



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. **7.1.2**
Grants Committee
June 1, 2015

TO: Chair and Members of Grants Committee

Original signed

SUBMITTED BY:

Brad Anguish, Director, Parks and Recreation

DATE: May 13, 2015

SUBJECT: Interim Professional Arts Organizations Grant Program 2015/16 Recommended Awards

ORIGIN

April 29, 2014 Regional Council Motion:

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Mason

Whereas \$300,000 has been included in the 2014/15 Operating Budget approved on April 1, 2014 by Regional Council to implement the Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organization Program as outlined in Attachment 4 of the staff report dated March 6, 2014, it is recommended that Halifax Regional Council direct staff to draft an Administrative Order for Regional Council's consideration to implement the Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program outlined in Attachment 4 of the staff report dated March 6, 2014. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

- *HRM Charter*, Section 70 (1) (av) respecting grants and contributions.
- Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM respecting Grants to Professional Arts Organizations.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve:

1. 20 awards for operating assistance at a combined value of \$265,500 as detailed in Attachment 2 from operating account C760-8004—Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program; and
2. 15 awards for project assistance at a combined value of \$94,500 as detailed in Attachment 2 from operating account C760-8004—Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program.

BACKGROUND

In 2014, Regional Council approved a budget allocation of \$300,000 for the development of a new professional arts grants program that would directly support the work of HRM-based professional arts organizations. Council approved an interim process for the grant program in April 2014 and formally adopted Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM on August 22, 2014.

On April 28, 2015 Regional Council approved the 2015-2016 capital and operating budget which allocated \$300,000 toward the Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organizations program for the fiscal year 2015-2016. In addition, during the consideration of the ArtsHalifax Terms of Reference on May 12, 2015, Regional Council approved the reallocation of the public art annual operating programs and associated budget of \$60,000 to the *Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program*.

The *Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program* awards grants to registered non-profit organizations located within the geographic boundary of the Municipality and in accordance with the definitions outlined in the Administrative Order. The focus of these grants is in the form of financial support to professional arts and cultural organizations in the production and presentation of professional work. The program is divided into two (2) funding categories:

1. Operating Assistance to Professional Arts Organizations which supports the regular operations of those organizations, and
2. Project Assistance to Professional Arts Organizations, which allocates funding to stand-alone, non-recurrent arts initiatives.

The application intake for the 2015/16 Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program opened on February 1, 2015 and closed on March 31, 2015.

DISCUSSION

Interim Professional Arts Grants Funding

This interim program of 2015/16 received a total of 64 applications; 33 under Operating Assistance, and 31 under Project Assistance with a combined value of \$825,217 in funding requests.

Table 1. Combined Program Requests 2015-16 (*2014-2015 figures in parenthesis)			
Category	Type of Grant	Combined Number of Requests	Combined Value of Requests
Operating Grants	Anchor Organizations	2	\$100,000
	Operating Assistance (non-anchor)	31	\$501,700
	Total Operating	33 (36)	\$601,700 (\$544,174)
Project Grants	Project-Specific Grants	31 (21)	\$223,517 (\$153,205)
TOTAL		64 (57)	\$825,217 (\$697,379)

The overall funding request for 2015-2016 increased \$127,838 (18%) over the 2014-2015 program.

The administrative guidelines for the *Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program* are outlined under Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM (AO). A summary of the methodology undertaken for the review of applications pursuant to the AO is outlined in Attachment 1. As a result of the assessment, the recommended grant awards for both operating assistance and project funding are outlined in Attachment 2 with those applications not recommended for awards in Attachment 3.

Community Grant Program and Events Grants Program

HRM administers other grant programs that fund cultural organizations including the Community Grants Program and the Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve and Community Events Grants Programs.

The Administrative Order governing this grant program does not preclude an organization from applying to or receiving an award from this grant program if it is in receipt of funding or has an application pending through another program. However, it does outline that Regional Council can decline or reduce funding awards as a result of funding provided by other programs. As a result, applicants who receive funding from HRM through either of those two programs are permitted to apply to the *Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program* for additional funding. All applicants must disclose any additional municipal funds received or applications pending during that fiscal year, and years previous.

In certain instances, applications from organizations in receipt of funding through other municipal programs may be considered in the determination of awards (e.g. in evaluating two or more applicants of comparable merit). In this context, municipal funding support, even for a different project, can be taken into consideration when considering applicants in addition to the merit based evaluation.

Amendments to Recommendations

As outlined in Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM S. 17. "*Final approval of all applications for a grant, and the amount thereof, is a decision of Council in its sole discretion.*" At their discretion, the Grants Committee has the ability to recommend adjustments to the award recommendations contained in this report. Amendments to either (a) award recipients or (b) value of an award may be considered within the remaining funds not recommended for allocation, as outlined in the Financial Implications section. Given that operating funds cannot be carried forward or grants awarded retroactively from a prior fiscal year, any amendments and/or referrals must be concluded prior to March 31, 2016, the Municipality's fiscal year-end.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Regional Council approved funds in the amount of \$300,000 in the 2015/16 Operating Budget to implement the *Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program*. These funds are housed in C760 (*Community/Civic Events*). In addition, during the consideration of the ArtsHalifax Terms of Reference on May 12, 2015, Regional Council approved the reallocation of the public art annual operating programs and associated budget of \$60,000 to the *Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program*.

