

COMMUNITY ARTS & HERITAGE EDUCATION PROJECT

cahep

2013-2014

# ANNUAL REPORT



DANCE PLAY WRITE DREAM CREATE PAINT GET MESSY BUST A MOVE SHARE YOUR STORY!

### **A note from our Executive Director:**

This past year has been filled with exciting change and transition for our organization.

As I step into my new role as Executive Director of CAHEP, I am excited to bring my previous 8 years of experience working with the organization, my passion for working collaboratively, and my belief that inclusive arts programming can truly enrich and transform lives and communities with me. We are pleased to continue working with our former Executive Director, Pam Cain, as Developer and support staff for CAHEP.

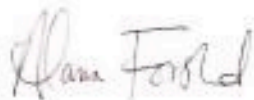
We have had the opportunity to work with our Board of Directors to pave the way for a bright and inclusive future for arts education and community arts in Thunder Bay through the development of our new Strategic Plan.

In February of 2014, we were honoured to have our work acknowledged through a City of Thunder Bay Arts & Heritage Award in the Arts Organization category.

Throughout this year, our staff, artists, volunteers, and partners have seen firsthand the transformative powers of the arts among countless children and youth. Through engaging in our programs, we have observed participants who previously had not had access to the arts grow to dj and facilitate impromptu dance squads at community hip hop events. We have watched youth pick up cameras for the first time with mentorship from local artists, and become lead photographers/filmers in their neighbourhoods. We have seen students who take part in Artists in the 5th become empowered by the program and ask how they can bring more artists into their schools. We worked in collaboration with our non-arts partner organizations to ensure they become advocates and supporters of the incredible impact arts programming can have on individuals and their communities. We are proud to play an active role in ensuring the arts are infiltrated into building, strengthening, and growing a creative, understanding, more accepting community.

CAHEP is continually fuelled, inspired, and humbled by the creativity that is brought to us by local artists, partners, and participants in our programming. We are grateful for the connections we've made, and are excited to continue to bring arts to more schools and the community of Thunder Bay.

On behalf of our staff and board, I extend a tremendous thanks to everyone who has supported us in countless ways; through funds, time, mentorship, skills, knowledge, advice, and inspiration. Working together, we are building a strong and creative community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alana Forslund'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alana Forslund  
Interim Executive Director



## WHO IS CAHEP?

CAHEP is an award-winning non-profit charitable arts education organization based in Thunder Bay. Together with local artists, schools, and organizations who serve the community, we develop and implement inclusive, multidisciplinary arts and heritage programming.

To ensure participants take pride and ownership of what they create, we encourage them to lead their artistic process every step of the way; from the type of project they engage in, to creation, to how the work is showcased to the community. They are encouraged to use the arts to share their stories, hopes, and dreams, to build a stronger community for all.

Our programs are developed to address the various barriers (economic, social, transportation, cultural) that people face in their day to day lives.

**Mission:** Enhancing communities through inclusive arts and heritage education programming for children, youth, and their families.

**Vision:** Engaging in arts and heritage enriches lives.

### Values:

- Promoting arts and heritage in the community
- Valuing the work of artists
- Participant-centered programming facilitated by artists
- Accessible and low or no-cost programming
- Community outreach and partnership building
- Opportunities for artist development
- Transformative possibilities of arts and heritage engagement
- Providing a showcase for the work of participants
- Creating positive connections with arts and heritage disciplines

### History:

In December of 2000, an Arts Education sub-committee of the City of Thunder Bay's Arts & Heritage Committee completed a study on Best Practices in Arts Education from several cities in both Canada and the USA. The study looked at what programming was already in place locally, who could access that programming, and where the gaps existed. From the results of the study, several recommendations were made to improve the level of arts education for our community.

These recommendations included:

- More financial support for artists
- More community-based arts education programming
- Partnerships with private sector and individual artists
- Artists in Residency programs
- More venues for young artists to perform and display their talents.

