

## APPENDIX 1

### Local Arts Service Organizations:

#### 1. Arts Etobicoke:

Established in 1973, the organization's current mission is to provide community leadership and spearhead partnerships for sustainable cultural growth and development for the diverse groups in west Toronto, including groups from various racial, cultural, linguistic, age and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Some key ongoing programs include:

- a) "Exploring Creativity in Depth" – 13<sup>th</sup> year collaboration with the Milkweed Collective, TDSB and TDCSB to stimulate a child's creativity and imagination through visual arts in a gallery setting at Neilson Park Creative Centre.
- b) "smART stART" 18<sup>th</sup> year Student Art Show – free 8-day exhibition of drawings, mixed media, paintings, printmaking, sculpture and photography.
- c) "From 3 to 3" – 8<sup>th</sup> year literacy program for children ages 3 to Grade 3 in collaboration with the University of Toronto Centre for Community Partnership and TDSB.
- d) "amplify" – 3<sup>rd</sup> year, "Tuning in' to the Voices of Homeless Youth Through the Arts," a multi-media arts workshop series to build capacity and employment skills in homeless youth ages 16-24 in music, sculpture, graphic zine making, dance and videography, in partnership with Youth Without Shelter.
- e) "QMAP" (Queer Media Arts Program) – 2<sup>nd</sup> year youth led initiative funded by the Rotary Club. Designed to provide safe space in Rexdale for LGBTT youth in collaboration with Rex Pride, LOVE: Leave Out Violence and the Micro Skills Pro Tech Media Centre. This program engages participants in expressive arts/design programming that builds self-esteem, develops life and job skills, and supports and addresses the needs and concerns of LGBTQ youth.
- f) After School Art Drop-In Program – 6<sup>th</sup> year, Saturday free arts education programming offered in the storefront gallery. *New for winter/spring 2014:* offers a pilot drop-in for ages 6-9 years.

New programs are:

- a) "The Food Project": Strengthening community relationships through urban art and agriculture for students from grades 7 to 12 in partnership with Montgomery's Inn.
- b) "Beats and Intentions" grew out of the urbanNOISE program, a successful 8-year urban arts youth training program. It is a unique, innovative 3-year multidisciplinary arts training, mentoring, and career development/employment program for emerging youth artists from Regent Park, Kingston Galloway/Orton Park, Malvern and Jamestown, in collaboration with Scarborough Arts.

## 2. Lakeshore Arts:

Established in 1993, its current mission is to improve the availability of arts, cultural and heritage activities within our neighbourhood. Lakeshore Arts encourages people of all ages and backgrounds to participate in the arts as a way to enrich their lives and strengthen their community.

Some key ongoing programs include:

- a) "Through the Eyes of An Artist" – 21<sup>st</sup> year annual juried art show featuring works in various media by established and emerging artists, in partnership with the Assembly Hall.
- b) *SHAZAAM!* – 9<sup>th</sup> year literacy, art and media, workshop for Grades 7 -11 at Second Street JMS in partnership with the Assembly Hall and Humber College Institute.
- c) "Youth Arts Movement" (YAM) – 10<sup>th</sup> year program for youth aged 13-19 interested in developing and participating in community arts programming. YAM meets every second Tuesday at Lakeshore Arts to make art, share new ideas and organize art events in the community, including workshops on various artforms and exhibitions.
- d) "ARTiculate" Youth Leadership in the Arts Program – 6<sup>th</sup> year summer program for youth (ages 13-17) features workshops with professional artists, field trips to arts destinations, leadership training, a two-day volunteer placement and a final exhibition and event sponsored by Humber College.
- e) LakeShorts International Short Film Festival (4<sup>th</sup> annual) – grassroots arts festival that fosters the arts community in south Etobicoke while showcasing the passion and spirit of independent film. Produced in collaboration with the Fifth Ground Entertainment Inc and is supported by a broad range of sponsors.

