



The ACT Arts Centre Awards Six Post-secondary Arts Scholarships Recipients Accepted to Top Post-Secondary Institutions in their Fields

June 28, 2018 – The ACT Arts Centre is proud to announce its annual Scholarship Awards to six exemplary School District 42 students. Scholarships of \$1,000 - \$1,500 are awarded as part the organization’s commitment to supporting the artistic aspirations of students in the community. For over twenty years the scholarships have supported graduating seniors in continued education in their artistic disciplines at any accredited post-secondary institution. Selection is based on a combination of demonstrated artistic achievement, technical skill & level of presentation, grades relating to the artistic category, personal resume, and planned attendance at a post-secondary institution.

"It is always an honour for the Arts Council to be able to give scholarships to several deserving and talented youth in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. Every year we are astounded by the caliber of talent demonstrated by these recipients. We wish them well as they pursue their passion for the Arts in their post-secondary endeavours," says Dawn Flanagan, The ACT Arts Council Board President.

The ACT Arts Centre’s Board of Directors Scholarship Committee meets with all applicants in a competitive process. "It’s invigorating and inspirational seeing the talent of our youth. I’m proud to meet all the applicants, knowing how hard they work for their art," shares Susan Chambers, Director and Scholarship Committee member.

The 2018 ACT Arts Centre scholarship recipients have been accepted to top institutions including UBC, Boston’s prestigious Berklee College of Music, and Simon Fraser University. The 2018 recipients are:

- Visual & Media Arts Scholarship: Leah Del Pino Cuevas (Thomas Haney Secondary), Brontë Sobotka (Meadowridge School)
- The ACT Arts Council Scholarship in Theatre in memory of Amy Wallis: Joshua Kurucz (Maple Ridge Secondary)
- The ACT Arts Council Scholarship in Music in memory of Judith Bergthorson: Tim Ro (Garibaldi Secondary), Alanah Ellsworth (Maple Ridge Secondary)
- Literary Scholarship: Jemma Waterman (Maple Ridge Secondary)

Scholarship awards are awarded by The ACT Arts Centre Scholarship Committee of the Board of Directors. Committee members for this year’s awards, are Susan Chambers, Brad Tones, Laura Butler, and Kim Dumore, with participation by the ACT Arts Centre Executive Director, Ms. Curtis Pendleton.

Recipients have shared what it means to them to receive support in their arts post-secondary education:

"I am grateful for this scholarship and can’t wait to start at Berklee [College of Music, Boston] this fall knowing I have the support of the community, my friends and family. Thank you to The ACT and everyone who made my dreams possible." - Tim Ro

"My lifelong dream of attending the UBC School of Music is becoming a reality thanks to generous scholarships such as this one. I am honoured to be a recipient of this award, and I thank the Arts Council for their belief and investment in the youth of Maple Ridge." - Alanah Ellsworth

"I am elated to receive such a generous scholarship and be recognized for my passion of writing. It truly is an honour. I am thrilled to commence at SFU in the fall and pursue my ambitions, all thanks to The ACT Arts Centre." - Jemma Waterman

PHOTO From left to right: Brontë Sobotka (Recipient, Visual), Jemma Waterman (Recipient, Literary Arts), Annette LeBox (Author, Adjudicator), Alanah Ellsworth (Recipient, Music), Brad Tones (Director and Scholarship Committee Chair), Kim Dumore (Director, Scholarship Committee member), Joshua Kurucz (Recipient, Theatre), Susan Chambers (Director, Scholarship Committee member), Leah Del Pino Cuevas (Recipient, Visual/Media Arts), Lisa Lake (Art Teacher, Adjudicator), Curtis Pendleton (Executive Director, The ACT Arts Centre)
Absent from photo: Tim Ro, Recipient, Music

The ACT Arts Centre is operated by the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Arts Council, a non-profit charitable society serving the community since 1971. Offering vibrant arts and cultural opportunities and experiences through excellence in artistic and educational programming, customer, and community service, the programs of the ACT Arts Centre reach over 70,000 people annually. The ACT Arts Centre is dedicated to "Bringing Arts to the Heart of our Community", and is supported by the city of Maple Ridge, the Province of British Columbia, Canada Heritage, and many generous individuals throughout the community. .