

OMDC: "Culture is our Business." Promoting growth and investment in Ontario's book and magazine publishing, film and television, music and interactive digital media industries

New Partnerships Fund to Encourage Growth in Ontario's Creative Cluster

On September 21, Culture Minister Caroline Di Cocco launched the three-year, \$7.5 million Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund. The announcement came at an event held in the offices of Bitcasters, a mixed-media publishing and production company.

The Partnerships Fund is designed to address barriers to growth by encouraging strategic partnerships amongst stakeholders within and between sectors in the Entertainment and Creative Cluster in Ontario. Funding will assist in the exploration of opportunities and pursuit of solutions to current and emerging challenges in the film, television, music, digital interactive media, commercial theatre and book- and magazine-publishing sectors.

Minister Di Cocco remarked, "The Government of Ontario recognizes that our entertainment and creative industries are major contributors to Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life. This fund will reinforce Ontario's position as a contender in the high-growth—and high stakes—global entertainment marketplace."

OMDC's new Chair, Kevin Shea, remarked that by co-administering this vitally important new cultural fund, OMDC will be able to continue to keep Ontario's cultural industries at the forefront and enable them to achieve their business goals.

On September 28, OMDC had to add a third information session to accommodate the interest in this new fund. Attendees received guidelines and application forms and watched a presentation followed by a Q&A. For those who could not attend the information sessions, all guidelines, applications forms and up-to-the-minute FAQs are posted on OMDC's website, www.omdc.on.ca. Please note that the guidelines were revised on October 10 to reflect items referred to in Interpretation Bulletin #1 dated October 10.

Interested applicants are encouraged to read all the posted documents and then to call our Partnerships Fund program coordinator Jennifer Brown at 416-642-6652 or e-mail her questions at jbrown@omdc.on.ca. The deadline for applications to OMDC is Friday, October 27 by 5 p.m.

E-mail your news and events by the third Thursday of each month to newsletter@omdc.on.ca

To add or remove yourself from this newsletter list, e-mail Hodan Waberi at hwaberi@omdc.on.ca

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The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of OMDC

OMDC Fund Program Deadlines

Oct. 27 | Deadline for **The Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund**, a new \$7.5 million fund (over three years). Announced in the Ontario budget in March, the fund will encourage the long-term growth of the cultural media industries. The fund is co-administered by the OMDC and the Ministry of Culture.

Guidelines and application forms for the 2006/07 allotment of \$1.8 million are available on the OMDC website, www.omdc.on.ca.

Jan. 12, 2007 | **OMDC Film Fund Round 2**. Stay tuned to OMDC website www.omdc.on.ca for upcoming details!

Congratulations!

On September 14, the first-annual **Canadian Awards for the Electronic and Animated Arts** (CAEAA) were hosted by William Shatner in Vancouver, BC. Two Ontario game development companies received awards: Pseudo Interactive Inc. won Best Visual Effects and Best Soundscape awards for Full Auto™, an exciting interactive racing game and Battlegoat Studios won Best PC Game for Supreme Ruler 2010, a groundbreaking economic, political and military strategy game for Windows PCs. Congratulations! The complete list of winners is available at www.caeaa.com.

Congratulations to all the authors and to Ontario publishers House of Anansi Press and Cormorant Books who have three finalists on the 2006 **Scotiabank Giller Prize** shortlist, noted below. The winner will be announced on November 7, 2006 at a Gala dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel. Stay tuned for a broadcast date on CTV.

- Rawi Hage for his novel *De Niro's Game*, published by House of Anansi Press
- Vincent Lam for his short story collection, *Bloodletting & Miraculous Cures*, published by Doubleday Canada
- Pascale Quiviger for her novel *The Perfect*

Circle, translation by Sheila Fischman, published by Cormorant Books

- Gaétan Soucy for his novel *The Immaculate Conception*, translation by Lazer Lederhendler, published by House of Anansi Press
- Carol Windley for her short story collection, *Home Schooling*, published by Cormorant Books

For more information about the Scotiabank Giller Award, go to www.scotiabankgillerprize.ca.

The finalists for the **2006 Governor General's Literary Awards** will be announced on October 16. The awards are worth \$15,000 each and each winner will also receive a specially-crafted copy of the winning book. The publisher of each winning book will receive \$3,000 to support promotional activities. Non-winning finalists will each receive \$1,000 in recognition of their selection as finalists, bringing the total value of the Awards to more than \$300,000.

Congratulations to several Ontario-based magazines celebrating their **40th anniversaries** this year, including *THIS Magazine*, *Toronto Life* and *Homemakers*. 1966 must have been an excellent year to start a magazine!

Upcoming Events & Industry Deadlines

Oct. 14-20 | **The Canadian Film Centre's Habitat New Media Lab** will unveil six new interactive entertainment concepts for the future at the Gladstone Hotel (1214 Queen St. W.) created by the graduating residents of the TELUS Interactive Art and Entertainment Programme (IAEP). Admission Free. For exhibition times <http://Cdnfilmcentre.com/PrototypeLaunch>

Oct. 30-31 | **Alliance numeriQC**, on behalf of the Canadian Interactive Alliance/Alliance Interactive Canadienne (CI@IC), is proud to offer Canadian e-learning, animation and simulation companies a (significantly reduced) \$625 registration fee for the **Serious Games Summit** in Washington, D.C. Only 10 spots are available! Reserve yours—contact the Canadian coordinator Kathleen Webb at kwebb@sympatico.ca or at 416-878-8876.