**Advisor:** Bonnie McNulty

Regional Advisor, Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration, Tourism, Culture, Sport & Recreation

**Artists:**

Eleanor Albanese, Nicole Armstrong, Elliott Doxtater-Wynn, Biwaase'aa Drummers, Zach Bryson, Chaban Ukrainian Dancers, Ma-Nee Chacaby, Sarah Anne Eby, Judy Forslund, Sarah Furlotte, Elizabeth Hill, Brian Holden, Carol Kajorinne, Susan Kakepetum, Derek Khani, Kaitlyn Khubyar, Vivike Knutson, Fritz Lehmsberg, Judy Mayor, Caitlyn McMillan, Nathan Meshake, Eric Miller, Claudia Otto, Tine Schrijvers, Dayna Slingerland, Shibastik (Chris Sutherland), Lise Vaugeois, Laura Wilson, Rita Zavagnin.

**Volunteers:**

Callen Banning, Shaylyn Bishop, Katie Bond, Nathan Burke, Liz Buset, Nathan Forslund, Judy Forslund, Zoe Gordon, Beth Haywood, Amery Larocque, Dee Larocque, Jennifer Little, Sarah Mason, Lisa Milani, Lora Northway, Melissa Miller, Nathan Ogden, Dayna Slingerland, the CAHEP Board of Directors.

**Community Partners:**

Evergreen a United Neighbourhood, Fort William BIA, Thunder Bay Art Gallery, Crime Prevention Council, Community Action Group, Boys & Girls Club Vale Unit, Canada Games Complex, Bay Street Film Festival, Eat Local Pizza, Thunder Bay & Area Food Strategy, Painted Turtle/Gallery 33, Lake Superior Art Gallery, Fort William BIA, Youth Centres Thunder Bay, Hospice Northwest, Baggage Building Arts Centre, Regional Multicultural Youth Council, Gillies Community Centre, Kakabeka Legion, Murillo Public Library, Hospice Northwest, Volunteer Thunder Bay, Chapters Thunder Bay.

**School Partners:**

Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique des Aurores Boreales, Lakehead Public Schools, Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School, and Superior High School.

**Funders:**

**Operating:** Ontario Arts Council (Arts Education Organizations), City of Thunder Bay

**Grants, Foundations, and Government Funding for Projects:** Johansen Larsen Foundation, District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board, Thunder Bay Community Foundation, United Way of Thunder Bay, Ministry of Culture Summer Experience Program, Department of Canadian Heritage Building Communities through Arts & Heritage.

**Partnership Funding:** Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, Lakehead Public Schools, Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique des Aurores Boreales, Hospice Northwest, Evergreen a United Neighbourhood (through the Province of Ontario's Safer and Vital Communities Grant).

**Donations:** Chapters, Volunteer Thunder Bay, Margaret Wanlin, John Rafferty, Pam Cain, Liana and Robert Frenette, TBT Engineering, Multiple anonymous donations.

**In-Kind:** Thunder Bay Multicultural Association, Definitely Superior Art Gallery, Ontario Library Association, Paramount Theatre, Painted Turtle Art Shop, Michaels Arts & Crafts.



## 2013-2014 PROGRAMS

CAHEP develops programming that spans across the arts disciplines and that is driven by the creative ideas of participating children, youth, families, and seniors.

We believe in working collaboratively with partners to bring inclusive arts programming that addresses barriers people face in their day to day lives. Healthy communities are built when citizens work, share, learn, and create together.

We offer: General Arts Programming, Artists in the 5th - Arts Fiesta, What About the Books/Forest of Reading, Neighbourhood Arts Engagement Programming, Connecting with Community, Art to the Streets Programming, Rural Arts Programs, Resources, and Opportunities for Mentorship and Development.

We encourage intergenerational, cross-cultural, and youth engagement in our programming.

