


# ANNUAL Report

2014-2015

Incorporation – Not-for-profit – February 18th, 2003  
Charitable Status – June 10th, 2005 – 835591744RR0001

Compiled, Written, and Designed by Alana Forslund

## A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...



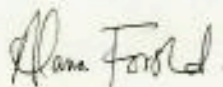
I am thrilled to be taking on the new position of Executive Director of Community Arts & Heritage Education Project.

This past year has been an exciting time of tremendous growth and creativity in our programs. We are continually inspired by the work created by participants in our programs. The children, youth, families, and seniors who work with our staff and artists continue to animate our community with their songs, dance, images, voices, and stories, and nurture ideas for new projects.

In 2014-2015, new partnerships have sparked, both locally, and with groups from outside of Thunder Bay including Tangled Art + Disability and Jumblies Theatre. These collaborations have enabled us to build capacity, ignite change, and plant seeds of creativity in our community.

I extend a tremendous thank you to CAHEP's artists, funders, volunteers, staff, board, partners, and participants for all that you do. Together, we work collaboratively to develop refreshing new programming that continues to nurture community, share our stories, and foster a bright and exciting arts sector, both in Thunder Bay, and beyond.

Warmly,



Alana Forslund, HBFA  
Executive Director



# A LITTLE ABOUT US

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## WHO IS CAHEP?

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CAHEP is an award-winning artist-led organization unique to Thunder Bay. We bring free-of-cost arts education programming to children, youth, their families, and seniors within our community, and within schools.

Each year, we work with 50 paid local artists and more than 11,000 participants in Thunder Bay. The artists we work with represent a diverse skill-set, including dance, drama, cultural programming, literary arts, music, new media, and visual arts.



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## ART MAKES CHANGE

We believe that arts can transform lives.

Our programs are designed to **empower participants** and address barriers they may face. We take time to get to know them as individuals, learn about their needs and interests, and together, create an arts program that responds to exactly what they would like to do.

Using the arts, we're able to ensure that individuals, regardless of barriers that may exist, are engaged, can develop **leadership skills**, take **healthy risks**, **collaborate**, and foster a strong **sense of pride** in themselves, their peers, and their communities.



# OUR STORY

CAHEP began in 2003 as a pilot project funded through the Ontario Trillium Foundation, put in place to address community needs established by a network group of 18 stakeholders.

These needs included:

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



From here, CAHEP sprouted into a dynamic and award-winning multidisciplinary arts education organization. We began offering programs in collaboration with the schools and community of Thunder Bay, engaging thousands of children, youth, families, and seniors each year. Our artists have facilitated a multitude of projects that range from short-term workshops in cultural programming, dance, drama, literary arts, music, media, and visual art, to longer-term multi-artist collaborations including Uth Ink (youth playwriting project), and an in-depth theatre project titled How Bear Heart Woman Brought Truth Back to the People.

Throughout our 13 years of operation, our organization and its programs have kept flexible, developing programs that respond to the ever-changing needs of our community.

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**MISSION:** Enhancing community through accessible, inclusive arts and heritage education for children, youth, and their families.

**VISION:** To enrich lives through community engagement in multidisciplinary arts and heritage.

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



Image by Laura Paxton  
Flashback Photo, 2015.

# MEET OUR TEAM



CAHEP is an artist-run organization. Our staff consists of a small team of wonderful local artists with knowledge in administration and program development. We extend a tremendous thanks to them for their time, talents, and efforts they put forth to ensure that our programs are constantly evolving, growing, and exciting to participants.