Oct. 31 | **Canadian Film Centre – The TELUS Interactive Art & Entertainment Programme** (TELUS IAEP) is Canada's first post-graduate programme for new media training and production based on the philosophy that compelling content is created through a collaborative process, harnessing a wide range of creative skills, knowledge and talents. Graduates develop a lifelong understanding of technology and foster a creative spirit that informs their thinking throughout their career. For more information and to apply, call 416-445-1446 ext. 296 or send e-mail to habitat@cdnfilmcentre.com.

Nov. 1 | Deadline to apply for an internship position at **WIFT-T** and a call for applications. The deadline for applications is Nov. 1 at 12 p.m. EST. Eligibility criteria, full guidelines and application forms are available from the WIFT-T website at wift.com. Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee composed of industry representatives. Final decisions will be announced in November 2006.

Nov. 1 | **The National Screen Institute – NSI FilmExchange**. Is your film project ready for the big screen? NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival, Canada's Coolest Film Festival, is looking for the best Canadian dramatic shorts and features to screen February 28 to March 3, 2007 in Winnipeg. For information and to apply visit www.nsi-canada.ca.

Nov. 3-6 | Magazines Canada's **School for Advertising Sales** at The Pillar and Post Inn Spa and Conference Centre in Niagara-on-the-Lake. For details see Magazinescanada.ca.

Nov. 6 | Deadline for **Reel Asian Industry Open Pitch Call**. Making a short film? Take part in Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival's and Charles Street Video's first-ever pitch contest. Applications must reach the

Charles Street Video office by November 6 at 4 p.m. Go to reelasian.com to learn more about this year's Industry Series. Applications are at reelasian.com or charlesstreetvideo.com.

Nov. 7 | **Digital Creators Competition 2006**. The Digital Content Association of Japan (DCAJ), in existence for three years, has become an international competition. DCC is looking for young talent to be introduced to the Japanese animation industry. For information on how to apply e-mail dcc@dcaj.or.jp.

Nov. 7 | Learn about **convergence opportunities** via webcast presentations and an interactive panel discussion with Ben Sawyer, president of Digital Mill, co-founder and spokesperson of the Serious Games Initiative, and the Games for Health Project, and U.S. based DFAIT trade commissioners who specialize in information and communication technology. For information and to register, contact info@galbraithcommunications.com.

Nov. 7 | On Giller night, Nov. 7th, Frontier College will host the 5th Annual **Giller Light Bash** at The Steamwhistle Brewery. Their goal is to raise funds to help children and youth improve their reading and writing skills through an expansion of Frontier College's HomeworkClubs and after-school literacy programs for inner-city students. gillerlight.ca

Nov. 17-18 | The **1st Annual Can Pitch Event** will be held at the Pantages Hotel in Toronto. Well-respected members of the film and television community will be invited to participate in this unique event designed to offer writers and creative types the chance to pitch their fresh ideas in a fast-paced, exciting environment. Funded by the Government of Canada, this free event includes workshops led by industry professionals, a well-known keynote speaker, an exhibitors' carousel and sponsor partnerships with Canadian companies interested in growing their reputation within the film industry. If you're interested in supporting the event or if you would like to participate in the pitch event, e-mail Marie DeLuca, General Manager, Partner, Can Pitch Event 2006 at marie.deluca@rogers.com.

Nov. 18-20 | **Print World 2006** (Formerly known as Print Ontario) at the National Trade Centre, CNE, Toronto. For details call 905-625-7070 or see printworldshow.com.

Nov. 30 | The **Trade Routes** program (Department of Canadian Heritage) has announced a deadline for applications to the Trade Routes Contributions Program (TRCP). Beginning with Fiscal Year 2007-08, there will be one deadline each fiscal year. Applications are due for Fiscal Year 2007-08 on November 30. pch.gc.ca/routes

Upcoming Markets and Festivals

Oct. 16-18	27 Annual Gemini Awards, Toronto. www.academy.ca
Oct. 18-22	7th Annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival, Toronto. imaginenative.org
Oct. 23-24	Innoversity Summit 2006, Toronto Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre. innoversity.com
Oct. 30-31	Serious Games Summit, Interactive Solutions for Shared Challenges, Washington, D.C. seriousgamessummit.com
Nov. 4	Gemini Broadcast Gala, broadcast on Global TV from the River Rock Show Theatre at the River Rock Casino Resort, Vancouver. academy.ca
Nov. 7	The Scotiabank Giller Prize Ceremony, Toronto. scotiabankgillerprize.ca
Nov. 11-14	World Congress of Science & Factual Producers. Manchester, UK. scienceproducers.com
Nov. 15-19	Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival, Toronto. reelasian.com
Nov. 18-20	Print World 2006. Toronto. printworldshow.com
Nov. 30-Dec.3	Whistler Film Festival. Whistler, BC. whistlerfilmfestival.com

We Want Your Feedback!

Fax us at 416-314-6876 or fill out this survey at www.omdc.on.ca/English/page-1-2707-1.html

1. Do you read OMDC Integration Newsletter?

Yes ___ No ___

If no, why not?

2. Should we be sending it to someone else in your organization?

Yes ___ No ___ (if Yes please provide name, title and e-mail address)

3. Does OMDC Integration Newsletter meet your information needs?

Yes ___ No ___ What other information would you like to see?

4. What could be improved?

Layout & design ___ More photos ___ Other
(please explain)
