

GNWT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

This newsletter is created by the Government of the Northwest Territories and is designed to help the NWT arts community stay up to date with the current "happenings" in the industry.

There are two GNWT Departments that have shared interests in supporting the arts — **Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI)** and **Education, Culture and Employment (ECE)**. ECE supports the creative aspects of the arts, while ITI's primary role is helping the business side of arts.

ECE's Role in Supporting NWT Arts

Since 1985, ECE has supported the NWT Arts Council as it strives to stimulate and promote northern art. The Council's role is to provide recommendations to the Minister of ECE regarding financial awards and workshops. If you would like to apply for funding, please consult the Arts Council website for an application at:

pwnhc.learnnet.nt.ca/artscouncil

ECE also has a Support to Northern Performers Program designed to aid in the development and promotion of performing arts and artists in the NWT at local and regional public festivals and events.

For more information, consult the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre website at:

pwnhc.learnnet.nt.ca/programs/index.asp

ITI's Role in Supporting NWT Arts

ITI recognizes the importance of tradition and the economic potential of the NWT arts and fine crafts industry. ITI's support is provided through the Support for Entrepreneur and Economic Development (SEED) Policy. ITI, through the NWT Arts Branding Logo, also supports marketing and promotional efforts nationally and internationally by bringing awareness to the importance and value of traditional arts and fine crafts in the NWT. For more information please visit ITI's website at:

www.iti.gov.nt.ca/artscrafts

NWT ARTISTS DATABASE

If you are an NWT artist or organization who is interested in having a FREE online profile listed on the NWT Artists' Database, please contact us at:

Phone Toll Free:
1-877-445- 2787 (ARTS)

E-mail: nwtarts@gov.nt.ca or
Visit our website:
www.nwtarts.com



ATTENTION ARTISTS AND TRADITIONAL FINE CRAFTERS WE CAN HELP YOU BUILD YOUR BRAND

Identify your artwork as created and produced in the Northwest Territories. Join with other artists and enroll in the NWT Arts Branding Logo Program to help market your art, fine craft or performances. This Program provides common visual identification and representation for all artists to market their arts and fine crafts.

Price tags, stickers, posters, tent cards and electronic copies of the logo are available for free to those who are registered with the Program.

For more information about the Program and how to join, please visit www.nwtarts.com, email nwtarts@gov.nt.ca or contact your local Industry, Tourism and Investment office toll-free at 1-877-445-2787 (ARTS).



ARTISTS NEWSLINE

SUMMER 2011

YOUTH LEARN TRADITIONAL SKILLS THROUGH THE 'TAKE A KID TRAPPING' PROGRAM



Students proudly show off their completed Birchbark canoe at the 2008 Yellowknife River workshop. Photo credit: Fran Hurcomb

The 'Take a Kid Trapping' Program is designed to introduce Northwest Territories (NWT) youth to the Traditional Harvesting practices of hunting, trapping, fishing and outdoor survival. The program was initiated in 2002 out of concern that the average age of a trapper or harvester was 60. It was believed that the survival of traditional harvesting practices would be threatened if more youth weren't encouraged to participate.

Lead by the Department of the Industry, Tourism and Investment's (ITI) Traditional Economy unit, Take a Kid Trapping programs are delivered through schools and Aboriginal organizations in co-operation with the Departments of Municipal and Community Affairs and Environment and Natural Resources.

Instructors incorporate visits to trap lines and hands-on experience setting traps, snares and fishnets, to teach traditional life skills, conservation and best practices in the preparation of pelts for market.

In 2006 the program assisted in a pilot project, 'The Canoe Project', bringing 16 youth from across the NWT to Whitefish, Ontario to work with an instructor to learn the step-by-step traditional methods of building a birchbark canoe. The project was so successful that it continued in 2007 with a new group of youth. In 2008, the canoe project took place in Yellowknife at the Yellowknife River. In addition to building a birch-bark canoe, students also assisted in traditionally tanning a moosehide and preparing and cooking traditional Dene foods. Since the launch of this initiative, workshops have also been held in Fort Simpson and Tulita. In total, the canoe program has reached over 100 youth and has resulted in the completion of 5 birchbark canoes and 1 mooseskin boat.

ITI plans to continue this initiative and hopes to teach the traditional importance of continuing like skills development to youth in every Region of the NWT.

For more information or for publication material please contact the Investment and Economic Analysis division of ITI.



Students fill in seams of birchbark basket with spruce gum mixture at 2008 Yellowknife River workshop. Photo credit: Fran Hurcomb



NWT ARTS ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTER LAFFERTY ANNOUNCES NEW NWT ARTS COUNCIL MEMBERS

April 2011: Four highly qualified Northwest Territories residents - Margaret Nazon of Inuvik, Vivian Edgi-Manuel of Fort Good Hope, Barb Tsetso of Fort Simpson, and Leela Gilday of Yellowknife have been appointed to the NWT Arts Council by Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Jackson Lafferty.