As a result, the combined value of funding available to the 2015/16 *Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program* is \$360,000 as follows:

2015/16 Program Budget (C760-8004)	\$300,000
2015/16 Allocation from public art operating programs	\$ 60,000
Cumulative Program Budget	\$360,000
<u>Less Recommended Awards (35)</u>	<u>(\$360,000)</u>
Balance	(\$0)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Information regarding program eligibility, application timelines, and applicant scoring are posted on the HRM web site. Additionally, an information session for members of the cultural sector was held at Halifax City Hall on February 20, 2015. Further, the Grants Committee includes members of the public.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

ALTERNATIVES

The Grants Committee could recommend that Regional Council overturn or amend any funding recommendation within the available balance of funds outlined in the Financial Implications' section of this report.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1: Review and Award Recommendation Methodology
- Attachment 2: Applications Recommended for Funding in 2015-2016 by Category
- Attachment 3: Applications Not Recommended for Funding in 2015-2016 by Category

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/cc.html> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Elizabeth Taylor, Manager, Culture & Events, 902-490-4387
Jamie MacLellan, Community Developer, 902-490-1039

Original signed

Report Approved by: Denise Schofield, Manager, Program Support Services, 902-490-6252

Original signed

Financial Approval by: Greg Keefe, Director of Finance & ICT/CFO, 902-490-6308

Review and Award Recommendation Methodology

As per Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM Respecting Grants to Professional Arts Organizations, S. 2 (h) *“Professional Arts Organization” means a registered, non-profit professional arts and culture organization that supports, presents, or produces work by professional or established artists, and employs qualified paid staff to administer on-going arts and culture programs and services.*

To be eligible for funding under the *Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program*, submitting organizations must also operate programs on a year-round basis and have been operating for three years prior to the date of application. Complete eligibility requirements are listed in Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM S. 12.

All applicants are expected to meet a minimum standard of 70 according to the criteria outlined in 2014-007-ADM S. 13(a) and S. 13(b). The value of recommended award is based on percentage of total projected costs, impact, economic development outcomes.

All applications for both operating assistance and project assistance were screened for eligibility and then scored according to stated criteria. The principles of the two programs were similar in that both value organizational or project merit, community impact and public engagement, artistic merit, organizational governance and financial stewardship.

The Operating Assistance category has two sub-categories:

- ‘Anchor Organizations’ are defined as organizations with operating budgets in excess of \$2 million annually. These organizations are eligible to a maximum of \$50,000.00 in operating assistance through this program.
- All submitting organizations with operating budgets below \$2 million annually fall within the general ‘non-anchor’ category. These organizations are eligible to a maximum of 10% of their annual operating expenses with a ceiling of \$25,000.00. These represent the bulk of the applicants.

The Project Assistance category has a maximum award limit of \$10,000.00.

Evaluation of financial stewardship applies to both categories and considers individual project budgets as well as the overall financial health of the submitting organization. The mandate in evaluating applications was to rank organizations in accordance with the evaluation criteria. Recommendations on award amounts are derived directly from strength of score.

Applicants have been screened for debt to the Municipality and receipt of municipal assistance such as but not limited to a cash grant, tax relief, rent discount, or less than market value property sale. In certain instances receipt of other municipal funding is considered in recommending award allocations. (e.g. in evaluating two or more applicants of comparable merit where insufficient funding for all exists).

Staff administrators of this program will make themselves available to those organizations not-recommended for funding, listed below, to provide detailed feedback on their applications and the evaluation framework of the program.

List of Recommended Grants 2015/16 - OPERATING ASSISTANCE
Organized Alphabetically (by Tier)

Name of Organization: Anchor	2015-16 Request	2015/16 Recommended Award
Neptune Theatre Foundation	\$50,000	\$40,000
Symphony Nova Scotia Society	\$50,000	\$35,000

Name of Organization: Non-Anchor	Request	Recommended Award
2b Theatre Association	\$25,000	\$18,000
Atlantic Filmmakers Co-operative Ltd	\$20,000	\$16,000
Bus Stop Theatre Co-operative Ltd	\$10,000	\$4,000
Carbon Arc Cinema Co-operative Ltd	\$7,810	\$3,000
Eastern Front Theatre Society	\$20,000	\$13,000
Eye Level Gallery Society	\$13,000	\$9,000
The Halifax Camerata Singers	\$10,000	\$5,000
Kinetic Studio Society	\$7,000	\$4,500
Live Art Productions Society	\$25,000	\$16,000
Mocean Dance Society	\$25,000	\$14,000
Music Industry Association of Nova Scotia	\$25,000	\$10,000
Onelight Theatre Society	\$25,000	\$18,000
Saint Mary's University Art Gallery	\$25,000	\$12,000
Scotia Chamber Players	\$20,000	\$10,000
Shakespeare by the Sea Theatre Society	\$25,000	\$10,000
Society for Art Presentation (Centre for Art Tapes)	\$12,000	\$7,000
Visual Arts Nova Scotia	\$12,000	\$6,000
Zuppa Circus Theatre Society	\$21,000	\$15,000
Recommended Award: Anchor and Non-Anchor		\$265,500

Operating Assistance Award Recommendations:

All applications for Operating Assistance were assessed in accordance with Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM including:

- a. Organizational Merit/Value of Service
- b. Program planning and evaluation
- c. Community Relationships
- d. Board and governance
- e. Financial Stewardship

Anchor Organizations (Annual operating budgets over \$2 million annually)

Maximum award: \$50,000.00

Neptune Theatre Foundation

2014-2015 Requested: \$50,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$40,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$50,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$40,000

Neptune Theatre exhibits strong impact, both as an anchor organization in service to the local theatre community, but also to the broader public of Halifax. In addition to its role as a presenter, the theatre serves as a developmental partner with a range of smaller-scale, local theatre organizations each year and offers less-than-cost space access for rehearsal and production to community groups. The theatre is regional in scope and integral to the arts community. Its operational expenses are the highest of any applicant as a result of costs associated with the management of their facility.

Other HRM Assistance in 2014-2015: \$431,858 tax relief (100% in fiscal 2014-2015)

Symphony Nova Scotia

2014-2015 Requested: \$50,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$35,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$50,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$35,000

Symphony Nova Scotia is Atlantic Canada's only fully professional orchestra hosting annual audiences of more than 50,000. The Symphony offers approximately 80 performances in HRM annually. The Symphony employs 37 full-time musicians in addition to its administrative staff. Their annual program includes an Alderney Landing Series, Baroque, Retro Pops, Maritime Fusion, Co-productions and partnerships as well as a focus on youth Education and Outreach. They employ a wide range of partnership with other local arts organizations.

Non-Anchor Organizations (operating budgets less than \$2 million annually)

Maximum award: Lesser of \$25,000.00 or 10% of organization's annual expenses.

