

OMDC

INTEGRATION NEWSLETTER

ONTARIO MEDIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

December 2008

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

Ontario's Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund invests \$3.3 million in Ontario's cultural industries



OMDC congratulates all the recipients and their partners.

Photo by Michael Hudson

The Hon. Aileen Carroll, Minister of Culture, announced the investment of \$3.3 million from Ontario's Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund in 16 innovative initiatives. The recipients and their projects were announced at a news conference held on November 26, 2008 at the Ontario Trade & Investment Centre.

"Ontario's cultural industries are a vital contributor to economic growth and prosperity in this province. This investment will help our cultural industries seize the economic opportunities before them and increase their competitive advantage in the global marketplace," said Carroll.

"As a recipient of the Partnerships Fund, we are excited to work with people who know the challenges and obstacles for people with disabilities in exploring opportunities in the film and television community," said Laurie McArthur, Services Co-ordinator, University of Toronto, Adaptive Technology Resource Centre (ATRC). "The development and implementation of a uniquely accessible, interactive online support system with social networking and an online learning

system will provide extensive knowledge, break down attitudinal and physical barriers to inclusion, and will build lasting alliances between the University of Toronto and the broadcast sector which will benefit the industry as a whole."

"DIG London is pleased to have the support and backing of the OMDC's Partnerships Fund. Ontario colleges and universities are producing some of the best talent in the world in the area of interactive media. The DIG London conference will help grow and strengthen local video game companies by facilitating communications and promoting industry opportunities to this talent pool," said Michael Schmalz, CFO of Digital Extremes.

Since its inception, the Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund has provided support to 43 projects involving 285 partners with combined budgets of \$15.9 million dollars.

To find out details about the 16 initiatives go to <http://www.omdc.on.ca/PageFactory.aspx?PageID=5235>.

OMDC-Supported CIRPA Japan Music Mission a Noteworthy Success!

From Nov. 10-14, OMDC participated in and supported the second **CIRPA Music Mission to Asia** in Tokyo, Japan. The Mission featured eight performances, five by artists on Ontario labels. Thanks to the entire CIRPA team and Canadian Embassy in Japan for organizing this very successful mission.

Photos courtesy of Duncan McKie, CIRPA.



Alex Cuba – Cuto (Toronto)



Bedouin Soundclash -
Dine Alone Records (Toronto) with
St. Alvia Cartel from St. Catherines



The Russian Futurists – Upper
Class Recordings (Toronto)



The Trews – Bumstead
Productions Ltd. (Toronto)



Woodhands – Paper Bag Records
(Toronto)

Photos courtesy of Duncan McKie, CIRPA.

OMDC News and Events

Meet with a Tax Credit Expert at OFTTC Workshop!

On Thursday January 22, 2009 from 10 am -12 pm the Tax Credits and Financing Department at OMDC will be holding its next quarterly workshop and tutorial for new producers and those wishing to learn about the Ontario film and television tax credits (OFTTC). The session will be held at OMDC and will offer an intimate and engaged forum for new participants seeking guidance on issues that arise on their productions or for those with more general questions about the OFTTC requirements. For information or to register call Barbara Hingley at 416-642-6639 or e-mail her at bhingley@omdc.on.ca. Space will be limited to 12 people, so register early. We will be offering more workshops every 2-3 months in the new year.

OMDC would like to announce the release of three strategic studies of the book, magazine and music sectors in Ontario. The studies were funded by OMDC, on behalf of its book, magazine and music industry advisory committees.

A Strategic Study for the Book Publishing Industry in Ontario was authored by Castledale Inc., in association with the Nordicity Group Ltd. Did you know...

- Ontario children's book publishers have been particularly successful in the export arena, and our children's books are respected internationally.

- Although the book publishing industry's model is, so far, the creative industry least disrupted by digital technologies on the consumer side, the industry has embraced digital technology in many ways.

A Strategic Study of the Magazine Industry in Ontario was authored by TCI Management Consultants. Did you know...

- Canadian magazines are holding and even extending their audiences in the face of competition from the Internet.
- By 2013, indications point to most consumer magazines in Canada still being printed and distributed in hard copy. Business-to-business magazines are making a more rapid transition to electronic distribution.

A Strategic Study for the Music Industry in Ontario was authored by Nordicity Group Ltd., in association with Cuto and FRUKT. Did you know...

- The music industry is a core component of the creative sector and has strong connections with other creative industries.
- Music is increasingly seen as an active component of new media and as part of the growing use of video on the Internet.

These studies can be viewed at OMDC's website:
<http://www.omdc.on.ca/Page3595.aspx>

OMDC Regional Film Forum



OMDC's Manager of Film Donna Zuchlinski and OMDC's President & CEO Karen Thorne-Stone with DGC Location Managers John Rakich and Keith Park

On Thursday November 27th the OMDC hosted its 5th Annual Regional Film Forum, held at the Ontario Investment Trade Centre. With a fantastic cross section of regional and municipal representatives, key location contacts, and industry professionals the discussions were informative and interesting for everyone who was present.