New programs:

- a) "It's a Girl Thing!" – an art-based 30 week program allows young women to thoughtfully engage in activities to strengthen core leadership skills and to enact changes in their community. Lakeshore Arts and UrbanArts will partner in order to expand this successful program into Etobicoke.
- b) "Collective Memories" – for people diagnosed in the early stages of Alzheimer's and dementia. Program planning is currently underway. In 2014-15 Lakeshore Arts will be looking for partners in both the health and social service, identify artists with background in working with seniors. It will consolidate partners and funding for full implementation in 2015-16. Each partnering organization will host (provide the venue, marketing and outreach) of 1-2 workshops or lectures or interactive sessions in one area and then repeat that session in another area of the city.

### 3. Scarborough Arts

Founded in 1978 and incorporated in 1979, Scarborough Arts' current mission is to develop, deliver and promote arts programming and cultural initiatives in collaboration and partnership with the community.

Some key ongoing programs include:

- a) Annual juried art show – 15<sup>th</sup> year all media art show to feature both emerging and established artists.
- b) "Kaleidoscope" – Intercultural Arts Afterschool Program, 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Funded by Ontario Trillium Fund and in response to work conducted as part of Creative Mosaics Needs and Capacity-Building Assessment, this multi year program provides artist-mentored activities in five schools including digital storytelling, mural art, music, performing arts and creative movement/dance. Community members, particularly emerging artists and local seniors will be involved in community arts activities and gain artistic skills and experience.
- c) "Scarborough Seniors Write" – 2<sup>nd</sup> year, free weekly workshops that engages, involves and supports seniors across Scarborough through social-based activities and digital technology learning opportunities focused on capturing and celebrating the stories of Scarborough's diverse communities. This program provides a welcoming space for seniors to share stories, meet other community members and gain skills and new experiences.
- d) "EAST" multi-year to 2015 – help identify future post-secondary and employment directions, and provide direct employment preparation training. It is a program for musicians, song writers, spoken word artists, vocalists and creative youth interested in project and event management.

New Programs:

**Cultural Hotspot** – as a key community partner, Scarborough Arts will implement:

- a. Art in Stores – will facilitate the display of local artists work in businesses in a given area of the Cultural Hotspot. Working with local BIAs and business leaders, Scarborough Arts will provide opportunities for local artists to sell their work and gain exposure while enriching the cultural fabric of south Scarborough for residents and visitors.
- b. Storefront Space Animation – will undertake a month-long 'residency' in a vacant local business, providing a range of arts programming in the storefront space during the summer. Working with a community-engaged artist and existing Scarborough Arts program participants, the Storefront Space. Animation will feature several live events (spoken word, music, small-scale theatre performance) and a window installation relating to a given theme.
- e) The Bridging Festival – 5<sup>th</sup> year multidisciplinary, performing arts festival in theatre, dance and music in partnership with a number of community groups active in the Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park community. Drawing upon the expressed concerns of local residents, the purpose of all of the components of this project is to transform the bridge back into a connector that brings residents from diverse communities together.

- f) Youth Employment – will hire, train and support a youth project assistant who will provide coordination support for all Scarborough Arts-led Cultural Hotspot components. This individual will gain valuable skills and experience in arts administration, marketing and outreach while providing vital support for this initiative.

#### **4. UrbanArts Community Arts Council**

Established in 1988, UrbanArts Community Arts Council mission is to enhance neighbourhoods by engaging youth in community development through the arts. Its mandate is to promote, engage and facilitate cultural and community development opportunities between artists, arts organizations and community members. Its current strategic directions are on high density communities with a focus on youth and youth arts.

Some key ongoing programs include:

