

Guelph Community Foundation announces fall grant recipients

October 2, 2014 – At a community celebration held today at the River Run Centre, The Guelph Community Foundation announced \$115,050 in grants to 28 organizations throughout Guelph and Wellington County.

The grants (see attached), which were awarded as part of The Foundation’s 2014 Fall Granting Program and the 2014 Musagetes Grant Program, will benefit a wide spectrum of community organizations in the fields of arts and culture, youth, education and social services.

“We received a large response to our call for applications and had to make some very challenging decisions about how to allocate the available funds,” said The Foundation’s Chair and Grants Committee Chair, Susan Brown.

These grant programs are in addition to spring scholarship and summer camp grants, and various donor advised and flow through grants. “Today’s Fall Community Grants and Musagetes Grants will bring the Foundation’s total number of dollars disbursed for this year to more than \$280,000,” commented Brown.

In addition to the grants announcement, attendees were entertained by a duo from the Suzuki String School, and heard stories from Laura Muirhead of the Child Witness Centre, and Brendan Johnson of the Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition, who described the impact of GCF grants in their organizations.

Of course, philanthropy and community building are not all about donations, Hilary Coates, Chair of the Random Act of Kindness Day advisory committee, reminded attendees as she invited everyone – seniors, school kids and CEOs alike, to participate in its upcoming Random Act of Kindness Day on Friday, November 7.

About The Guelph Community Foundation

The Guelph Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation whose purpose is to provide leadership in promoting community philanthropy and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Guelph and surrounding communities. The Foundation pools the charitable gifts of many donors into permanent, income-earning endowments. Income from the endowments supports a wide range of charitable programs and activities. Total funds under administration are \$11.3 million with over \$8 million in permanent endowed assets. Since inception, over \$2.7 million has been distributed to over 800 charitable initiatives.

BACKGROUNDER

TWENTY COMMUNITY GRANTS FROM GCF FUNDS (\$69,940)

Action Read Community Literacy Centre <i>The Action Read 'Health Action Group'</i>	\$2,700
This project is putting better health knowledge into practice in a learner-focused program, which translates into positive change and building nutrition understanding.	
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph <i>Enviro-Mentoring Group Program</i>	\$2,119
This program will promote conservation and environmental education to the at-risk youth in the area.	
Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Wellington <i>The One-to-One Match Program</i>	\$2,500
This project will support the recruitment, screening, and training process to find the right volunteers to pair with the Little Brothers and Little Sisters.	
Canadian Families and Corrections Network <i>Help the Forgotten Children</i>	\$3,000
This project will distribute valued resources about familial incarceration, to raise awareness, reduce stigmatization, and decrease intergenerational crime.	
Chalmers Community Services Centre <i>Serving Families</i>	\$7,500
A project dedicated to increasing the amount of food distributed to families by offering individualized food baskets to each family member from infant to adult.	
Child Witness Centre <i>2015 Wellington County Youth Symposium</i>	\$2,500
A one-day Youth Symposium designed to give Grade 8 students the tools and strategies that will help them face the challenges in their lives at a key point in their development.	
CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind) <i>Volunteer Outreach & Enhancement</i>	\$4,000
Through the New Dreams, Vision Mates and New Horizons programs, these peer initiatives will provide one-on-one support in addition to helping clients adjust to vision loss.	
East Wellington Community Services <i>Little Lab Coats</i>	\$4,224
This science and sensory based program for children aged 1 to 5 will provide them the opportunity to explore and discover their way to answer 'why?' questions through hands on experiments and field trips.	
Everdale <i>Year Round Food School Programs</i>	\$4,125
This program will teach students practical strategies to enjoy local food year round. This will increase accessibility to students and schools that would otherwise not be able to participate.	
Frontier College <i>Increasing Student Success in Guelph</i>	\$4,000

This grant will support four community-based learning programs in Guelph for children from Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition

Creative Art Play **\$5,000**

This program will build hands-on environments for children to explore a rich variety of materials that focus on process-based, open-ended play.