2b Theatre Association

2014-2015 Requested: \$25,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$20,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$25,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$18,000

2b Theatre's programming shows recognition by both presenters and audiences nationally, and compliments the group's record of programming and their general standing in the Municipality. Their programming and employs the use of contemporary technology in their productions. They maintain a diverse sponsorship portfolio and partnerships, and validation from other governmental funders, and show commitment to fostering the development of local theatre professionals through mentorship, collaboration and partnership.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$8,000 Project Assistance

The Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative Ltd (AFCOOP)

2014-2015 Requested: \$25,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$18,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$20,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$16,000

AFCOOP offers a range of technical services to the filmmaking public, maintains a HRM community presence while serving a regional demographic. AFCOOP offers technical resources, workshops, funded programming opportunities and a networking resource to its membership and the community at large. AFCOOP's direct programming includes support of the Halifax Independent Filmmakers Festival (HIFF), Film 5 professional development program, workshops and residencies, in addition to its equipment rental services to the community.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016:

Recommended \$4,500 Project Assistance

Recommended \$4,500 Community Grant for purchase of computer equipment for film editing studio

Bus Stop Theatre Co-operative Ltd.

2014-2015 Requested: \$5,425

2014-2015 Grant: \$4,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$10,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$4,000

Bus Stop Theatre is a grassroots theatre presenter/producer serving a diverse array of professional theatre and community/developmental interests. The Theatre is available for community rental on an ongoing basis. This aspect of their application is unique to applicants under this program, and addresses a commonly expressed need for access to creative space amongst artists and organizations in the community, particularly for developmental artists and organizations. The Bus Stop Theatre Co-operative Ltd. has reflected a commitment to adapting their organizational and administrative structures with the interest of creating a more sustainable community service facility, presenter and producer model.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$5,500 Project Assistance

Carbon Arc Cinema Co-operative Ltd.

2014-2015 Requested: \$3,600

2014-2015 Grant: \$3,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$7,810

2015-2016 Recommended: \$3,000

The Carbon Arc Theatre Society administers a weekly repertory/independent cinema in the theatre space at the NS Museum of Natural History. Program planning is strong, as is their sustainability model/growth trajectory. It is a model that exhibits organizational and community growth in a methodical way, with solid sector partnerships.

Eastern Front Theatre Society (EFT)

2014-2015 Requested: \$24,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$14,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$20,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$13,000

EFT is an established local theatre. They oversee the Stages Festival, annually, which has recently re-focused as Nova Scotia specific playwrights' platform, and remains of a national caliber. They have a record of partnership with other local (theatre and non-theatre) organizations and remain a solid local institution and sector-resource.

Eyelevel Gallery Society

2014-2015 Requested: \$14,900

2014-2015 Grant: \$10,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$13,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$9,000

Eyelevel Gallery is an established artist-run-center that serves as a programming, networking and support resource for local emerging artists across disciplines, and supports community partnerships. The organization has recently adopted an itinerant model (no fixed gallery space), operating out of an office for administration purposes but programming in spaces on an ad hoc, opportunity driven basis. They have positioned themselves as adaptable to the operational realities facing many organizations.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$7,500 Project Assistance

Halifax Camerata Singers

2014-2015 Requested: \$10,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$0

2015-2016 Requested: \$10,000

2015-2016 Recommendation: \$5,000

A respected chorale group, they are based in HRM and primarily perform in Halifax with some regional tours. They have partnership relationships with other organizations, principally Symphony NS. They are a developmental resource for local singers and administer a mentorship program for emerging choral professionals.

Kinetic Studio Society

2014-2015 Requested: \$7,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$4,500

2015-2016 Requested: \$7,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$4,500

Incorporated in 2003, Kinetic Dance Studio is an organization that supports contemporary dance practices and cross-disciplinary collaboration with a professional development focus. The focus of the organization is directed at supporting the practitioners of contemporary dance. An active developmental and mentorship approach to programming and community engagement, the organization maintains a connection with Halifax Dance.

Live Art Productions Society

2014-2015 Requested: \$25,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$16,000

2015-2016 Request: \$25,000

2015-2016 Recommendation: \$16,000

Live Art Productions Society presents as an advocate and resource for the contemporary dance community locally. They are challenged by the lack of appropriate venues for the nature of their work, but have positioned themselves as an advocate for artist resources in that capacity. They present high-quality contemporary dance and place a focus on audience development on behalf of the sector. They have a long-track record of programming and a resilient organizational model.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$8,000 Project Assistance

Mocean Dance Society

2014-2015 Requested: \$24,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$15,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$25,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$14,000

Mocean Dance is the only contemporary dance company east of Montreal in receipt of annual operating funds from Canada Council and Arts Nova Scotia. As such they are an important resource to the local dance community. They exhibit an array of partnerships with local arts organizations as well as attention to growing both their audience and organizational capacity.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$8,000 Project Assistance

Music Industry Association of Nova Scotia

2014-2015 Requested: \$25,000

2014-2015 Grant: Not recommended for funding in 2014-2015

2015-2016 Requested: \$25,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$10,000

Music Industry Association of Nova Scotia is a service based organization operating provincially with a mandate to encourage the development and promotion of the Nova Scotia Music Industry. A stated 75% of the organization's membership resides in HRM, with approximately \$100,000 in spending directed to HRM programming in 2014/15, with an additional \$231,000 of total Export Development programming directed to HRM-based artists. The organization also offer direct consultation and professional development support to local artists through their HRM-based offices and the Ardenne Resource centre. The organization also administers local concert series and a Community Presenters Assistance Fund (CPAP).