### Artists in the 5th - Arts Fiesta

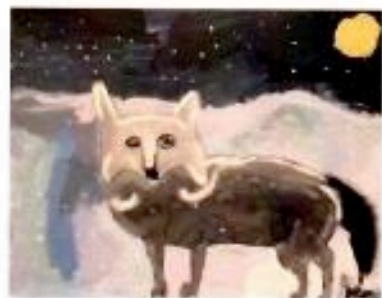
Since 2003, this core CAHEP program has infused the arts into local elementary schools across the City together with local artists and heritage programmers. Focusing on an enriching collaborative process, educators, students in grades 4, 5, and 6, and artists work together to create projects in **dance, drama, literary arts, music, new media, and visual arts.**



All Artists in the 5th work is inspired by an annual theme. The theme for 2013-2014 was Spirit of the North. It was interpreted in countless ways including through stop-motion animation, theatre that shared local legends, and a sculptural forest of printmaking projects. Last year, for the first time in Artists in the 5th history, an educator from one class became a performer on stage along with his class!



Participating artists encourage students to provide input into every step of the creative process; from the beginnings, when project ideas are just seeds, to how work is presented at the Arts Fiesta. This instills a strong sense of pride and leadership in each and every artwork that is created.



To showcase all of the work created through Artists in the 5th, CAHEP hosts the **Arts Fiesta**, a celebration for participating artists, classes, educators, and the community. In 2014, the Arts Fiesta was held in partnership with the Thunder Bay Multicultural Association's Folklore Festival at Fort William Gardens. 7 performance projects were showcased on stage, and 9 visual art and media projects were displayed in a pop-up art gallery, both at the Arts Fiesta and throughout the

weekend of Folklore Festival. Classes were given the opportunity to participate in an afternoon of cultural workshops, provided by the Thunder Bay Multicultural Association. They also receive the opportunity to evaluate the day and their experience in the program.

#### 2014 Artists in the 5th Statistics

- 14 Local Artists created 16 projects in 5 Schools from 3 school boards
- 380 Students in grades 4-6
- 500 spectators during Arts Fiesta, 10,000 viewed visual art projects throughout the weekend of Folklore Festival

**Supporters:** Ontario Arts Council, City of Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay Community Foundation, District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board, Thunder Bay Multicultural Association, Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, Lakehead Public Schools, and Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique des Aurores Boreales.

#### Forest of Reading/What About the Books

Since 2011 this program has run in conjunction with the Ontario Library Association and the Forest of Reading Program. Through the Forest of Reading program, CAHEP engaged artists in school classes to create projects related to books nominated for the prestigious Blue Spruce Awards. Projects were displayed at the Festival of Trees, an event at the Coliseum Grounds that is hosted by the Ontario Library Association for more than 1200 students.

During the Festival of Trees, CAHEP hosts a series of book-inspired visual art activities for students in attendance.

14 school classes from the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board participated in visual art projects with 6 local artists: Derek Khani, Sarah Eby, Judy Mayor, Nicole Armstrong, Pam Cain and Carol Kajorinne.

#### 2014 Forest of Reading Statistics

- 6 Local Artists
- 14 Classes
- 350 Students created artwork
- 1200 Students viewed artwork created



**Supporters:** Ontario Library Association and Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board.



### **Neighbourhood Arts Engagement Program**

This program has been developed to **build relationships using the arts in underserved neighbourhoods across Thunder Bay**. CAHEP works in partnership with community and social service organizations who serve these neighbourhoods, have a strong connection to children and youth, and have a space within the neighbourhood to offer programming.

The Neighbourhood Arts Engagement Program is in place to familiarize participants with the arts, connect them with neighbours through short-term creative programming, share stories, and develop a stronger sense of identity within their neighbourhoods. It addresses barriers faced by participants by providing inclusive, free of cost arts programming offered by project coordinators and for special projects, local artists.

#### **Neighbourhoods served in 2013-2014 include:**

- **Simpson Ogden** through Evergreen a United Neighbourhood
- **Blucher/Picton/Windsor** through Community Action Group and the Boys & Girls Club
- **Victoria Avenue/Downtown Fort William** through Youth Centres Thunder Bay and the Fort William BIA
- **Vale/Limbrick** through the Vale Boys & Girls Club

#### **Special Project:**

**The Bucket List:** Through a partnership with Youth TBay and Hospice Northwest, local artist, Eleanor Albanese worked with 15 youth to create mixed media artworks surrounding the idea of living life to the fullest. These works were created as a part of Hospice Northwest's Die-Alogues event that was developed to reduce the stigma surrounding death and dying. The artwork that was created was put on display during this event at the Baggage Building Arts Centre.