## OUR 2014-2015 STAFF:



**ALANA FORSLUND**  
Executive/Artistic Director



**PAM CAIN**  
CAHEP Developer



**ELEANOR ALBANESE**  
School Program Coordinator



**SHAYLYN BISHOP**  
Community Arts Assistant  
(Funded through the Ministry of  
Tourism, Culture & Sport's Summer  
Experience Program)

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Chair: Paul Reid**

*Community Legal Worker, Kinna-Awcyia Legal Clinic*

**Secretary: Maureen Mills**

*Senior Special Events Officer, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation*

**Treasurer: Meghan Aylward**

*Executive Coordinator, Erickson Contracting Inc.*

**Director: Victoria Bolduc**

*Aboriginal Transitions Advisor, Lakehead University*

**Director: William Hedican**

*Local Artist and Community Resource*

**Director: Rob Magnusson**

*Secondary School Art Teacher, Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute*





# OUR ARTISTS

Eleanor Albanese: Multidisciplinary Arts  
 Shaylyn Bishop: Visual Arts  
 Jordan Burnell: Digital Music/Hip hop  
 Pam Cain: Visual Arts  
 Ma-Nee Chacaby: Wisdom Keeper/Elder/Visual Arts  
 Stephanie DePiero: Dance  
 Keri-Lyn Durant: Multidisciplinary/Spoken Word/Theatre  
 Alana Forslund: Visual/Textile Arts  
 Zoe Gordon: Media/Multidisciplinary Arts  
 Beht Haywood: Visual/Multidisciplinary Arts  
 Kelly Henderson: Multidisciplinary Arts  
 Elizabeth Hill: Music  
 Brian Holden: Visual Arts  
 David Hotson/boyRoland: Visual Arts/Graphic Arts  
 Carol Kajorinne: Visual/Multidisciplinary Arts  
 Susan Kakepetum: Cultural Programming  
 Derek Khani: Visual Arts  
 Fritz Lehmborg: Ceramic Arts  
 Taylor Loney: Visual Arts  
 John Mackett: Visual Arts

Judy Mayor: Visual Arts  
 Riaz Mehmood: Media Arts  
 Melissa Miller: Visual Arts  
 Danielle Montgomery: Visual Arts  
 Clyde Moonias & Wildflower Singers: Drumming  
 Nathaniel Moses & Family: Cultural Teachings  
 Crystal Nielsen: Visual Arts/Beadwork  
 Lora Northway: Visual Arts  
 Claudia Otto: Creative Movement  
 Nevada Panteluk: Visual Arts  
 Laura Paxton: Photography/Visual Arts  
 Jeanette Posine: Cultural Teachings  
 Dayna Slingerland: Textile/Craft/Visual Art  
 Chris Sutherland (Shibastik): Hip Hop/Visual Arts  
 Lise Vaugois: Music  
 Laura Wilson: Dance  
 Rita Zavagnin: Movement/Theatre/Drama

## 44 LOCAL ARTISTS

*worked through CAHEP programs  
in 2014-2015*



# VOLUNTEERS



A tremendous thank you to all of the volunteers who give their time, thoughts, effort, creativity, and hearts to make our programs and events the best they can be.

Carolyn Albanese  
 Geraldine Albanese  
 Heather Albanese  
 Sheena Albanese  
 Meghan Aylward  
 Carolyn Baxter  
 Kathleen Bedard  
 Victoria Bolduc  
 Alex Borghessan  
 Marianne Brown  
 Nathan Burke  
 Lila Cano  
 Betty Carpick  
 Jayal Chung  
 Darla Contois  
 Sheena Cooper  
 Jacquie Cottingham

Sam Crowe  
 BethAnn Cryderman  
 Stephanie DePiero  
 Melanie Dupont  
 Keri-Lyn Durant  
 Shayne Ehman & Axel  
 Gail Fikis  
 Bob Forslund  
 Judy Forslund  
 Beht Haywood  
 William Hedicar  
 Ruth Howard  
 Zoe Gordon  
 Alyssa Hicks  
 Angie Jensen  
 Carol Kajorinne  
 Wilma Kempe