"The impressive credentials and artistic talent of these individuals will help the NWT Arts Council to meet its mandate of promoting and supporting the abundance of artistic talent that exists in the Northwest Territories," says Minister Lafferty

Established in 1985, the Council exists to promote the arts in the NWT. It makes recommendations to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment on financial contributions to NWT residents for creative artistic projects. Since its inception, the Council has supported over 1,000 artists, arts organizations and festivals in the NWT as they pursue creative, artistic activities in all artistic disciplines.

Members are selected for their expertise and abilities in the arts from all five regions of the NWT - the South Slave, Beaufort-Delta, Dehcho, Sahtu and North Slave. The appointments are for 1 and 2 year terms ending in 2012 and 2013, respectively.

NWT Artist benefits from the NWT Artist Database.

Recently, Yellowknife artist Bonnie Findlay Fournier was contacted by the Royal Canadian Mint inviting her to submit a design for their 2011 Pure Gold Coin Series contest, which features the Mountain Aven Flower. The Royal Canadian Mint discovered Bonnie's artist profile on the NWT Artists Database located at www.NWTArts.com.

The database was developed by the GNWT to provide artists with an online presence to promote themselves and their work. This is a perfect example of how having an artist profile present on the database can create opportunities for artists. For more information about the NWT Artists Database, please visit www.nwtarts.com.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES ARTS FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

People in the NWT love to get together and celebrate. The NWT is home to a variety of unique festivals and events that celebrate and showcase the diversity of our people, culture and arts. Visit www.nwtarts.com for more events listings.

ABORIGINAL DAY

June 21, 2011

NWT-WIDE

A day to recognize and acknowledge the valuable contribution of Aboriginal peoples in Canada. In the NWT, we are particularly proud to honour the Dene, Métis and Inuvialuit. Communities across the NWT will celebrate this day by participating in annual festivities which have grown to include music, dance, artwork, traditional games and traditional foods. Check with your local band or community office for details on National Aboriginal Day events in your community.

OPEN SKY ARTS FESTIVAL

July 1-3, 2011

FORT SIMPSON

An annual celebration of the vibrant arts below the tree-line. There is something for all, including outdoor concerts, traditional Dene and contemporary arts and crafts, exhibits, demonstrations, workshops, theatre and dance performances.

Phone: (867) 695-3005

Web: www.openskyfestival.ca

HAY DAYS

July 8-10, 2011

HAY RIVER

The second Hay Days will be an eclectic mix of culture and the arts. A wide array of musicians from the area and across the NWT will come together to entertain both the young and old.

Phone: (867) 874-6522

FOLK ON THE ROCKS

July 14 -17, 2011

YELLOWKNIFE

This annual folk festival features entertainers from across the NWT, Southern Canada and the U.S., including Inuit, Métis and Dene singers, drummers, and dancers and Inuit throat singers. Displays of arts and crafts, music and songwriting, workshops and a children's stage are featured.

Phone: (867) 920-7806

Web: www.folkontherocks.com

GREAT NORTHERN ARTS FESTIVAL

July 15-24, 2011

INUUVIK

Experience this cultural festival and participate in a variety of visual and performing arts events including displays, workshops, live performances and artist demonstrations.

Phone: (867) 777-8638

Fax: (867) 777-8601

Email: gnaf@town.inuvik.nt.ca

MIDWAY LAKE FESTIVAL

July 29 – August 1, 2011

FORT MCPHERSON

This annual music festival takes place on Midway Lake, 30km south of Fort McPherson. This festival features traditional Gwich'in singing, country music, and dancing.

Phone: (867) 952-2330

MACKENZIE DAZE CELEBRATION

July 29 – August 1, 2011

FORT PROVIDENCE

This popular community festival features many cultural activities and includes jet boat and canoe races.

Phone: (867) 699-3441

OLDTOWN RAMBLE AND RIDE

July 29 – August 1, 2011

YELLOWKNIFE

Featuring open art studios, exhibits, demonstrations, performances, and storytelling.

Web: www.oldtownyk.ca

NORMAN WELLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

August, 2011

NORMAN WELLS

This music festival will host many musical acts from the Sahtu Region and beyond.

Phone: (867) 587-6678

Email: rec_programmer@normanwells.com



HAPPY DAZE

August 20, 2011

BEHCHOKO

A weekend of horseshoe tournaments, log splitting contests, drumming, traditional dances and a youth carnival.

Phone: (867) 392-6500

SOUTH SLAVE FRIENDSHIP FESTIVAL

August, 2011

FORT SMITH

Four full days of live entertainment, music and dance featuring talented Northern performers.

Phone: (867) 872-3065

DENINOO DAYS

Mid August, 2011

FORT RESOLUTION

Traditional food, games and activities held at the Slave River Delta.

Phone: (867) 394-4556

NWT ARTS WEEK

September, 2011

YELLOWKNIFE

8th annual Arts Week celebrations and exhibit at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. Two weeks of art centered activities including demonstrations, workshops, lectures, forums, seminars, studio tours, and a meet and greet reception.

Web: www.aurora-arts.nt.ca