Participants connected with their inspiring personal histories, stories, and hopes and dreams for the future using collage techniques, written word/poetry, and paint.



**Supporters:** Ontario Arts Council, City of Thunder Bay, United Way of Thunder Bay, Johansen Larsen Foundation and District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board.

### Art to the Streets

This program was piloted in September 2013 in partnership with Evergreen a United Neighbourhood. Children and youth in the Simpson Ogden neighbourhood had engaged in our Neighbourhood Arts Programming and identified that they felt there would be great benefit in bringing more intensive arts programming into the neighbourhood. They strongly connected to cultural programming, visual arts, and media arts program. Through this, Art to the Streets was born.



20 local artists infiltrated the neighbourhood, bringing over 110 hours of inspiring creative programming to over 850 children, youth, and their families. Projects were hosted at Minnesota Park and at Evergreen's new Community House on Heron Street.

As the program progressed, youth gained confidence in the arts and took great ownership of the program. They became volunteers within their neighbourhood, taking the lead in setting up for workshops and informing the kinds of projects they took part in. Youth who had never had access to art supplies became lead photographers at community events and programs. They built positive relationships with their peers, and neighbours from other generations through collaborative creation. They began to set positive goals for themselves and their community.



Hip hop and Breakdancing with Nicole Armstrong and Kaitlin Khubyar, Minnesota Park, 2014

When the program wrapped up, neighbours of all ages in the area took the initiative to independently create their own mural on a fence in the yard of the Evergreen House. Evergreen actively seeks out funding to support the arts on a regular basis, building capacity, sustainability, and legacy for the arts in Thunder Bay.

Projects included:

- Multi-artist collaborative community quilt including photo transfer and Elder storytelling
- Street Sounds Urban Arts Event with hip hop artist, Shibastik and 2 local breakdance/hip hop dance artists, Nicole Armstrong and Kaitlin Khubyar.
- Outdoor art panels and public message chalkboard
- Happy Hands: Mitten making from recycled wool sweaters

### 2013-2014 Art to the Streets Statistics

- |                    |                             |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| - 20 Local artists | - 30 art projects           | - 50 volunteers |
| - 850 participants | - 100+ hours of programming |                 |

**Supporters:** Evergreen a United Neighbourhood through the Province of Ontario's Safer and Vital Communities Funding Program, Ontario Arts Council, the City of Thunder Bay.



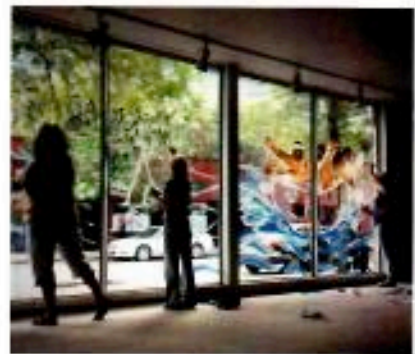
## Connecting with Community

Through this program, CAHEP provides short-term engagement activities that enhance community events and projects across the City.

In addition to inspiring children and youth with creative activities, this provides our organization with the opportunity to connect with potential partners, supporters, and participants, and increases our general community outreach.

In 2013-2014, projects included:

- Teddy Bears Picnic: Bearicatures
- Canada Games Complex Art Camps
- City Hall Sounds in partnership with Thunder Bay Crime Prevention Council
- Jane's Walk
- Fort William Street Fair
- Superior YouthFest: Art Panel Painting
- Evergreen Seasonal Festivals
- Summer in the Parks
- March Break Camps in Victoriaville Centre
- Healthy Living Fair in Victoriaville Centre
- Window painting in the Victoria Avenue area
- Family Day Fun Day at the Coliseum Grounds



### Special Project Highlight:

#### Thunder Bay Food Strategy Partnership

In collaboration with the Thunder Bay Food Strategy, CAHEP worked with local artists to integrate the arts into topics surrounding food. This project was developed to increase awareness of the importance of food and the work done by the Food Strategy.