Alaina King  
 Kristen Krievin  
 Lilia Leon  
 Harley Legarde-Beacham  
 Taylor Loney  
 Jerin Louis  
 Rob Magnusson  
 Lisa Macchione  
 Olivia Macchione  
 Gary McMahon  
 Lisa Milani  
 Maureen Mills  
 Danielle Montgomery  
 Nick Mrozek  
 Megan Olivia  
 Joanne Otte  
 Paul Reid

Matthew O'Reilly  
 Jelena Psenichik  
 Neebing Psenicnik-Kuper  
 Jimmy Tsang  
 Hannah Rogers  
 Alexis Sakanee  
 Dayna Slingerland  
 Paula Thiessen

## 59 AMAZING VOLUNTEERS



# COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

Each year, we work with dozens of partners who provide time, supervision, space, promotion, participants, and knowledge to help make our programs possible.

Our partners include a broad range of community groups, social service agencies, health organizations, neighbourhood collectives, and schools.

2015 was an incredible year for collaborations. We received more than double the number of requests for our Artists in the 5th program (from 11 in 2013 to 30 in 2015).

It also marked new collaborations with arts partners from outside of Northern Ontario, expanding our creative community and growing our knowledge-base.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

Regional Multicultural Youth Council, Multicultural Association of Thunder Bay, Youth Centres Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay Indian Friendship Centre, Baggage Building Arts Centre, Crime Prevention Council, Fort William BIA, Evergreen a United Neighbourhood, Thunder Bay & Area Victim Services, EcoSuperior, Thunder Bay Community Auditorium, Gillies Community Centre, Kakabeka Legion, Murillo Public Library, Volunteer Thunder Bay, Youth TBay, Boys & Girls Club Vale Unit, Speak Up Program & Lakehead University, Thunder Pride, Community Action Group, Finlandia Hall, Thunder Bay Public Libraries, Folklore Festival, Thunder Bay Art Gallery, Jumblies Theatre, Tangled Art & Disability.

## PARTNERS IN EDUCATION:

Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, Lakehead Public School Board, Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique des Aurores Boreales.

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# FUNDERS & SUPPORTERS

## OPERATING:

Ontario Arts Council (Arts Education Organizations)  
City of Thunder Bay

## PROJECT FUNDING:

Ontario Arts Council: Artists in the Community/Workplace  
Tbaytel for Good  
United Way of Thunder Bay  
United Way Youth + Community Program  
Thunder Bay Community Foundation  
District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board  
Johansen Larsen Foundation  
Ministry of Culture Summer Experience Program