Onelight Theatre Society

2014-2015 Requested: \$25,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$20,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$25,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$18,000

Onelight Theatre is a culturally-diverse company operating as the company-in-residence at Alderney Landing Theatre. Their programming over the past two years exhibits growth. They promote the programming of under-represented demographics and in supporting a cultural presence in Dartmouth. Their access to funding has shown significant growth. They are respected in the local community, broadly, and nationally recognized for their programming and advocacy.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Negotiating below market value lease

Saint Mary's University Art Gallery

2014-2015 Requested: N/A

2014-2015 Grant: N/A

2015-2016 Requested: \$25,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$12,000

The Saint Mary's University Art Gallery has the mandate of presenting and interpreting contemporary visual art to diverse publics, and to develop, maintain and present a permanent collection of visual art. The Gallery exhibits a commitment to diverse arts practices and practitioners, and engagement with under-represented cultural demographics. A goal of the Gallery is to develop programming that engages, and is relevant to, the history and culture of the African-Nova Scotian Community. The Gallery is structured within the University's External Affairs Department but the application makes clear that programming efforts are directed to a broader public consumption and dialogue.

Scotia Chamber Players

2014-2015 Requested: \$21,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$10,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$20,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$10,000

The Scotia Chamber Players operate year round programming but the bulk of its offerings are linked to the Scotia Festival of Music for which it receives municipal support. The funding recommended in this program would be allocated toward its non-festival programming (Chamber Players Music Series) and the community-use management of the Peggy Corkum Music Room.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016:

\$19,949 Tax Relief (100% in fiscal 2014-2015)

\$15,000 HRM Hallmark Event Grant (Scotia Festival of Music)

Shakespeare by the Sea Theatre Society

2014-2015 Requested: \$25,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$10,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$25,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$10,000

Shakespeare by the Sea Theatre Society is seasonal presenter with a developing focus on year-round programming in recent years. The organization displays a record of presentation and is an asset to the theatre landscape. The society also receives municipal support in the form of a below market value lease in a HRM owned building in Point Pleasant Park.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016:

Negotiating below market value license

Recommended \$8,000 Project Assistance

Society for Art Presentation (The Centre for Art Tapes)

2014-2015 Requested: \$10,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$7,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$12,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$7,000

Centre for the Art Tapes (CFAT) is an internationally recognized artist-run-center with board and community involvement. CFAT offers resources for artists working in the media arts, including space and equipment, as well as programs and mentorship. Their application reflects signs of organizational change as a result of a move to a new and purpose-built space. Funding through this program would assist with ongoing transitional costs of relocation and the support for programming in their new venue.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$7,000 Project Assistance

Visual Arts Nova Scotia (VANS)

2014-2015 Requested: \$12,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$7,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$12,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$6,000

VANS is a service-based organization supporting visual artists in Nova Scotia. It is provincial in scope but the vast majority of its members are living and working in HRM. They offer direct support of programming in the form of residencies and other promotional support activities. They are an advocacy and networking resource for artists who generally work independently. Fostering urban-rural connections and the operational health of the visual arts in Nova Scotia is reflected as a priority of their programming and outreach.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$4,000 Project Assistance

Zuppa Circus Theatre Society

2014-2015 Requested: \$21,177

2014-2015 Grant: \$16,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$21,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$15,000

Zuppa Circus Theatre employs a creative and administrative model that supports its work and effectiveness of operation. The nature of their organization is flexible, and their programming exhibits a strong element of community-mindedness and integrative thinking. They are active educators and mentors within the community.

List of Recommended Grants 2015/16- PROJECT ASSISTANCE
Organized Alphabetically

Name of Organization	2015/16 Request	2015/16 Recommendation
2b Theatre Association	\$10,000	\$8,000
Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative Ltd	\$6,000	\$4,500
The Bus Stop Theatre Cooperative Ltd	\$7,360	\$5,500
Dalhousie University Art Gallery	\$5,400	\$4,000
Debut Atlantic Society	\$10,000	\$7,500
Eyelevel Gallery Society	\$10,000	\$7,500
Khyber Arts Society	\$9,000	\$6,500
Live Arts Productions Society	\$10,000	\$8,000
Mocean Dance Society	\$10,000	\$8,000
Secret Theatre Society	\$7,000	\$5,500
Shakespeare by the Sea Society	\$10,000	\$8,000
Society for Art Presentation (CFAT)	\$9,650	\$7,000
Suddenly Listen Music Society	\$4,000	\$3,000
Visual Arts Nova Scotia	\$6,020	\$4,000
Xara Choral Theatre Society	\$10,000	\$7,500
Recommended Award		\$94,500

Project Assistance Award Recommendations

Projects were reviewed and recommended in relation to cumulative strength-of-score in the categories of:

- Expertise of Applicant
- Project Merit
- Public Access and Engagement
- Organizational Standing and budget

Organization: 2b Theatre Association

Project: We Are Not Alone

2014-2015 Requested: \$10,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$8,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$10,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$8,000

2b Theatre is a locally-based theatre company with extensive touring history. The request is for assistance toward the presentation of the one-man play, *We Are Not Alone*, a national co-production between Segal Theatre (MTL) and Crow's Chair (TO) as part of the Neptune Scotiabank Studio Theatre program in November 2015. The request is presented as a 'pilot' for what could become an ongoing component of their program- a Halifax-based presentation series of the theatre projects encountered abroad by members of 2b Theatre in relation to their mandate as a touring company from Nova Scotia. The focus of the request is upon increasing the exposure of local artists and theatre professionals, as well as the theatre-going public locally, to work from other regions. Total project cost is \$16,250.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$18,000 in Operating Assistance

Organization: Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative Ltd

Project: *Summer of 35mm*

2014-2015 Requested: \$8,000

2014-2015 Grant: Not recommended for project assistance in 2014-2015

2015-2016 Request: \$6,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$4,500

The Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative (AFCOOP) offers technical resources, workshops, funded programming opportunities and a networking resource to its membership and the community at large. It is a regional support organization but its location and its primary area of concentration is HRM. The request is for support of a residency/mentorship opportunity for local emerging film artists interested in working with a prominent local cinematographer to develop technical knowledge and experimental techniques related to 35mm filmmaking. Resident artists will be selected via an open call developed and disseminated by AFCOOP. Total project budget is \$12,334.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016:

Recommended \$16,000 in Operating Assistance

Recommended \$4,500 Community Grant for purchase of computer equipment for film editing studio

Organization: Bus Stop Theatre Co-operative Ltd.