#### Projects included:

**Pizza Garden Stickers:** With local artist Sarah Eby, a grade 4/5 class at Ogden Community School created Pizza Garden boxes and stickers. Stickers were given to local business, Eat Local Pizza, and distributed on pizza boxes throughout the City.

**Community Garden Signage:** Local artist Carol Kajorinne worked with a Grade 5 class at rural Gorham & Ware School to design and paint signs for their new community garden.

**Rain Barrel Project:** Carol Kajorinne and Derek Khani facilitated a rain barrel painting project together with the Thunder Bay Country Market.

**Flower Bombs:** Local artist and eco-activist, Sarah Eby worked together with attendees at Docs on Bay, hosted by Bay Street Film Festival to create artful flower bombs that would spread greenery to empty spaces in town.

**Supporters:** Ontario Arts Council (Operating), City of Thunder Bay (Operating)

## Rural Arts Program

The Rural Arts Program is a community art initiative designed to bring the arts to children and youth who live in under-served rural areas surrounding Thunder Bay.

Its goal is to increase rural access to the arts by providing free-of-cost programs that are within rural spaces (libraries, community halls, schools, and other alternative locations).

Whenever possible, artists who live within rural areas are hired to deliver programming.

### 2013-2014 Projects Included:

**I am Where I Live:** Art Camps at Gillies Community Centre and Blake Hall Participants engaged in a variety of activities that enabled them to use the arts to share stories connected to their rural homes.

**Commemorative Art Ceiling Tiles:** Kakabeka Legion and Kakabeka School

Artist Judy Mayor worked with Grade 7 students at Kakabeka School to design posters and artwork that was transferred using paint to ceiling tiles for display at the Kakabeka Legion. This project was an intergenerational initiative and connected youth with seniors and veterans who live in rural areas.

**Pottery Workshop:** Rural artist Fritz Lehmborg facilitated a 3-day introduction to ceramic and pottery arts in the South Gillies Township.

**Artists in the 5th:** Gorham & Ware and Nor'Wester View Schools participated performance and visual art projects through Artists in the 5th

**Painted Garden Signs:** Learners at Gorham and Ware School in Lappe Township painted signs for their newly developed community garden with rural artist Carol Kajorinne and as part of a partnership with the Thunder Bay Food Strategy.

### 2014 Rural Arts Statistics

8 Local Artists: Derek Khani, Nicole Armstrong, Pam Cain, Victoria Bolduc, Elizabeth Hill, Judy Mayor, Fritz Lehmborg, Carol Kajorinne

219 Participants

**Supporters:** Ontario Arts Council (Operating), City of Thunder Bay (Operating), District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board.





## Festival Showcase of Arts & Heritage Education

This ten day festival was coordinated by CAHEP in February of 2014 as an opportunity for the community to participate, create and enjoy the arts throughout the City.



Local groups and arts organizations were encouraged to develop and offer their own participatory arts programming that the community could engage in. CAHEP developed and implemented our own programming in partnership with a number of local organizations, and acted as a resource that groups could draw upon when developing their own projects.

Over 25 activities took place throughout the City.

Participating groups included:

- Satellite Studio & Art's Gallery
- Baggage Building Arts Centre
- Blue Sky Healing Centre
- Chaban Ukrainian Dance Group
- City of Thunder Bay Cultural Services
- Consortium Aurora Borealis
- Evergreen A United Neighbourhood
- Gallery 33
- Lake Superior Art Gallery
- Painted Turtle
- Paramount Theatre
- Sounds of Superior
- Thunder Bay Art Gallery
- Thunder Bay and Area Food Strategy

**Supporters:** Ontario Arts Council (Operating), City of Thunder Bay (Operating), Department of Canadian Heritage Building Communities Through Arts & Heritage.