## PARTNERSHIP FUNDING:

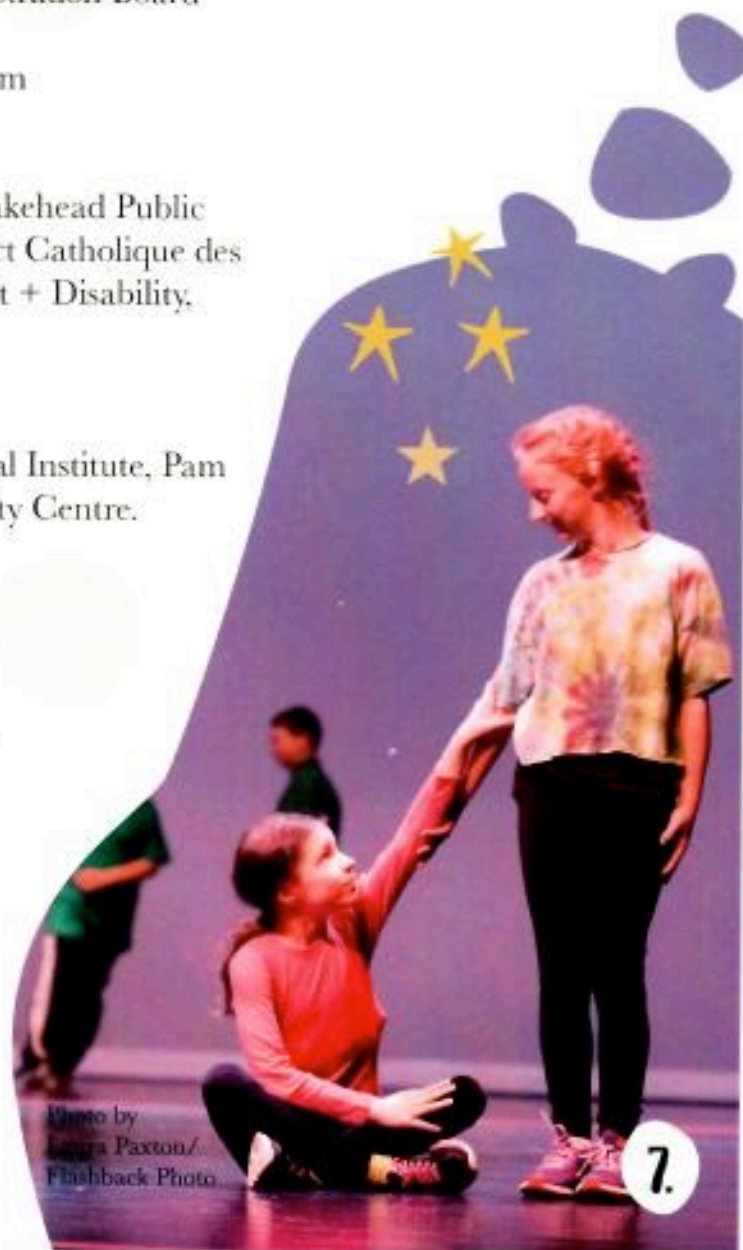
Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, Lakehead Public Schools, EcoSuperior, Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique des Aurores Boreales, Jumblies Theatre, Tangled Art + Disability, Speak Up Program at Churchill High School.

## DONATIONS:

Bob Forslund, Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute, Pam Cain & John Rafferty, North Neebing Community Centre.

## IN KIND SUPPORT:

Uli Wasser, Baggage Building Arts Centre, Garden Cafe by Greenfare, Definitely Superior Artist Run Centre, Ontario Library Association, Thunder Bay Community Auditorium, Michaels Arts & Crafts, Thunder Bay Multicultural Association, Thunder Bay Indian Friendship Centre, Folklore Festival, Painted Turtle Art Shop, Tangled Art + Disability, Ruth Howard and Jumblies Theatre, Walking With Our Sisters Thunder Bay.





# OUR PROGRAMS

Our 2014-2015 programs included:

**Artists in the 5th - Arts Fiesta:** *In-school arts education programming for grades 4-6 in 3 school boards in the City.*

**Art to the Streets:** *A travelling, in-depth arts program with under-served neighbourhoods in Thunder Bay.*

**Forest of Reading/Festival of Trees:** *An in-school program where students collaborate with local artists to create art inspired by books.*

**General Arts Programming:** *Short-term projects provided for interested schools and community groups.*

**Neighbourhood Arts Engagement Program:** *An introduction to arts education and community arts for neighbourhood groups in Thunder Bay.*

**Professional Development & Networking for Artists:** *Nurturing a healthier creative community by providing collaborative opportunities for artists to get together, learn, create, get inspired, and grow.*

**Rural Arts Program:** *Engaging under-served areas surrounding Thunder Bay in arts education opportunities.*

**Special Projects including:**

*Train of Thought Project with Jumblies Theatre  
Tangled on Tour with Tangled Art + Disability*



**550 HOURS**  
of arts education programming



# MAKING SPARKS!

ARTISTS IN THE 5TH 2015

Artists in the 5th is CAHEP's longest-running program. This year brought plenty of excitement with the annual theme: **Making Sparks**. 14 local artists worked with 21 grades 4,5 and 6 classes (over 500 students!) to create dance, drama, new media, street art, and visual art projects that explored themes of light, sparking change, individuality, and unity.