- a) "After School Arts Program" – 13<sup>th</sup> year program for youth aged 11-17 to learn from professional artists in various art streams: visual arts, dance, drama/theatre, literary and music. Youth will also learn arts management skills, such as setting up an organizational infrastructure: develop their own annual dance showcase, perform choreography for younger dance crews and eventually operate its own studio under the tutelage of UrbanArts.
- b) "Summer Arts" – 8<sup>th</sup> year multidisciplinary day camp program for children and youth aged 8 to 25 with an average daily attendance of 50 participants per day in the Weston-Mount Dennis area.
- c) "Beats.Mind.Movement" – 8<sup>th</sup> year program summer intensive free 2-month program for youth aged 16-24. This program focuses on beat production, songwriting and recording, and the "business" of music. The goal of each session is to complete an album or compile a CD and market it. This program is now packaged as two 12-week sessions that have been sold to the City of Mississauga and has become a revenue generation tool for the organization to sustain the program.
- d) "It's A Girl Thing!" Young Women's Leadership Development – 3<sup>rd</sup> year leadership and mentoring activities to support middle and high school young women to address issues of self-esteem and awareness.
- e) "Young Men of Honour" Leadership Development Program – 3<sup>rd</sup> year in high schools which uses the arts to engage 'at-risk' boys in local schools to address social issues, enhance literacy skills and character development.

New programs:

- a) Multi-Media Arts (ProTech) in partnership with Microsoft Canada, Humber College, City of Toronto. ProTech's training content will include: graphic design & animation; website design; film and photography; proficiency in Microsoft applications; numeracy and literacy skills development; life skills and employment readiness training; and developing leadership and mentorship skills.

- b) Intergenerational Culinary Arts Program – 16-week intergenerational cooking program for youth and seniors from the neighbourhood in partnership with the Weston Frontlines Centre.

## **5. North York Arts**

As part of implementing Recommendation 2.3 of the *Creative Capital Gains*, this LASO was established in 2011 and is currently being incubated by the Toronto Arts Foundation with the plan of setting it up as a non-profit, incorporated, charitable autonomous LASO. It is currently governed by an advisory body of eleven members. It will launch its hub space, which will include a media hub, January 2015.

Since its inception, North York Arts has established its core values: community engagement, cultural diversity, accessibility and equity, leadership, communication and collaboration; and creativity and innovation. Its programming goals include: arts education, engaging diverse cultures and underserved communities; and cultural tourism.

Its current key programs include the *Newcomer Mural Series* program for newcomers, immigrants and refugee youth in Oriole Park. It facilitates signature and other events such as the *Cultura Festival*, *Earl Bales Art and Music Festival*, *Oakwood Village Arts Festival* and the *Leaside 100 Community Celebration*. It also facilitates networking opportunities for artists and the community, for example: the *Intergenerational Programs*, *Forums*, *Workshops and Information sessions*, *Top of Toronto Meet and Greet*, *Creative Potluck Information Session*, and many others.

## **6. East End Arts**

As part of implementing Recommendation 2.3 of the *Creative Capital Gains*, East End Arts was formed at a feasibility consultation meeting in 2011. As an outcome of the meeting, a Working Group made up of a diverse volunteer group of local east end residents, community and cultural workers, artists and arts collectives was formed to collectively build a LASO in East York. In 2013, an Advisory Group for East End Arts has been formed from the existing working group and other arts and community leaders. This group, which currently meets monthly, will become the basis for the Board of Directors when East End Arts is incorporated independently. Currently, it continues to be incubated by the Toronto Arts Foundation with the plan of setting it up as a non-profit, incorporated, charitable autonomous LASO.

A *Preliminary Business Plan for East End Arts* has been developed in March 2013, which provides high level description of the organization's future governance structure including staffing, fundraising and communications and marketing strategies. In the same year, East End Arts hired a Managing Director to further develop the business plan, to further reach out to the community in East York, and to implement a series of professional development and networking workshops to meet some immediate needs from the community and to provide a

much needed networking framework for residents, artists, arts and community organizations in the geographic area it serves.

In regards to programming, East End Arts facilitated the *East End Poetry Festival* in partnership with the Children's Peace Theatre, the League of Canadian Poets, and the City of Toronto. Toronto's Poet Laureate George Elliott Clarke and three other poets presented their work in the amphitheatre at the Children's Peace Theatre grounds in 2013. The poetry festival will be implemented again in 2014. It also hosted the *East End Connects* networking events at various locations to connect artists and the community.

All LASOs participate in the Neighbourhood Arts Network "Creative Potluck" sessions and the Artscape "Creative Spaces Outside the Core" initiative. They are organizational leads for their respective zones on the Pan Am Path.