



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Access Copyright Foundation announces three grants to promote and support Canadian culture

Saskatchewan Arts Board chosen to administer grants program

Regina, SK - (December 16, 2010) Canada's creative community is receiving a significant boost today with the announcement of \$300,000 in new funding for 2011. The grants will directly support the creation and dissemination of publishable Canadian works.

The Access Copyright Foundation (ACF) is partnering with the Saskatchewan Arts Board to administer the grant process. For over 60 years, the Saskatchewan Arts Board has provided consultation services to assist in a variety of areas. The Arts Board is also involved in a number of partnerships and co-operative arrangements with other organizations.

Each year, the Access Copyright Foundation will award grants to Canada's writers, visual artists and publishers to support professional development opportunities, research projects and events. All three activities are vital to ensuring that Canadians will continue to create new cultural works that will be enjoyed by their fellow citizens, and those around the world.

"Canada's writers, visual artists and publishers are cornerstones of this nation's cultural identity. They work hard telling Canada's stories, both nationally and internationally. The Access Copyright Foundation is committed to supporting this essential work through these new grant programs," said ACF Founding Chairperson Michael O'Reilly.

"The Saskatchewan Arts Board is pleased to partner with the Access Copyright Foundation to help to serve artists on a national scale," said Saskatchewan Arts Board Executive Director David Kyle. "These new programs will result in a more vibrant arts culture in Canada, including increased public access to Canadian artists and their work."

In 2011, the Access Copyright Foundation will begin its first year of awarding grants in three areas, professional development, research and events.

Professional development grants are available to Canadian creators and publishers to attend programs, conferences or events that will enable them to develop or refine their craft or expertise.

Research grants are available to creators, publishers and organizations to cover expenses for research projects that will enhance the promotion and production of publishable Canadian culture creations. Examples include research for a book, magazine articles, or for an exhibition.

Events grants are available to organizations that support Canadian creativity through events whose primary aim is to deepen appreciation and enjoyment of Canadian culture.

“Engaging in professional development, research and holding events are all vital to the promotion and dissemination of Canadian culture,” said ACF Vice-Chair Emiko Morita. “The strong leadership of the Saskatchewan Arts Board in concert with the Access Copyright Foundation will help to ensure that great Canadian works will continue to be produced for years to come.”

Applications for research grants are currently being accepted. The application form is available from our website at www.acfoundation.ca. The deadline for applications is **February 1, 2011**.

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About the Access Copyright Foundation

The Access Copyright Foundation promotes and supports Canadian culture by providing grants intended to encourage the development and dissemination of publishable Canadian works. The Foundation endeavours to make a modest but important contribution to the Canadian cultural community, while also broadening public awareness of the creative vitality of Canadian writers, visual artists and publishers. For more information, please visit www.acfoundation.ca

About the Saskatchewan Arts Board

The Saskatchewan Arts Board serves the people of Saskatchewan through programs, services and partnerships designed to build a strong and vibrant arts sector. Its main goals are accessibility, sustainability and growth, awareness and acceptance, and development and life-long learning. Established more than 60 years ago, the Arts Board is the first agency of its kind in North America. In the decades since then, it has continued as a leader in the country, and it continues to build on this strong tradition to meet ongoing opportunities for public investment in the arts community. For more information, please visit www.artsboard.sk.ca

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