All projects were presented at the Arts Fiesta, hosted this year at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. **Over 700 were in attendance** to enjoy this multidisciplinary arts extravaganza.

Thanks to the Folklore Festival, we also had the opportunity to host 11 visual art projects at their weekend-long community event, reaching an additional audience of 10,000.

We thank the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, Lakehead Schools, and Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique des Aurores Boreales for their partnership in this initiative.

*Supported by Thunder Bay Community Foundation, DSSAB, and participating schools*

**500 STUDENTS**

**AUDIENCE OF 10,700**

## FOREST OF READING

This program brought 10 **visual art projects** into classrooms throughout the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board. **6 visual artists** participated in the program, collaborating with Teacher Librarians to develop and implement art projects that were inspired by books nominated for the Ontario Library Association's Blue Spruce Award.

**250 PARTICIPANTS**  
**AUDIENCE OF 1450**

*Supported by the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board.*

# GENERAL ARTS PROGRAM

CAHEP saw a large growth in school program requests in 2014-2015. To make sure that we could bring arts to more classrooms, we offered General Arts Programming, engaging additional classes and community groups throughout the City.

We were able to bring arts programming to 6 additional classes through this initiative.

Projects included:

Quillwork with Susan Kakepetum at Bishop EQ Jennings

Felting and natural dyes with Dayna Slingerland at St. Bernard

Miniature printmaking with Brian Holden at St. Bernard

Theatre exploration with Claudia Otto at St. Bernard



**300 PARTICIPANTS ENGAGED IN THE PROGRAM** 

## RURAL ARTS

Funded through the District of Social Services Administration Board, this program ensures that under-served rural areas surrounding Thunder Bay have access to the arts. It has been designed to reduce transportation barriers that limit access to the arts for rural participants.

Rural areas include Kakabeka, Conmee, Neebing, Oliver Paipoonge, and Murillo.

In collaboration with local artists, arts programs unfold in community centres, libraries, and rural schools.

Participating children and youth engaged in projects that included theatre, music, visual art, and sculptural storytelling.

*Supported by District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board*

**158 PARTICIPANTS IN 2014-15**



# ART TO THE STREETS

Sprouted from the Neighbourhood Arts Program, Art to the Streets brings professional artists to under-served neighbourhoods of Thunder Bay, including Simpson-Ogden, Limbrick/Vale, and Windsor Picton Blucher. All programs are free-of-cost and close to areas where participants live and play, reducing barriers that exist for many in our City. Partner organizations included Evergreen a United Neighbourhood, Community Action Group, Vale Community Centre, and Speak Up with Lakehead University.

Children, youth, families, and seniors have worked on projects that have included:

- Hip hop dance** with Stephanie DePiero
- Street Sounds 2: Media arts dance party and hip hop show** with Zoe Gordon and Shibastik
- Beadwork** with Susan Kakepetum
- Giant Mask-making**
- Beat-making** with Jordan Burnell

We work with participants to decide on the types of projects they would like to engage in. We see youth grow to become neighbourhood leaders, families share stories that bring them closer, and the community build a support network through collaborative creation.

2014-15 was an exciting year for Art to the Streets. We received the Grand Prize from Tbaytel for Good, a voter-based funding program. We also received support from Ontario Arts Council's Artists in the Community/Workplace, and United Way's Youth 4 Community Program which brought a media arts component to the program.

*Project funding from OAC Artists in the Community/Workplace, United Way Youth 4 Community, and Tbaytel for Good.*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD ARTS PROGRAM

This program plants the seed to celebrate creativity within under-served neighbourhoods. With a focus on long-term presence, consistency of arts coordinators, and short arts activities, Neighbourhood Arts builds community, creates familiarity with arts, and builds capacity for larger-scale projects through Art to the Streets.