Panels during the afternoon featured representatives from CASO (Computer Animation Studios of Ontario) who gave an



Photos by Rick O'Brien

(L.R.) Toronto Green Screen Initiative panelists – Melissa Felder, Wood Brown, Candida Paltiel and City of Toronto Film Commissioner Peter Finestone at podium.

insightful presentation covering aspects of location filming and CGI, and spokespersons from the Toronto Green Screen Initiative who spoke to the ever-growing demand for green technology and environmental practices in the film world. There was also a lively debate on Film Commissions and building relationships within the industry and an update of the OMDC's award-winning digital locations database.

Upcoming Events & Industry Deadlines

Dec. 10, 2008 | **gTalk seminar** hosted by nGen and Interactive Ontario. Featured speaker will be Ian Bogost, Persuasive Games, speaking about *E.T. to Pac-Man: Lessons in family play and experience design from the Atari VCS*. Talk will be followed by a networking event. Time: 6- 8:30 p.m. **Event Location:** 1 St. Paul Street Lounge, St. Catharines, ON. **To Register:** The cost of registration is \$25. To register via Interactive Ontario go to: <https://secure.e-registernow.com/cgi-bin/mkpayment.cgi?MID=1103&state=step2direct&event=500000010545181>

Dec.15*, 2008 | ***Extended Application deadline** - call for entries for **Canada @ Game Connection America at GDC San Francisco 2009**, United States, March 24 to 26, 2009 (New Media) Telefilm Canada through the Canada New Media Fund (CNMF) with the support of CIAIC. For all details and entry procedures go to www.telefilm.gc.ca or call National and International Business Development Telefilm Canada, Montréal 1-514-283-6363.

Dec. 16*, 2008 | ***Extended Application deadline – Official Languages Activities (OLA) Program** for projects submitted under the production component for French-language creators working in Canada outside the province of Quebec. The objective of the production component is to provide eligible Francophone producers and directors living in Canada outside Quebec with the opportunity to produce feature-film projects likely to attract audiences and to expand the pool of these creators. This initiative, which falls under the Official Languages Activities (OLA) Program, is a key element of the Quebec Office's strategic plan and also aims to foster a greater diversity of genres in this market segment.

Jan. 16, 2009 | **Pre-MIDEM Music Industry Forum:** High Commission of Canada – Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London. Canada will host the Pre-MIDEM Canada-Japan-United Kingdom (CJUK) forum. Programming will include a full day of pre-scheduled B2B meetings for Canadians with UK and Japanese industry delegates, panel discussions, a

Upcoming Events & Industry Deadlines continued

networking luncheon and reception. The event provides an opportunity for Canadians to meet, in small groups, the UK and Japanese participants and to take part in preliminary discussions. Canada celebrates its 80th year of diplomatic relations with Japan, as well as its solid relationships with Japanese and UK music industry leaders. Key UK and Japanese industry delegates will be invited to share market information, increase opportunities for Canadians to enhance relationships with international delegates and foster export deals. Participation is on a first-come, first-served basis, therefore, we encourage you to submit your application as soon as possible. Canadian delegates will be asked to pay a registration fee of \$50, payable to CIRPA. A number of hotel rooms will be made available at a special rate. Registration info: <http://www.cirpa.ca/EbulletinLink.asp?MailingID=41401&LinkID=445&Lang=1>

Feb. 6-10, 2009 | Registration for Magazines Canada **School for Circulation** is now open. Learn the skills necessary to manage your magazine's circulation. www.magazinescanada.ca for details.

Feb.16-27, 2009 | **Digital Entertainment Mission to India.** The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) hosts FRAMES, Asia's largest annual convention on the "business of entertainment". Approximately 1500 Indian

and 500 foreign delegates attend this event. In 2008, sessions covered the entire gamut of the Media & Entertainment industry, including Film, TV, Broadcast, Digital Entertainment, Animation, Gaming, Visual Effects and Radio. Following FICCI FRAMES, the mission will continue on to Pune and Hyderabad. Activities will be organized in cooperation with the local Canadian Trade Commissioners. For more information please contact Corie McDougall, Area Director for South & Southeast Asia, International Trade Branch, Ontario Ministry of International Trade & Investment - 416-325-6663 or corie.mcdougall@ontario.ca

Feb. 23, 2009 | Deadline for **The TELUS Innovation Fund.** The TELUS Innovation Fund, created by the Canadian Film Centre with funding from the TELUS Foundation, invests in new forms of high-quality, original Canadian content that employ innovative strategies in breaking new ground to reach general public audiences. The TELUS Innovation Fund supports a minimum of 3 projects per year with funding up to \$100,000 for each project. For information download the TELUS Innovation Fund Guidelines Package at: www.cfccreates.com. Or contact TELUS Innovation Fund Coordinator: Antoinette di Michele at adimichele@cfccreates.com or Tel. 416-445-1446 ext. 208.

