



# **CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS**

## **Annual Report**

**September 13, 2004**

**Presented by:  
Lori Baxter, Executive Director  
Jordan Nobles, Coordinator, CPCM**

## **Background**

In December 2003 the Alliance for Arts and Culture (the Alliance) was contracted by the City of Vancouver to coordinate Cultural Presentations for Council Meetings. This was a new program initiated by Councillor Jim Green and approved by City Council on September 16, 2003. The program is intended to celebrate the cultural and creative diversity in Vancouver.

In contracting the Alliance, the City indicated a desire to create an open and transparent selection process, a means by which to pay the artists a reasonable honorarium and to address concerns raised by performers unions.

## **Program Development**

The Alliance developed program criteria (Appendix A), an application form (Appendix B), and an Artist Agreement (Appendix C) after consulting with city staff, performers, and performers' unions. In December 2003 Jordan Nobles was hired as project coordinator.

## **Calls for Artists and the Selection Committee**

In November and December of 2003 an initial Call for Artists (Appendix D) was distributed through listservs, newsletters, the Alliance website, and a media release. Approximately two dozen applications from community and professional artists of different backgrounds and disciplines were received.

A Selection Committee of knowledgeable professionals was formed to review the applications. The Selection Committee was comprised of:

- Sheryl MacKay – Host of CBC's North by Northwest
- Noah Drew – multidisciplinary artist, actor, writer and sound designer
- Robert Benaroya – Artistic Director of Caravan World Rhythms Society
- Jordan Nobles (Chair) – Program Coordinator of the CPCM Project (non-voting)

The Committee chose twelve presenters to perform during the first six months of 2004 with another four that could perform if a substitute was required. (see Appendix E)

A second Call for Artists went out in early summer. In addition to the distribution channels used in the first Call, posters and flyers were distributed to local theatre and club venues. Over fifty applications were received.

The Selection Committee recently met again to review the applications. Overall the Committee was extremely impressed with the quality of the work being proposed and offered a number of other suggestions for performers who should be considered at a future time. As there are only eight meetings remaining in the year, many highly qualified artists were not selected at this time. Those selected for the remainder of the year are outlined in Appendix F.

## Marketing

In addition to the marketing of the program described under the Calls for Artists, each performer is featured on the Alliance's website ([www.allianceforarts.com](http://www.allianceforarts.com)) a month before their performance. A direct link is provided on the home page to the performers' image and biographical information. This information is then archived on the Alliance's site. In addition, a media release is sent to approximately 50 outlets the week prior to a presentation.

The program has been covered by the Vancouver Sun, the Georgia Straight, the Westender, the Ubysey and the Gleaner (Langara College). In addition, CBC Radio Arts Report has featured the program and CBC Radio's Quintz Quiz presents a feature on the performance the Saturday following each presentation.

## Financial

The Alliance was hired to coordinate the program under a Fee for Services contract. The financial risk for the initial year was left to the Alliance. Below is a breakdown of the original budget indicating where expenses were anticipated at the beginning of the program. Included is an anticipated \$2,924 in equipment purchases. Working with Commercial Electronics and Shaw Cable a cheaper solution was found to provide good sound quality for television broadcast. The savings was transferred to a fee for the administration of the program which the Alliance had waived, pending determination of actual costs.

	Budget	To Aug	Anticipated to Year End	Total	
Artist Fees	5,655	2,925	1,975	4,900	
SOCAN Fees	435		633	633	
Adjudication	900	500		500	
Marketing Costs	400	30	40	70	
Equipment	2,924	492		492	
Coordinator	5,600	4,837	1,612	6,449	
Alliance for Arts and Culture					
Fee for Communications	1,725	1,150	575	1,725	
Fee for Administration			2,000	2,231	
Contingency	1,000		1,000	1,000	
	<b>\$18,639</b>	<b>\$9,934</b>	<b>\$7,835</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>	(Fee for Service)

## General Comments

Awareness of the program has increased considerably in the arts community during the first eight months the Alliance has been coordinating Cultural Presentations for Council Meetings. The increase in applications between the first and second call was significant. In addition, the Coordinator and staff are spending less time describing the program in recent months. When we mention the program, artists have heard about it and are inquiring how they can participate.

The reaction has been very positive. Most artists interacting with the program are impressed and pleased that the Mayor and City Council are interested enough in the arts to offer this opportunity to showcase their talent.