Project: *StART Mentorship Program*

2014-2015 Requested: \$1,500

2014-2015 Grant: \$1,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$7,360

2015-2016 Recommended: \$5,500

Bus Stop Theatre is a grassroots theatre presenter/producer serving a diverse array of professional theatre and community/developmental interests. The request is for support of a mentorship program that would pair three emerging artists in HRM, selected through an organizationally-led application process, with three local and established multidisciplinary arts professionals. 2015-2016 would be the first iteration of this component of the program which is derived from the StART festival, a multidisciplinary emerging artist event entering its third season. Artists selected to the mentorship program would develop their practice over 6 months with regular contact with mentors, culminating in a presentation as part of the 2016 StART Festival. Total Project budget is \$9,860.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$4,000 in Operating Assistance

Organization: Dalhousie University Art Gallery

Project: *DAG/DAL Community Garden*

2014-2015 Requested: N/A

2014-2015 Grant: N/A

2015-2016 Requested: \$5,400

2015-2016 Recommended: \$4,000

The Dalhousie University Art Gallery is a public art gallery operating within the administration of Dalhousie University. The request is to develop an artist in residence program in the summer of 2015 in collaboration with the Dalhousie Urban Garden Society (supported by the Dalhousie Sustainability Office) at the site of their community garden. The interest of the application is to create connection between agriculture and visual culture, proposes a residency that would engage the principles of urban and community gardening, which would culminate in a permanent art piece that would function on an ongoing basis as a gateway component of the garden. Total project budget of \$13,150.

Organization: Debut Atlantic Society

Project: *Debut in Your Community*

2014-2015 Requested: N/A

2014-2015 Grant: N/A

2015-2016 Requested: \$10,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$7,500

Debut Atlantic is a regional support organization that assists local presenters in delivering classical music offerings. The organization engages in local partnerships to support touring performances. The request is for funds to support a targeted approach to deliver publicly accessible classical music performances to identified 'gaps' in current service delivery: (1) to communities outside the urban core of Halifax/Dartmouth, and (2) to provide performance-outreach to seniors in their place of residence. The proposal is for 6 outreach concerts: 2-4 concerts in non-urban locales via partnership with Halifax Public Libraries, and 2-4 outreach concerts through partnership with senior's residences. Total project budget is \$22,000.

Organization: Eyelevel Gallery Society

Project: *Fieldwork: The Artist as Researcher*

2014-2015 Requested: \$10,000

2014-2015 Grant: Not recommended for project assistance in 2014-2015

2015-2016 Requested: \$10,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$7,500

The proposed research-oriented residency emphasis is to support artists in presenting their work as a *process*, rather than a final product. A residency model would be delivered through an open call for artist projects with venues to be proposed by submitting artists. Artistic results from the residencies may come in the form of performances, screenings, workshops, texts and more. Eyelevel Gallery would provide administrative support and logistics help, and assistance in the determination of community partners. Presentation of final project outcomes of the residencies will be staged as part of Nocturne 2015. Total project budget is \$29,425.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$9,000 in Operating Assistance

Organization: Khyber Arts Society

Project: *Crit Paper: Publication Series and Artist Residency*

2014-2015 Requested: N/A

2014-2015 Grant: N/A

2015-2016 Requested: \$9,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$6,500

The Khyber Arts Society is an artist-run centre that supports contemporary arts practices and emerging local artists across disciplines. The request is for funds in support of the production of *Crit*, a broadsheet publication of critical writing on contemporary art. The 2015-2016 program will feature an inaugural artist-in-residence component focused on the theme of virtual reality. The 3 issues produced over the 2015-16 programming year will be distributed nationally, with specific outreach to New York City, and an online engagement platform to connect with partner organizations for each launch event. Total project budget is \$13,000.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: \$45,000/3 year operating subsidy

Organization: Live Art Productions Society

Project: *The Woods and Ghettosocks Commissioning Project*

2014-2015 Requested: \$10,000

2014-2015 Grant: Not recommended for Project Assistance in 2014-2015

2015-2016 Requested: \$10,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$8,000

Live Art Productions Society is the leading contemporary dance presenter in HRM and an integral resource for the contemporary dance community locally. The request is for the commissioning of a multi-disciplinary work featuring local urban dance company, The Woods and local hip hop artist Ghettosocks, in collaboration with internationally-recognized guest artists, The Tentacle Tribe. The project is directed toward youth-audience engagement and development and engages the development of local artists through structured, collaborative relationships with established, and recognized dance professionals. Total Project budget is \$22,800.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$16,000 Operating Assistance

Organization: Mocean Dance Society

Project: *There Might be Others*

2014-2015 Requested: N/A

2014-2015 Grant: N/A

2015-2016 Requested: \$10,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$8,000

Mocean Dance is the only contemporary dance company east of Montreal in receipt of annual operating funds from Canada Council and Arts Nova Scotia. The request is for costs associated with the co-production of a performance in relation to the Scotia Festival of Music, featuring the work of internationally-recognized, New York City based dance artist Rebecca Lazier, 6 HRM and 6 New York City dancers, 8 Nova Scotia and 2 New York City musicians. Project will be developed over several phases, and proposes to include public access components of workshop performances (at Halifax Central Library) and masterclass opportunities for local dance community. Presenting partnership with Scotia Festival. Total project budget of \$70,370.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$14,000 Operating Assistance

Organization: Secret Theatre Society

Project: *2015 Residency: Secret Selfies*

2014-2015 Requested: \$3,575

2014-2015 Grant: \$2,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$7,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$5,500

Secret Theatre Company is an independent, small-scale theatre company in Dartmouth with a focus on small scale, multi-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary performances. The request is for support directed to a 10-day intensive residency for 5 selected local artists to be hosted by Secret Theatre. The focus of the project is on audio recording technologies and particularly 'headset theatre' and technological advancements in performance-based art practices. The proposal builds upon a 2013 residency of a similar structure. Total project budget is \$11,000.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$2,500 Community Grant for Portable Video Equipment

Organization: Shakespeare by the Sea Society

Project: *I am My Own Wife*

2014-2015 Requested: N/A

2014-2015 Grant: N/A

2015-2016 Requested: \$10,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$8,000

