

**EDMONTON**

**2007**



CULTURAL CAPITALE  
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## **Voices Less Heard Bring Legacies Alive**

### **Edmonton Cultural Capital Program**

#### **Community Arts Grant Program: Cultural Collaboration - Voices Less Heard.**

The Edmonton Cultural Capital Program (ECCP) is pleased to announce that it has officially awarded \$385,000 to 26 different groups through the Community Arts Grant Program: Cultural Collaborations – Voices Less Heard.

Cultural Collaborations – Voices Less Heard is designed to use the arts to give expression to marginalized or “less heard” peoples. The awards have brought artists and organizations together to create new art and new possibilities for Edmonton.

There are two strands to each of the funded projects. One strand involves the collection and compilation of stories from the group culture, the other strand involves the artistic representation of those stories. Artistic representation varies and includes theatre production, performance, music, movement/dance, anthology compilation, book publishing, visual art and murals, media arts production; workshops, mentoring, writing and script production.

All funds for this grant program have now been dispersed.

## **The groups funded are:**

### **Geri Actors and Friends**

The Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton (SAGE) collaborates with an intergenerational group of seniors and students led by David Barnett. The funds will be used for the development of a presentation and installation about aging. Through a theatre presentation and an installation, stories, images and issues about aging are explored and personified.

### **The Not So Comic Book**

The Industrial Workers of the World and artist Memi Von Gaza collaborate to produce a comic book highlighting the concerns of young adult workers.

### **The Story That Brought Me Here**

The Edmonton Public Library and Linda Goyette work with international writers to produce a published anthology of writing by Edmonton authors and poets who primarily write in other languages. The project also involves mentoring immigrants who hope to publish their writing in Canada.

### **Bissell Centre Murals Project**

The Bissell Centre and mural artist Ian Mulder collaborate with community members in the development of a visual story reflecting life in the Bissell Centre community.

### **Veiled Voices**

The Multi Cultural Handicrafts Training and Friendship Society and Shabnam Sukhdev will unveil the core identities of East Indian Women residing in Edmonton, addressing their thoughts, views, needs and requirements, through media arts and the production of a DVD.

### **Making and Performing Our Stories**

Rising Sun Theatre, SKILLS and Gerry Potter collaborate in the production of a DVD that documents the process of producing a play created by individuals with developmental disabilities.

### **AlterNatives: A Traditional and Contemporary Aboriginal Craft Exhibit**

Alberta Craft Council, Alberta Craft Council Gallery, Alberta Native Friendship Centre and several local artists, work together to mentor Aboriginal artists and Elders in the production of narratives and art work.

### **Tales from the Inside Out**

Mental Health Association - Edmonton Region, and Edmonton Moving Ahead Program, partner with performance artists Jan Henderson and Sherry Paran in the creation of a performance piece, working with people living with mental illness.

### **Celanese Workers Commemoration Project**

This project involves the production of a collection of stories to preserve the history of the communities built by the workers of the Celanese Plant.

### **Living History Group: Carving a Tile within the Mosaic**

This project will map and record the immigrant experiences of peoples from the Caribbean (arriving in Alberta in the 1950's and 60's), through the production of a script based on the oral histories generated through interviews. The artistic collaborator is Pat Darbasie.

### **Piece by Piece**

This project is about the workers in Edmonton's GWG garment factory. Consultant Catherine Cole, and musician Maria Dunn, will create songs based on interviews with women who worked at the factory.

### **The World of Story Project**

The Mennonite Centre for Newcomers partners with new immigrants and a professional storyteller, artist, technician and designer to create folk tales in many languages. Stories will be available on CD. The project gives voice to over 30 languages and builds intercultural understanding and ways of knowing through the arts.

### **Songs from the Avenue**

Arts on the Avenue partners with artists and songwriters who have close connections to Alberta Avenue, in the production of a CD. Historic material from Edmonton's old north side will be collected and used in the creation of song, images and music. The project will portray the old Avenue, the present Avenue and a glimpse to a future Avenue.

### **La Girandole: Franco-Albertan Legends**

Regroupement artistique francophone de l'Alberta collaborates with La Girandole to produce a performance that portrays legends through dance and music.

### **Au bout de Conte**

Regroupement artistique francophone de l'Alberta partner with ACFA, Régionale d'Edmonton in the production of a performance piece incorporating storytelling and music. Roger Dallaire and Daniel Gervais create and perform the work.

### **Voices from the Darkness into Light**

Society for Assisted Cooperative Recovery from Eating Disorders (SACRED), partners with artists Mary Joyce and Bob Chelmick. An art piece incorporating audio, will be produced to bring awareness to eating disorders.

### **Art Workshop Project**

Edmonton Chinatown Multicultural Centre partners with artist Xin-Yu Zheng on a community art project. A series of workshops will run over the winter. The goal is to bring the experience of Chinese art to inner city youth and seniors, who are on low income, to enrich cultural life.

### **Songs and Stories of our Filipina Grandmothers**

Changing Together – A centre for immigrant women, partner with artist Christine Oro and a group of Filipina grandmothers. The project involves the production of a recorded anthology of original stories that will incorporate music.

### **One Heart, One Voice**

The Multicultural Health Brokers Coop partner with the Nina Haggerty Centre in a visual art mentoring project. Artists associated with the Nina Haggerty Centre will mentor immigrant and refugee visual artists, giving opportunities for new artists to emerge, bringing forward cultural stories portrayed through image and word.

### **Struggle to Survive Storytelling Project**

Catholic Social Services - immigrations services, collaborate with media artists Taro Hashimoto and Grant Smith to capture and document stories of young immigrants resettling in Alberta.

### **Brown Bag Ballads**

The Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers and the Brown Bag Choir, under the direction of Diane Ellery, create an original evening of poetry and song, compiled from stories of many cultures.

### **MACHOS: Journeys of Self Discovery with Immigrant Men**

The Edmonton Immigrant Men Support Network Society with Leo Campos and Shabnam Sukhdev will create a DVD on the male immigrant experience.

### **The Workus Project**

Alberta Worker's Health Centre partner with visual artist Memi Von Gaza, to create a provocative mobile visual and audio installation, portraying worker's experiences.

### **On Institutionalized Aboriginal Women in Edmonton**

Old Earth Productions will work with resource person, Yvonne Johnson from the Edmonton Institute for Women, to develop scenes of a play about Aboriginal women's experiences in prison.

### **Completed Projects**

- **Seeing Ourselves in the City**

As part of the Asokan Youth Aboriginal Mural Project, a mural was created and is displayed at Metis Nation of Alberta Zone 4 Regional Council Building, 11724 – 95 Street.

- **Exposure Queer Arts and Culture Festival** received funding towards workshop presentations, applied to the inaugural 2007 festival.

For more information and/or contact information for the individual projects, contact:

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Edmonton – the 2007 Cultural Capital of Canada

Building Connections to Arts and Culture for all Edmontonians