Congratulations

Celebrating Excellence in Television

On November 28, the **Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television** celebrated excellence in Television with the **Broadcast Gala Gemini Awards**. Here are some highlights:

Best Direction in a Dramatic Series - Holly Dale - *Durham County* - *What Lies Beneath*

Best Dramatic Mini-Series - *The Englishman's Boy* (Minds Eye Entertainment) Kevin DeWalt

Best Dramatic Series - *Intelligence* (Watcher Films) Chris Haddock, Laura Lightbown, Arvi Liimatainen

Best Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Program or Series - Inessa Annie Frantowski, Brooks Gray, Andy King, Rebecca McMahon, Leo Scherman, Morgan Waters - *Cock'd Gunns* - *A Taste of Success*

Best Performance by an Actor in a Continuing Leading Dramatic Role - Justin Louis - *Durham County* - *What Lies Beneath*

Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role in a Dramatic Program or Mini-Series - Nicholas Campbell - *The Englishman's Boy*

Best Performance by an Actress in a Continuing Leading Dramatic Role - Helene Joy - *Durham County* - *Guys and Dolls*

Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Dramatic Program or Mini-Series - Natasha Henstridge - *Would Be Kings*

Best Reality Program or Series - *Project Runway Canada* - (Insight Production Co. Ltd.) - John Brunton, Barbara Bowlby, Andrea Gabourie

Best Host or Interviewer in a Sports Program or Sportscast - Ron MacLean - *Hockey Day in Canada*

Best Writing in a Comedy or Variety Program or Series - Brooks Gray, Andy King, Leo Scherman, Morgan Waters - *Cock'd Gunns* - *Ready, Aim, Fire*

Best Host or Interviewer in a Talk Program or Series - George Stroumboulopoulos - *The Hour with George Stroumboulopoulos*

Gemini Humanitarian Award - Gord Martineau

Viewers' Choice Award - Leah Miller (Hottest Canadian Female Star) / Brendan Fehr (Hottest Canadian Male Star)

Congratulations to all winners. For a full list of winners and nominees go to www.academy.ca

continued on next page

Congratulations continued

Nino Ricci's novel *The Origin of the Species* (Doubleday Canada) was awarded the best English-language fiction at the **Governor General's Literary Awards** presentations on November 18, 2008. Other English-language Governor General winners included Toronto's Jacob Scheier whose book took home the poetry prize for *More to Keep Us Warm* (ECW Press) and Christie Blatchford won for Non-Fiction with *Fifteen Days: Stories of Bravery, Friendship, Life and Death from Inside the New Canadian Army* (Doubleday Canada). www.canadacouncil.ca

Winners of the Women in Film & Television-Toronto (WIFT-T) **20th Anniversary Crystal Awards** presented in partnership with NBC Universal, were honoured at a gala luncheon on December 1, 2008 at the Fairmont Royal York in Toronto.

- **Creative Excellence Award** presented in partnership with NBC Universal - Virginia Thompson, President & Executive Producer, Vérité Films
 - **Mentorship Award** - Kit Redmond, Executive Producer/ Partner, RTR Media Inc.
 - **Outstanding Achievement Award** presented in partnership with Canwest - Barbara Williams, Executive Vice President, Content, Canwest Broadcasting
 - **Award of Distinction** - Sandi Ross, actor, director, activist
- For a complete list of past winners and for more information on the 20th Anniversary Crystal Awards, visit www.wift.com.

On November 18, 2008, **The Canadian New Media Awards** were given out. Ontario companies took home top honours including:

Company of the year – **marblemedia**
 Producer of the Year – **Mark Bishop, marblemedia**
 Programmer of the Year – **Evert Pot**
 Excellence in News/Information – **Diamond Road Online, Kensington Communications Inc.**
 Excellence In Social Media Applications – **Traveler IQ Challenge, TravelPod**
 Excellence In Cross Platform – www.OddJobJack.com, **Smiley Guy Studios**
 Educator of the Year – **Dan Zen, Sheridan Institute**
 Designer of the Year – **Daniel Riley**
 For a full list of all winners go to: <http://www.cnma.ca>

On November 11, 2008, author Joseph Boyden was named the winner of the 15th annual **Scotiabank Giller Prize** for his novel *Through Black Spruce*, published by Viking Canada. www.scotiabankgillerprize.ca

The annual **Directors' Guild of Canada Awards** were held on November 8th in Toronto. David Cronenberg's *Eastern Promises* earned five trophies, including best feature film and best director. And OMDC Film Fund supported feature *Breakfast with Scot* was named best family feature film. www.dgc.ca

Upcoming Awards, Markets and Festivals

- Jan. 15-25 **Sundance Film Festival**, Park City, Utah. <http://festival.sundance.org>
- Jan. 17-19 **MIDEMNet**, Cannes, France. www.midem.com
- Jan. 18-21 **MIDEM**, Cannes, France. www.midem.com
- Jan. 26-29 **NATPE - National Association of Television Program Executives**, Las Vegas, Nevada. www.natpe.com

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 Reception@omdc.on.ca

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