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**TO:** Mayor D. Aspden, and Members of General Committee

**FROM:** Rudi Quammie Williams, MA, BFA, Director of the Department of Culture

**NOTED:** Richard Forward, M.Sc., P.Eng., General Manager of Infrastructure and Development

**RE:** J.M. Babulic, Chief Administrative Officer  
Cultural Grants 2008

**DATE:** May 26, 2008

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For the information of General Committee, the Department of Culture is pleased to announce that a total of \$260,000.00 was presented to community arts groups through the cultural granting process for 2008. The process began early in January 2008 when the arts groups were encouraged to submit their applications to the city for review. Advertising of the cultural grants program was accomplished through application forms, guidelines and criteria being posted on the City's website. There were frequent ads in the City Pages, as well as press releases, direct mail outs and email notices sent to community cultural organizations.

The Department of Culture went on to employ a panel of five highly qualified and provincially significant arts consultants from across the province to review and rate the applications. The panel came together for a day in Barrie on Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss their respective insights and formulate a consensus on their evaluations of each group. The responsibility of the panel was to highlight the various group's strengths, define areas for improvement, provide suggestions to that effect, and recommend a grant amount for each applicant. The recommended grant amount was based on several factors:

- A review of the applicants funding request in relation to their total budget.
- A recognition that the City of Barrie funding is not the sole source of funding.
- Whether the applicant is meeting the goals of the program by building capacity and developing a sustainable organization.
- The group achieved a ranking acceptable to the panel.
- A realization that most groups will not receive their requested amounts as the total dollars requested far exceeded the amount available.

The panel members consisted of the following five arts consultants, Dennis Geden, Jane Marsland, Mallory Gilbert, Paul Eck and Susan Serran. A brief bio of each consultant is attached as Appendix "A" for your perusal.

In addition to the operating grants that the City has been presenting for the past three years, a new category for project grants was developed in 2008. This addition was partially responsible for the increased budget from the previous figure of \$207,000 in 2007. Project grants were introduced to allow arts organizations to apply for small, specific projects that are not necessarily part of their regular operations. They were entitled to apply for a maximum of \$2,500.00. Staff is pleased to announce the following amounts were awarded.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Operating Grants</u>	<u>Project Grants</u>
The Barrie Concert Band	\$ 5,000	
The Barrie Film Festival	\$15,000	\$2,500
The Barrie Folk Society	\$ 8,000	\$2,500
The Campus Gallery	\$10,000	\$2,500
Caribbean Cultural Institute	\$10,000	\$1,000
Gryphon Theatre	\$ 25,000	
Huronian Symphony	\$ 10,000	
Kempfenfelt Community Players	\$ 8,000	
King Edward Choir	\$ 4,000	
Lyrical Choir		\$1,000
MacLaren Art Centre	\$90,000	
<u>Name</u>	<u>Operating Grants</u>	<u>Project Grants</u>
Talk is Free	\$35,000	
Theatre by the Bay	\$12,000	
The Colours of Music	\$10,000	\$2,500
Marmalade		\$1,000

Prior to disbursing the cheques, staff from the Department of Culture met with each and every organization that applied to provide them with the valuable feedback given by the jury panel. This gave the organizations a chance to ask questions and an opportunity to build relationships with the Department of Culture. Through this process the Department of Culture has become aware that many of the groups could greatly benefit from further training in grant writing, fundraising, board structure and board governance and the Department of Culture will work towards assisting the arts organizations to do this in an effort to enable them to reach their cultural potential.

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**Appendix "A"**

**Jury Panel for Arts Grants 2008**

**Dennis Geden** has been active as a visual artist for over thirty eight years. Dennis has been represented by Gallery Moos, Toronto and The Redfern Gallery in London, England.

He is currently the Assistant Professor of the Fine Arts Department at Nipissing University in North Bay. Dennis was previously the Director and Curator for WKP Kennedy Public Art Gallery, where he was also responsible for the Artist in Residence program. Dennis has been a proud board member of the Board of Directors for the Ontario Association of Art Galleries.

**Jane Marsland** has managed arts organizations since 1974. She was a General Manager of the Danny Grossman Dance Company from 1983-1999. In 1995, Jan was awarded the first M. Joan Chalmers Award for Arts Administration for outstanding contribution to leadership in the arts. She has been an articulate advocate for the arts over many years. She was Co-Founder of For Dance and Opera, a strategic collaboration to book and tour four companies, as well as Co-Founder and Director of ARTS4CHANGE, a program designed to create positive change for and by arts professionals in Toronto.

**Mallory Gilbert B.A.** was employed at the Tarragon Theatre as General Manager for over thirty years. Mallory has been active in the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres, serving on the board for over twenty years as Vice President and President. Mallory has served in many volunteer positions with the Toronto Theatre Alliance, the University of Toronto Arts Administration Program Advisory Council, the George Brown Theatre Arts Program Advisory Council and the York University Department of Fine Arts University Council. She is also served on the Group of Seven Theatres Board, the Creative Trust for Arts and Culture for which she was a founding member and the Mayor's Roundtable for Arts and Culture. Mallory has received a tremendous amount of recognition for her volunteer work including awards from the Canada Council, the National Theatre School, a national award for Arts Administration and a Silver Ticket Award for the Outstanding Contribution to the Theatre from the Toronto Theatre Alliance.

**Paul Eck** received a Masters degree in Arts Administration from Harvard University, U.S.A. but has acquired vast work experience in Canada. Paul has been the General Manager for the Peterborough Symphony, Orchestra London, the Meadowvale Theatre, the Toronto Pops, the Hamilton Philharmonic, as well as the Executive Director for the Mississauga Children's Festival and both the Quinte and Stratford Music Festival. He has taught arts marketing, arts administration and museum management at Humber, George Brown and Sir Sandford Fleming College and been guest lecturer at several Ontario universities. He has been awarded many times for his enormous contribution to the arts.

**Susan Serran** has been involved with the professional arts community for over thirty years as a manager, producer, arts advocate and activist. She joined Artscape in 1999 and since then has worked in a number of different capacities within the organization and is currently the Director of Community Development. In addition to developing the vision and operational structure for the Gibraltar Point Centre for the Arts, she designed and facilitates an International Artist Residency Program which welcomes artists from around the world to Toronto. Susan is also the programmer for Creative Places and Spaces, a bi-annual conference series hosted by Artscape. Susan was a founding co-chair of Artsvote, a coalition that mobilized thousands of artists and cultural workers to vote in municipal elections.