## Professional Development and Resources

CAHEP believes in creating a strong future for the arts by providing opportunities for artists and community groups to connect, learn. We do this through:

- Mentoring new generation and emerging arts educators
- Providing internships for Fine Arts and Education Students from Lakehead University
- Offering professional development opportunities for artists
- Providing professional development in the arts for non-arts partners
- Our online Arts & Heritage Education Directory



### Internships

We work in partnership with Lakehead University's Fine Arts Program to offer a 48 hour Arts Education Internship for Major Studio students as a part of their Internship Course Credit. Interns receive the opportunity to learn about how a small non-profit runs, participate in mentorships provided by local artists, learn hands-on skills by providing on-site support at CAHEP programs, and assist with event and project development.

**2013-2014 Internships:** Melissa Miller & Katie Bond



### Mentorship for Emerging/New Generation Artists

To ensure the arts education/community arts sector of Thunder Bay is sustained and infiltrated with vibrant new energy, we offer mentorship opportunities for artists who are interested in working with CAHEP, but who lack experience. New artists receive the opportunity to work with CAHEP staff and artists to learn about project development, implementation, and successfully engaging learners. Some mentorships are collaborative, meaning the new artists receive the opportunity to integrate their own skills into a project with a more experienced artist.



2013-2014 Mentorships were provided for: Eric Miller (circus arts), Dayna Slingerland (textile/craft), Sarah Eby (mixed media), Laura Wilson (dance), Victoria Bolduc (Summer Experience Student/Visual Artist) & Zach Bryson (media arts).

### Learn & Grow Professional Development for Community Organizations

In June 2014, we began to offer opportunities for organizations who serve the community to get together, learn, and create. This ensures that these organizations are able to integrate the arts into their own core programs. It places value on using art to connect clients who access their programs, building a stronger community.

In our first workshop, CAHEP provided participants with the opportunity to learn about ways to create art with children and youth using accessible, low-cost materials.

Participants included: Our Kids Count, Evergreen a United Neighbourhood, placement students from Confederation College, and neighbours in the Simpson Ogden area.



**Supporters:** Ontario Arts Council (Operating), City of Thunder Bay (Operating), Evergreen a United Neighbourhood

## Additional News

**February 2014:** We were honored to receive a 2013 City of Thunder Bay Arts & Heritage Award for Arts Organization. This award acknowledges the importance of the work CAHEP does in the schools and community, and our contributions to the arts and culture sector in Thunder Bay.

### March 2014: Strategic Plan

CAHEP staff and board worked together with consultant, Margaret Wanlin to develop our 2014-2017 Strategic Plan.

Directions include:

- **Accessible Programming:** To offer arts and heritage education programs through inclusive engagement, regardless of economic, social, and cultural background
- **Partnerships:** To deliver programming through mutually beneficial collaborations.
- **School Programs:** To offer schools resources to engage children and youth in arts and heritage, and develop new ways to engage students in arts and heritage.
- **Staffing:** To develop a staff of artists who can administer the organization. To engage and support a diverse roster of arts and heritage educators
- **Sustainability:** To achieve a sustainable level of funding and human resources to achieve goals. To recruit and orient Board members who have clear roles and value their engagement with the organization.

Full strategic plan can be seen by emailing [info@cahep.ca](mailto:info@cahep.ca)

### March 2014: Northern Emerging Visual Arts Professionals Gathering

Alana Forslund was invited to attend a Northern Emerging Visual Arts Professionals gathering in Toronto, hosted by Ontario Arts Council. This unique opportunity connected CAHEP with other like minded arts organizations, both from Northern and Southern Ontario. It provided vital opportunities for outreach, development, and inspiration, as well as the chance to connect with various officers from Ontario Arts Council, and arts groups in Toronto including Sketch Working Arts, Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, and the Art Gallery of Ontario's Arts Education Department.



CAHEP thanks our 2013-2014 funders for their support of our programming and operations.



**ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL**  
**CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO**  
 an Ontario government agency  
 un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario



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