Guelph Public Library

Opening Minds to a Lifetime of Learning – Early Literacy Station **\$4,397**

Funding will support the purchase of an Early Literacy Station - a comprehensive digital learning solution for the children's department at its Main library branch.

Guelph Youth Music Centre

High Notes Choir for Children with Special Needs **\$3,000**

This funding will allow continuation of the program intended to help children find their voice and experience community, friendship, and acceptance through song in a safe and familiar environment.

Portage Ontario

Portage Aftercare Program **\$3,000**

This grant will continue Portage's Aftercare Program for youth in the Guelph Wellington area.

Start2Finish

Running & Reading Club Guelph Expansion **\$5,000**

This grant will support the Running & Reading Clubs that address the need for enhanced literacy and physical activity among economically challenged children.

Sunrise Therapeutic Riding & Learning Centre

Therapy Horse Project **\$3,000**

This grant will enable Sunrise to purchase a new therapy horse. This acquisition will enable Sunrise to welcome new children into their program, and continue to optimize the use of the existing horses.

The Children's Foundation of Guelph and Wellington

Brant Avenue Neighbourhood Group Snack Program **\$2,000**

This program offers a student nutrition program in the form of snack and lunch food for children in the community.

The Guelph Humane Society Incorporated

Junior Humane Club **\$3,300**

This Club offers an opportunity for children to learn about animals, including benefits and responsibilities of owning a pet, and how to become part of an aware and caring society.

Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington

Youth on Board **\$2,575**

This project will match youth leaders aged 18-23 with leadership mentors in our community to serve on local boards of directors.

Wyndham House Inc.
Wyndham House Transportation Fund **\$2,000**
This grant will provide youth with the transportation support they need to get to medical and counselling appointments, job interviews, apartment viewings, community activities, and educational classes.

THE 2014 MUSAGETES GRANT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS (\$45,110)

Ed Video Media Arts Centre
Commissioned works for MicroTiles **\$4,000**
Ed Video will commission new videos for the MicroTiles from established artists, including internationally renowned artists Kelly Richardson and Sanaz Mazinani.

Guelph Arts Council
Creative Spaces Project **\$10,000**
This project will provide a shared physical creative space that supports the needs of Guelph's arts community through resource sharing, capacity building, and increased community engagement.

Guelph Dance
4Chambers Residency **\$5,000**
Guelph Dance invites Jody Oberfelder Projects (New York) to Guelph for a residency and performance journey into the human heart. Guided by six cast members, the audience circulates through a series of transformed corridors and rooms.

Guelph Little Theatre
The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon **\$2,000**
This grant will assist with the production of Canadian Playwright, W.O. Mitchell's "The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon".

Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition
Hidden Histories: Everyday Extraordinary **\$5,700**
In collaboration with the Festival of Moving Media and Ed Video Media Arts Centre, this program allows local community members to investigate and reveal the untold stories of the sometimes marginalized people and places of Guelph's neighbourhoods.

Hospice Wellington
Encounters Project: Multi-cultural intergenerational exploration of loss and grief through Collage **\$5,000**
This collaboration with Immigration Services will share stories about loss and grief from the Mandarin speaking community using collage and other story telling media to form a connection with young people who have experienced grief.

Macdonald Stewart Art Centre
Kate Wilhelm: Yes These Bones Shall Live **\$7,500**
A powerful photographic exhibition, featuring Guelph artist Kate Wilhelm, depicting theatrically staged, domestic portraits of the women 'warriors' who compete in the regional roller derby circuit.

Pollination Guelph
ReMediate - Phase 2 **\$5,910**

Pollination Guelph will be reunited with artist Christina Kingsbury and writer Anna Bowen for the second phase of the ReMediate project. Phase 2 will see expansion of the quilt area, and the installation of a sculpture on the Eastview Landfill site.