**1202 PARTICIPANTS**

*Project funding from United Way of Thunder Bay, Johansen Larsen Foundation, and District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board*



**518 PARTICIPANTS**



## ART OF COMMUNITY

WORKSHOP FOR ARTISTS, DREAMERS, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS



As community-engaged artists and arts educators, we sometimes spend so much time sharing our skills with others, that we forget how important it is to nurture our own creative practices. With this in mind, CAHEP approached Jumblied Theatre (Toronto), a leader in community arts, to develop a workshop designed just for artists.

In January 2015, Ruth Howard, the Artistic Director of Jumblied joined 25 local artists in Thunder Bay to offer a one-day introduction to community-building using arts.

Artists, administrators, and community organizers came together to make artwork, discuss what community means to us, and strengthen our creative skills and networks. We built miniature communities, wrote our hearts out, and sang and danced until we dropped.

Participants left feeling refreshed, inspired, and energized.

This partnership with Jumblied is the spark of something new and exciting in Thunder Bay!

The voices of participants said...

*"Today, I had the chance to marvel at the wonder of how happy art makes our hearts feel!"*

*"I've uncovered collaboration opportunities with new artists & organizations."*

*"I'm leaving today feeling excited and with a tremendous sense of possibility."*



# TRAIN OF THOUGHT



In May 2015, CAHEP was delighted to be invited to participate in Jumblies Theatre's Train of Thought project.

This initiative engaged artists from across the country in a counter-colonial community arts journey from the West Coast to the East Coast. Train of Thought embarked on 41 days of travel to 24 communities with over 60 travellers, and over 90 partners. Throughout the journey we learned untold stories of communities, took part in community arts activities, and connected to the land we live on.



When they reached Thunder Bay we celebrated with a community feast with Elder Ma-Nee Chacaby, followed the next day by a celebration of art with over 60 participants at the Baggage Building Arts Centre. This event involved a storytelling tea party with Eleanor Albanese, blanket fort making, music-making with Lise Vaugeois, and several arts activities with Jumblies artists and travellers.



Our staff took turns jumping on board for the trip, taking part in projects from Vancouver to Winnipeg, Thunder Bay to Toronto, and Ottawa. We took part in full moon and eagle feather ceremonies in Mississagi FN with Thinking Rock Community Arts, put on a play in just two days with Aanmitaagzi Theatre (Nipissing FN), shared stories around a community fire with Debajehmujig Theatre in Manitoulin, honoured the water with song and ceremony, celebrated the traditional name of the waters around Sudbury, and feasted with Myths and Mirrors, all while connecting with dozens of incredible and inspiring artists.



# TANGLED ON TOUR .....

CAHEP worked together with Tangled Art + Disability (Toronto) to help bring their first ever disability + arts festival to Thunder Bay.

We worked together to bring an art exhibit with Jana Brown to the Thunder Bay Art Gallery, facilitate a disability art film festival at the Finlandia Hall, and engage in a freeing movement project together with Peggy Baker Dance Studios at the Thunder Bay 55 Plus Centre.

This is the beginning of a valuable 3 year partnership. Together with Tangled, we are working to build capacity in Thunder Bay's own disability and arts sector, and strengthen our knowledge base surrounding disabled artists, artists with disabilities, and the disability arts community.



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## THUNDER BAY CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL MAYOR'S COMMUNITY SAFETY AWARDS



In November 2014, we were honoured to receive a Mayor's Community Safety Award for Outstanding Community Project at Thunder Bay City Hall.

The Thunder Bay Crime Prevention Council recognized CAHEP for utilizing arts to enhance community, strengthen neighbourhoods, and build safer places to live, work, and play within our City.





# CONTACT US

## COMMUNITY ARTS & HERITAGE EDUCATION PROJECT

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1450 Nakina Drive.*

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*W: [www.cahep.ca](http://www.cahep.ca)*

*FB: CAHEP*

*Twitter: @CAHEPTBay*

CAHEP extends a tremendous thank you to our generous supporters for 2014-2015:

