

Media Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 5, 2017

Award for Edmonton and area artists doubles for 2017

Edmonton – In celebration of Canada’s 150th Anniversary, and the 20th year of the Edmonton Artists’ Trust Fund (EATF) Award, the Eldon and Anne Foote Fund has made a one-time contribution to increase the 2017 EATF pool to \$150,000. The addition of the Foote investment, through Edmonton Community Foundation, will allow the EAC to award \$15,000 to ten exceptional, local artists.

“Edmonton’s arts sector is privileged to have the support of Eldon and Anne Foote and Edmonton Community Foundation,” said Sanjay Shahani, Edmonton Arts Council Executive Director. “For two decades Edmonton Community Foundation dollars have enriched the lives of artists and built an enduring legacy of positive growth. By encouraging the arts, Edmonton’s identity has become increasingly vibrant – a hub of creativity, innovation, and progressive attitudes.”

The EATF was established in 1997 by John and Barbara Poole, Edmonton Community Foundation (through a transfer of funds from the ECF’s Community Fund) and the Clifford E. Lee Foundation, and was intended to invest in Edmonton’s creative community. The award recognizes an artist’s work and contribution to the community as well as providing financial stability to renew, develop, create or experiment. Over the past twenty years the EATF has invested in over a hundred multimedia, literary, music, dance, film, theatre and visual artists; and contributed more than \$800,000 to the arts economy.

“I think the greatest honour of receiving the EATF was knowing that my name would join the very distinguished list of past recipients - artists I love and respect,” said past EATF recipient Jana O’Connor. “I’m a born and raised Edmontonian, and have spent my entire career thus far here, so this recognition means the world to me. The news of the award came at a particularly challenging time in my family’s life, and so the investment literally meant that I was able to keep my focus on my artistic career. I am so very grateful to the founders of this award for their vision, and to the jury for their incredible support of my life as an Edmonton artist!”

The deadline for nominations is 4:30 pm, Friday, September 1, 2017. Nomination forms are available for download from the Edmonton Arts Council at www.edmontonarts.ca.

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The Edmonton Arts Council is a not-for-profit organization that supports and promotes the arts community in Edmonton. The EAC works to increase the profile and involvement of arts and culture in all aspects of our community life.

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