The Shakespeare by the Sea Society requests support to research, rehearse and present a two-week run of the Pulitzer Prize winning play "I Am My Own Wife" by playwright Doug Wright. The play concerns gender and gender roles through a biographically-based theatre production- a one-man production featuring a prominent local actor in 40-roles. Sustainable and impactful development of the Company toward out-of season programming. Total project budget is \$28,400.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016:

Negotiating below market value license

Recommended \$10,000 Operating Assistance

Organization: The Society for Art Presentation (The Centre for Art Tapes-CFAT)

Project: *Media Fusion (Talks and Workshop Series)*

2014-2015 Requested: \$5,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$3,000

2015-2016 Requested: \$9,650

2015-2016 Recommended: \$7,000

The Centre for Art Tapes (CFAT) is a resource center for media arts practitioners in north-end Halifax. The organization supports artist-access to space and resources, as well as mentorship and technical assistance, for artists working in film, audio and new media technologies. The organization is requesting funding for a series of workshops and artist talks targeted toward artists across diverse disciplines to employ new media in their work. Specifically in 2015-16, and rooted in CFAT's new location on Gottingen Street, the focus is also to draw from the diverse demographics in the surrounding area, specifically building links with the Aboriginal and African Nova Scotia communities as well as the dance and the music communities. The objective is to inspire new involvement at CFAT, introduce new media practices and build a comfort level with media technologies. The facilitators identified to lead these series are well-established artists with multidisciplinary practices. The total project budget is \$17,950.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$7,000 Operating Assistance

Organization: Suddenly Listen Music Society

Project: *The Cello of Dr. O: Final Development and Premiere*

2014-2015 Requested: N/A

2014-2015 Grant: N/A

2015-2016 Requested: \$4,000

2015-2016 Recommended: \$3,000

Suddenly Listen is an organization supporting a local platform for new and experimental music. Their program offerings include a presentation series of touring musicians from abroad and often involve collaboration with local musicians. Based upon a book of the same name, *The Cello of Dr. O* was developed and originally staged in 2013 in an abbreviated form. Through consultation with industry professionals, Suddenly Listen has been encouraged to explore the development of a longer program, with an emphasis on engaging broader demographics and focus on enhancing its market development and touring potential. There is a sustainable approach to project development and the collaborative nature of the proposal features a number of prominent local artists. Total project budget is \$19,300.

Organization: Visual Art Nova Scotia (VANS)

Project: *Critical Art Writer in Residence*

2014-2015 Requested: N/A

2014-2015 Grant: N/A

2015-2016 Requested: \$6,020

2015-2016 Recommended: \$4,000

VANS is a service-based organization supporting visual artists in Nova Scotia. The organization offers direct support of programming in the form of residencies and other promotional support activities. The request for project assistance is for a collaborative residency project in partnership with the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia (AGNS) to create a critical art writer in a residence program. The program would be administered via a call for emerging art writers, and would result in a 4-month long integrative mentorship opportunity in relation to Visual Arts News and the AGNS Journal. The proposal is an extension of a 2013 Atlantic Symposium entitled *New Directions for Art Writing* which identified the absence of critical art writing as an issue within the local art community. Total project budget is \$8,820.

Other HRM Assistance in 2015-2016: Recommended \$6,000 Operating Assistance

Organization: Xara Choral Theatre Society

Project: *Tales of the Old North*

2014-2015 Requested: \$10,000

2014-2015 Grant: \$8,000

Requested: \$10,000

Recommended: \$7,500

Xara is a professional, youth-focused choral group that supports access to the arts through innovative performance and encourages an interdisciplinary approach to storytelling. The request for funding is associated with the production of *Tales of the Old North*, the first-installment in an intended ongoing hallmark presentation of a holiday production derived from local folklore traditions. The project will feature collaboration with Vox: A Choir for Social Change with an emphasis on principles of social inclusion and the reflection of under-represented voices. Total project budget is \$41,100.

REVISED

Attachment 3

Applications Not Recommended for Funding in 2015-2016

OPERATING ASSISTANCE

Organized Alphabetically

Applications to the Operating Assistance category were reviewed and scored in accordance with the criteria identified in Attachment 1. All recommendations for funding have been made on the basis of that score relative to the overall funding available for the *Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organizations* program.

Atlantic Film Festival Association

Request: \$25,000

The Atlantic Film Festival is an annual, 8-day presentation of film, media and music from Atlantic Canada and abroad, held in Halifax each September. Over 150 films are screened annually as part of the Festival program, which includes industry events and workshops. The Association also programs *Strategic Partners*, a co-production market for industry professionals in relation to the festival, *Viewfinders* a Film Festival for youth which runs in April and features a film and workshop-based industry curriculum program, and the *AFF Outdoor Film Experience* which offers 6 public screenings in July and August on the Halifax Waterfront.

Other HRM Assistance 2015-2016: \$40,000 HRM Hallmark Events Grant

Atlantic Publishers Marketing Association (APMA)

Request: \$10,000

The Atlantic Publishers Marketing Association acts as an industry support platform for Atlantic Canadian owned and operated publishers. The APMA publishes *Atlantic Books Today* magazine as well as two seasonal catalogues, and support original content in their magazine and on their website (*AtlanticBooksToday.ca*). 15% of web traffic comes from HRM, many of the writers, publishers (8) and contributors are HRM-based. Organization receives funding from Canada Book Fund and the Canada Council, and provincially from the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage.

Debut Atlantic Society

Request: \$15,000

Debut Atlantic works with local presenters to deliver classical music offerings with a mandate to foster career development, manage presenter relationships and to support community engagement. The organization engages in local partnerships with schools in various settings in relation to supported-performances. It is a regional support organization and a connector/facilitator of musical presentation in the field. Program categories include touring support, education and engagement, awards for music excellence.

