderstone Pictures and the Ontario Arts Council, edited by Lawrence Jackman and Katharine Asals and with music from Edgardo Moreno. Six out of nine videos have currently been released.



Video Still : *Shapeshifter* Bear Witness

[Watch the videos here](#).

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Shelley Niro Receives the First Ontario Arts Council Aboriginal Arts Award

Visual artist **Shelley Niro** is the **first laureate** of the new [Ontario Arts Council Aboriginal Arts Award](#). The Ontario Arts Council will present the **\$7,500** award to Niro at the [Woodland Cultural Centre](#) on August 11, 2012, during Planet IndigenUS activities. The new annual award celebrates the work of Aboriginal artists and arts leaders who have made significant contributions to the arts in Ontario. It also recognizes the next generation of artists: each recipient is invited to nominate an emerging Aboriginal artist, who in turn receives a \$2,500 prize. Shelley Niro selected mixed media and visual artist Tracey Anthony as the 2012 Emerging Aboriginal Artist. Anthony is the founder of [Vision Artworks](#) at Six Nations of the Grand River territory / Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation.

[Read the news release here.](#)

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Artist in Residence (Education) Program Participants Share Experiences

Artists, teachers and school board representatives gathered in June at the Toronto Reference Library to share information about OAC's [Artists in Residence \(Education\)](#) projects. This year, two artists from each project received training in the revised arts curriculum.

With this training, these two artists will be able to better support the teacher's curriculum delivery and will serve as ambassadors for other artists involved in AiR(E) projects within the school boards. Artists were selected based on their ability to serve as mentors to others and their availability to participate in a project for a second year.

For more information about the AiR(E) program, please contact:

Barbara Gilbert, Artists in Residence (Education) Francophone Coordinator / Arts Education
Organizations Program Officer
Tel: 416-961-1660 ext. 5113
Toll-free tel: 1-800-387-0058 ext. 5113
Email: bgilbert@arts.on.ca

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OAC Podcasting: Literature Programs

The second in our podcast series features the Literature programs. To help you make the best application possible, Literature Officer [John Degen](#) answers the most frequently asked questions about his programs.

[Listen and subscribe to our podcast series here.](#)



John Degen, Literature Officer

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Diversity Counts in the Non-profit Sector

[DiverseCity: The Greater Toronto Leadership Project](#) recently released a report by Dr. Chris Fredette on leadership diversity in the not-for-profit sector.

Dr. Fredette found that a diverse board contributes to overall board effectiveness by safeguarding and fulfilling the mission of the organization and enhancing fiduciary oversight. The report concluded that board diversity also improves stakeholder relationships, increases the organization's responsiveness to the community and brings fresh perspectives to decision-making. The more diverse an organization's board, the more likely it is to report benefits from diversity.

The links below take you to a summary of Dr. Fredette's research, as well as a practical resource for organizations that wish to diversify their leadership:

- [Summary of DiverseCity Counts Research](#)
- [Ten Tips to Diversify Non-profit Boards](#)

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Ravi Jain Honoured with 2012 Pauline McGibbon Award

Ravi Jain is the **2012 recipient of the Pauline McGibbon Award**. The award presentation took place at the **Dora Mavor Moore Awards** at Toronto's [St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts – Bluma Appel Theatre](#).

[Read the news release here.](#)



Photo credit: Che Kotari

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2012 Premier's Awards for Excellence in the Arts

Ontario honoured its most outstanding artists and arts organizations at the 2012 [Premier's Awards for Excellence in the Arts](#).

The annual awards honour well-established artists, emerging artists and arts organizations across Ontario.

The Individual Artist Award was presented to Dr. Shirley Cheechoo, a respected visual artist as well as an award-winning playwright, actor, director and filmmaker. Dr. Cheechoo is the first Aboriginal filmmaker in Canada to direct, produce, write and act in an award-winning dramatic feature film, *Bearwalker*.



OAC Board Chair, Martha Durdin, Dr. Shirley Cheechoo & The Honourable Michael Chan, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport

The Arts Organization Award honoured [Tarragon Theatre](#). For over 40 years, Tarragon Theatre has excelled as one of Ontario's pre-eminent producers and developers of leading-edge and thought-provoking Canadian theatre, both nationally and on the world stage.

Photo credit: Brennan Caverhill

The Premier's Award for New or Emerging Individual Talent, as selected by this year's winning individual artist, recognized Heather Manitowabi, a self-taught Odawa-Ojibway visual artist from the Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve.

[Read the news release here.](#)

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2012 Winners of Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Awards Announced

The **2012 winners** of the **Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Awards** were revealed at Parkdale Junior and Senior Public School. The shortlist represented authors from across the country, from

Newman's Cove in Newfoundland to Victoria, British Columbia.



WINNER OF THE 2012 CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK AWARD

[Loon](#) by Susan Vande Griek (Halifax, N.S.) and illustrated by Karen Reczuch (Acton, Ont.)

Published by House of Anansi and Groundwood Books



WINNER OF THE 2012 YOUNG ADULT / MIDDLE READER AWARD

[The Whole Truth](#) by Kit Pearson (Victoria, B.C.)

Published by HarperCollins Publishers Ltd.

[Read the news release here.](#)

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Franco-Ontarian Author Marguerite Andersen receives New-Ontario Award

The 2012 Prix du Nouvel-Ontario (New-Ontario Award) has been awarded to Toronto-based author Marguerite Andersen. Presented annually in Sudbury, this award recognizes exceptional contributions to francophone arts, culture and society in Ontario. This year's award was announced at the Salon du livre du Grand Sudbury, a French-language book fair, on Saturday, May 12th.

[Read the news release here.](#)

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Staff Comings and Goings

Spring and summer are often periods of change at OAC. In May, we welcomed Kathleen Law as our new Music Program Assistant and Kathy Plamondon as Granting Support Assistant.

On June 15th we bid farewell to Martina Roncarelli, Franco-Ontarian Arts Program Assistant. Thank you to François Boivin, Visual and Media Arts Program Assistant, who is stepping in to provide interim support.

This summer we are saying goodbye to two OAC staff who are going back to school. Both Geneviève

Vallerand, Communications Coordinator, and Heather Meek, Arts Education and Northern Arts Program Assistant, are leaving to pursue MBAs. Also moving on are Interim Scheduling Assistant Sylvia Szklarczuk and Interim Online Communications Coordinator Nancy Kenny. Our best wishes to all.

We recently invited all staff to provide us with bios and have their photographs taken for the [website](#). Check out the OAC extraverts under About Us on our home page.

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