

## Culture Project Grant Program 2023

### Theme: *Unifying Arts for Social Justice*

The Culture Projects Grant's focus for 2023 continues our theme from 2022, Unifying Arts for Social Justice. The Peer Assessment Committee considered project grant applications that focused on anti-racism, anti-hate efforts, and community building in Mississauga. This includes projects that emphasize Indigenous worldviews, creative and artistic methods, and presentation practices. The goal of the 2023 theme is to:

- Provide funding that will engage the arts community.
- Create works to increase awareness, promote education and take action to affect positive change
- Encourage more cultural practitioners to create a wider variety of cultural experiences for the City of Mississauga.

The Peer Assessment Committee reviewed eleven applications and recommended eight applications for funding. The total Culture Projects funding provided is \$35,800.

Organization Name	Project	Funding Received
Blackwood Gallery	"Braiding Rice" (working title) is a three-part lightbox and public art program guest-curated by Su-Ying Lee. This proposal is informed by Lee's research on early European colonial agriculture and its role in the institutionalization of racism and the works of artists addressing intersecting issues. Hand-in-hand with enabling the colonial project through enslavement and subjugation, entire systems of knowledge were appropriated and claimed as European discoveries.	\$5000
Canadian Arabic Orchestra	The Mississauga World Music Festival is a one-day free event celebrating Canada Multiculturalism Day. We are contracting 16 different folk art and music groups to present their folklore and heritage for all to appreciate at this open-to-public full day event. Folk groups and artists are invited for a 15-minute presentation of their folklore and they have control over what material, art, music, song and dance they present, to showcase and share their culture.	\$5000

<p>Eagle Spirits of the Great Waters</p>	<p>In 2023, Eagle Spirits will continue with what has become a successful Fall Indigenous Art Exhibit, Gathering and Healing Ceremony. Racism and hatred have been a major component of the lives of Indigenous Peoples for hundreds of years therefore, the 2023 exhibit will include individual works that focus on the healing qualities of Indigenous Arts and Cultures.</p>	<p>\$5000</p>
<p>Frog in Hand</p>	<p>For the past two years, Frog in Hand has been allied with The Sugar Plum Collective supporting the creation of a new dance-theatre, comedic production titled “Sugar Plum.” This original work challenges systemic bias in traditional artistic practice and gives voice to bodies that have been systematically shut out of dance. The artists involved, including project leadership, hold intersectional Black, Latinx, Asian, queer, trans and non-binary identities; they are professional artists. The story of “Sugar Plum” follows diverse ballet dancers as they navigate rehearsals for the traditional ballet “The Nutcracker.”</p>	<p>\$5000</p>
<p>Mississauga Arts Council</p>	<p>Mississauga Arts Council is partnering with Studio 89 to produce a workshop series, Social Justice &amp; Creative Corner. This series of 10 events will bring together arts and social justice through meaningful discussion and creative expression. Social Justice &amp; Creative Corner will take place once per month starting in January 2023 and will run through the whole year (with a 2-month break over the summer). Each workshop will focus on a different social justice topic and a local Mississauga artist will lead a creative activity. Participants will engage in meaningful conversations and use the different art forms to enhance the depth of approach to the topic.</p>	<p>\$4300</p>
<p>Mississauga Music</p>	<p>We are proposing to bring together Mississauga audiences as part of our New Music Nights series. The event will take</p>	

	<p>place from January 2023 to December 2023, every other month. In total, six events will be held to engage diverse artists and local community members, in partnership with The Rec Room, in Square One, Mississauga. Located in Ward 4, downtown Mississauga, our venue has been confirmed through a partnership with the Cineplex-owned entertainment venue. We have hosted other events in collaboration with this facility and have confirmed the use of this space for our New Music Nights.</p>	<p>\$5000</p>
<p>Mississauga Writers Group</p>	<p>Yearly contests and anthologies. The anthology consists of our group’s member submissions and submitted writings. Timelines are from May 1st to September 30th. Location is the City of Mississauga and Peel Region. They are yearly and after the winners are named we publish all the contest entries in our anthology.</p>	<p>\$1500</p>
<p>Visual Arts Mississauga</p>	<p>Portraits of Mississauga is a 10-month long program that embraces and celebrates the diversity of Mississauga’s residents. Culminating in a community exhibition and printed book, local artists will lead workshops that invite residents to learn new skills and commemorate members of their communities through drawn and painted portraits. 20 workshops will engage children and teens at Mississauga elementary &amp; secondary schools, 20 workshops will engage families at community locations across Mississauga, and 4 workshops will engage local artists and youth at VAM.</p>	<p>\$5000</p>