Other HRM Assistance 2015-2016: Recommended \$7,500 Project Assistance

Halifax Theatre For Young People (HTFYP)

Request: \$7,500

Founded in 2008, the HTFYP produces topically-relevant theatre experiences directed toward young people and their families, and develops related educational materials and workshops for school groups to foster critical thinking around themes expressed in its programming. The organization has partnered with

Eastern Front Theatre since 2012 to provide youth-and-family-centric festival component to the SuperNova/Stages Festival program. Overall, programming includes a mainstage component (development, presentation and/or touring) and a NextStages family theatre festival component (play development program, festival production).

Kazan Co-op Theatre

Request: \$20,000

The Kazan Co-op Ltd. Was founded and incorporated in 2011 and will be presenting the company's sixth and seventh productions in 2015-2016. The company operates 'The Waiting Room', a small (50 seat) black box theatre space in Halifax. Production cycle of the company has been to produce two plays every second year but 2015-2016 planning is for two productions. A young-but-successful, and quickly developing company.

Luna Sea Theatre Company Society

Request: \$10,800

Luna/Sea Theatre Company is a local theatre company founded in 2006. They have produced thirteen full productions that prioritize the perspective of women. The productions emphasize the use of unconventional venues. Previously a small-scale developmental program, focus of the organization in 2015-2016 is to formalize a play development/playwright workshop called, 'The Furnace' as part of the core operations of the Company.

Nocturne: Art at Night Society

Request: \$25,000

Concentration of programming is on one-night festival presentation annually in October. The organization exhibits an interest in and a direction toward the development of more year-round programming through partnership and community outreach opportunities. Nocturne has been a catalyst for encouraging exchange and collaboration amongst other Art at Night organizations.

Other HRM Assistance 2015-2016: Requested \$70,000 from the Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve Grant program (MLSER Exceptional Clause)

Queer Acts Theatre Festival Society (QATFS)

Request: \$3,500

The QATF organizes and supports a 4-day theatre program presenting LGBTQ-themed productions in HRM. Established in 2009 within the operating framework of the Pride Festival, the QATFS became its own Society under the NS Registry of Joint Stocks in 2014. The organization's program-delivery focus (minimum five productions) is concentrated heavily within the July 21-24 Festival timeline. **This application has been be redirected to HRM Festival and Events grant program.**

Suddenly Listen Music Society

Request: \$6,000

Established in 2000, Suddenly Listen is an organization providing a platform for new and experimental music and performance, with 90% of programming activity taking place within the HRM. Their program offerings include a presentation series of both local and touring musicians, often involving collaboration and workshops featuring the musicians involved. Other program focusses include the touring of locally-produced work to other jurisdictions, the ongoing development of creative projects and community outreach.

Other HRM Assistance 2015-2016: Recommended \$3,000 Project Assistance

Theatre Nova Scotia

Request \$20,000

Theatre Nova Scotia is a service organization operating on behalf of the professional and community theatre sectors in Nova Scotia. It is provincial in scope but 70% of companies served and 85% of individual members are located in HRM. Programs include the Merritt Awards, Onstage Online (newsletter support platform), Organizational Resource service, Theatre School listings, Publishing (marketing brochures), Collective Marketing and Community Engagement, as well as a mandate to support theatre within the education system. Funds requested would be directed toward TNS' operations and programs, including staffing and software to increase service capacity.

Upstream Music Association

Request: \$7,500

The association's mandate is to support innovative music composition, performance and improvisation through production of repertoire and ensembles, concerts, recording and tours. Programming includes a season-opening concert, educational outreach workshops and professional development, the Open Waters Festival, and self-produced concerts. Open Waters Festival is roughly one-third of the organization's operating expenses.

Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia (WFNS)

Request: \$15,000

The Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia supports the development of creative writing and the profession of writing provincially. Approximately 260 of 600 WFNS members reside in HRM. Programming includes the Atlantic Writing Competition, Alistair MacLeod Mentorship Program (5 selected writers and 5 professional mentors), the Learning and Training Program ((6 annually, and 5 professional development sessions), the Writers in the Schools Program (visits by 70 writers in 100 schools) and the East Coast Literary Awards, in addition to other promotional events.

Women in Film & Television-Atlantic (WIFT-ATL)

Request: \$8,590

Women in Film & Television-Atlantic, operating since 2009, is an advocacy and support organization for women working in the field of film and television and one of thirty-three worldwide. The organization currently serves 200 members. Programs are currently run by the Board and volunteers with no paid staffpersons. Programming includes flagship *Women Making Waves* conference, screenings, artist talks, awards. Most of the programming is associated with the conference or via partnerships (e.g with Atlantic Film Festival). New programming in 2015 includes BravoFact pitch competition available exclusively to WIFT-Atl members.

Applications Not Recommended for Funding in 2015-2016
PROJECT ASSISTANCE
Organized Alphabetically

Applications to the Project Assistance category were reviewed and scored in accordance with the criteria identified in Attachment 1. All recommendations for funding have been made on the basis of that score relative to the overall funding available for the *Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organizations* program.

Aeolian Singers

Women Choristers Workshop with Kellie Walsh

Request: \$2,375 of \$5,950 total project costs

The Aeolian Singers are a choral group with origins in Dartmouth as a component of their Continuing Education Department. A founding member of the NS Choral Federation, they offer six events per year. A community choir model with modest annual operating budget. Request relates to special programming developed as part of the organization's 40th anniversary season- a developmental workshop for women choristers (invitation would be extended to other local organizations) led by well-regarded choral leader Kellie Walsh.

Alderney Landing Association

The Outside of Healing

Request: \$7,378 of \$13,152 total project costs

Requested support for a Nocturne-aligned project that would engage 4 local artists of different disciplines in arts-specific projects related to institutional health and wellness. The four projects would be connected and serve collectively as a single installation presented as part of the Nocturne: Art at Night event.

Other HRM Assistance 2015-2016: \$175,000, Annual Subsidy

Atlantic Flamenco Productions Society

2015 Guest Artist Feature- Joaquin Grilo and local flamenco companies

Request: \$7,000 of \$36,000 total project costs

Requested funding would bring internationally-known flamenco dancer Joaquin Grilo to Halifax for a presentation in conjunction with the Atlantic Flamenco Festival (November 14-29). Presentation would feature the participation and collaboration of Maria Osende Flamenco and Compania Azul Flamenco companies as opening acts. Preceding the performance, the visiting artist would engage in developmental masterclass workshops with local dancers

Carbon Arc Cinema Co-operative Ltd.

Carbon Arc Cinema Co-op

Request: \$4,000 of \$9,970 total project costs

Requested funding would support the presentation of 3 free community screenings between September and end of November 2015. The screenings would be specifically designed to: assist a local filmmaker screen their work; Carry out a fundraiser with a partner or group; or, Screen a socially or politically important film where free access is deemed important and beneficial to a broad community. Bulk of requested funds would be in support of staff costs associated with the community screening events.

The Dartmouth and District Pipe Band

50th Anniversary- Attending World Pipe Band Championships

Request: \$10,000 of \$54,621 total project costs

Request for funds to assist the organization in travel and related costs associated with the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow, August 2015, in celebration of the organization's 50th anniversary. Travel will also include 2-4 outreach concerts while overseas.

Other HRM Assistance 2015-2016: Recommended \$5,000 Community Grants Program for purchase of specialized instrumental equipment

Halifax Theatre for Young People

The Book of Ashes- Puppet Design and Location

Request: \$4,000 of \$11,150 total project costs

Request for funds in which the Theatre for Young People would engage in a mentorship process with Mermaid Theatre to be trained in puppetry, and would design and create puppets for the upcoming production of Emil Sher's *The Book of Ashes*.

HomeFirst Theatre Society

Messenger

Request: \$5,000 of \$77,000 total project costs

Request for support of the production of new play, 'Messenger', by nationally recognized local playwright Wendy Lill. Play draws inspiration from Ibsen play, 'An Enemy of the People' and is a co-production with Eastern Front Theatre as part of Neptune's Scotiabank Studio Residency.

Kazan Co-op Theatre

Stacy and Liz: An Evening With Two Artists

Request: \$10,000 of \$33,250 total project costs

Request is for support toward the production of two theatrical works, "Going On" and "Concerto Suite From Frida" under the title, "Stacy and Liz: An Evening with Two Artists". The two works propose to be presented together at The Waiting Room theatre space and will feature the work of two prominent Canadian artists, Liz Richardson and Stacy Fraser.

Nocturne Art at Night Society

Downtown Storefront Project

Request: \$7,500 of \$17,500 total project costs

Request is for support toward the production of two site-specific art installations in vacant commercial locations in downtown Halifax for three months. Interest in staging these installations would be to provide year-round programming support for local public-realm artists and to facilitate arts-mediated engagement for the public. First installation would take place in October and coincide with the Nocturne event; second would take place in January.

Other HRM Assistance 2015-2016: Requested \$70,000 from the Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve Grant program (MLSER Exceptional Clause)

Saint Cecilia Concert Series

The Music of John Plant

Request: \$4,060 of \$4,810 total project costs

Request is for the development, production and promotion of a proposed 80 minute concert entitled, "The Music of John Plant", focusing on the work of a West Jeddore composer, John Plant. Production would feature accomplished local musicians, The Blue String Quartet and Maria Swanson, as well as John Plant as accompanist.

Saints Alive! Theatre Society

Saints Alive! Musical Theatre CD-'Seasons of Love

Request: \$2,974 of \$5,174 total project costs

Request to support the recording, production and presentation of a musical theatre CD. Project involves partnership with Halifax Central Library, the Bay Chorale and Unicorn Theatre. Saints Alive! develops and presents theatre for and with youth, and the production of the CD is presented as a means of broadening outreach and as a revenue-generating mechanism for future projects.

Scotia Chamber Players

Peteris Vasks in Residence at Scotia Festival 2016

Request: \$8,300 of \$16,700 total project costs

Request would support the invitation of Petreris Vasks, Latvia's leading composer, to attend The Scotia Festival of Music 2016 as its 'composer-in-residence'. The role of the CIR would include service as a juror of a competition of Canadian composers preceding the festival, the creation of a set of piano pieces to be commissioned at the Festival, and leading masterclasses and roundtable discussions with members of the Festival's young artist program.

Other HRM Assistance 2015-2016:

\$19,949 Tax Relief (100% in fiscal 2014-2015)

\$15,000 HRM Hallmark Events Grant (Scotia Festival of Music)

\$10,000 Recommended Operating Assistance

Upstream Music Association

Upstream Orchestra/Symphony Nova Scotia Concert

Request: \$10,000 of \$43,755 total project costs

Request is for support of a collaborative performance with Symphony Nova Scotia to be staged as part of the Open Waters Festival, featuring 18 musicians, a conductor and vocalist, in addition to the 37 musicians of Symphony Nova Scotia. Production would feature the works of notable NS composers Paul Cram and Jeff Reilly; request is based on a smaller-scale collaboration between the two organizations during the 2015 Open Waters event.

Women in Film and Television- Atlantic

Directed by Women

Request: \$3,500 of \$12,958 total project costs

Women in Film and Television- Atlantic is an advocacy and support organization for women working in the field of film and television and one of thirty-three worldwide. Request is for a professional development series aimed at cultivating the skills of female filmmakers in Halifax. Project involves a partnership with the Atlantic Filmmakers Co-operative and access of participants to professional instruction and mentorship.

Ville Passeist Theatre Society (The Villain's Theatre)

Follow Me

Request: \$10,000 of \$12,400 total project costs

The Villain's Theatre (formerly Ville Passeist Theatre Society) is dedicated to staging non-Shakespearian Renaissance drama. It is a small organization with two-three core members. The request is to assist with costs associated with the workshop production of 'Follow Me', a new play by playwright Dan Bray, as part of the 2015 Atlantic Fringe Festival. Requested HRM assistance would fund 83% of overall production costs.

Vocalypse Productions Society

Opera From Scratch

Request: \$3,000 of \$13,000 total budget

Request is for support of a week-long workshop of international scope, featuring the pairing of six composers with six singers to develop six ten-minute operas for solo voice and piano. Participating composers are asked to base their operas on Nova Scotian themes of historical significance. Workshops will culminate in a public performance.