Throughout the first half of 2004 the presenters performing in front of City Council were very grateful for the opportunity and pleased to be included in the program. They were very eager to present and word spread quickly that even though it was an unusual place to perform, it was becoming a prestigious venue to showcase ones talent.

Musicians who had indicated no interest in the program during the first Call had reconsidered by mid-year and submitted proposals for future performances. Applications being submitted are rapidly increasing in frequency. Community and professional groups, even large ones like the Jabulani Ensemble and much in demand groups like the Orchid Ensemble, have submitted proposals and made special arrangements to perform before City Council.

There are even some works being created that are written exclusively for, and will receive their premiere at, Vancouver City Council meetings, including a work written by composer Stefan Udell featuring 15 acoustic guitarists.

There was some initial concern from some union musicians who didn't know that a deal had been reached with the Musician's Union regarding playing in front of Council and on Shaw Cable. This miscommunication has been straightened out however and we can expect even more professional musicians to apply in the future.

### **Diversity of Presenters**

One of the aims of the program is to present before City Council a sample of the diversity of artists working in this city. To that aim we have presented solo to larger groups of not just musical acts, although that is certainly the presentation that best fits the Council Chambers, but actors as well. We have also striven to include traditional and contemporary artists and a wide range of ethnic diversities.

Future presenters will expand on this variety as we are booking dancers, actors, poets, and other acts of classical, traditional, popular music.

### **Relationship with City Staff and Shaw Cable**

The Coordinator has established an excellent working relationship with the City Clerk's office and with the producer for Shaw Cable. Everyone involved works to showcase the artists in the best possible light. At the same time every effort is made to ensure that the business of Council is not interrupted.

### Recommendations for 2005

1. That the program continue. Its popularity is growing and it is achieving its goals as set out by City Council.
2. That people on the Selection Committee serve not more than three times per two year period.
3. That programming be done only four months in advance to allow greater flexibility in programming performers to national arts days, municipal proclamations, community festivals, etc.
4. Increase the number of annual juries from two to three. This will accommodate Recommendation 3, and decrease the response time from application submissions to decisions.

### Budget 2005

A proposed budget for 2005 is:

Artist Fees	23 @ 250	5,750
SOCAN Fees	23 @ 29	667
Adjudication	3 x 150 x 2	900
Marketing Costs		200
Equipment		-
Coordinator		6,500
Alliance for Arts and Culture		
Fee for Communications		1,725
Fee for Administration		2,000
		<hr/>
		\$17,742

## APPENDIX A

### PROGRAM INFORMATION

#### The Opportunity:

The City of Vancouver is celebrating the cultural and creative spirit of our community and invites artists to perform at the beginning of regular Council meetings. These 3-5 minute mini-presentations will reflect the cultural and creative diversity of Vancouver, and provide artists and Council with the occasion to celebrate the arts as part of civic life. The presentations will be carried on Shaw Cable, reaching a wide audience of Vancouver residents.

Artists will be paid an honorarium for their presentations, and appropriate recognition for performance rights will be included. The honorarium is:

- \$100 for an individual artist
- \$200 for 2 artists
- \$250 for groups of 3 or more artists

#### Eligibility Criteria:

The opportunity is open to individual artists and arts and cultural organizations, regardless of discipline. Community, emerging and professional artists are encouraged to apply. Participation from a diverse range of cultural traditions and from artists of all ages is also encouraged.

Given the limitations of space and technical support available in the Council Chambers, solo or duo presentations by performing or literary artists are most easily accommodated. All applications are subject to availability of presentation opportunities and to the selection process described below.

The following criteria will apply:

- Priority is given to applicants who are resident in the City of Vancouver and/or with a majority of the applicant's creative work taking place within the city.
- Artistic merit.
- History of public presentation, in a community or professional environment.
- Feasibility of the proposal in the context of the space and technical limitations of the Chambers.
- Proposed presentations must meet broadcast requirements both for appropriate content (i.e. suitable for a daytime television audience), and be no longer than 5 minutes in length.

#### Application Process:

1. In order to be considered, applicants must meet the eligibility criteria, and complete an Application Form and Artist Agreement.
2. Interested parties can obtain an Application Form and Artist Agreement from the Alliance for Arts and Culture's website at [www.allianceforarts.com](http://www.allianceforarts.com) or by calling 604-681-3535.
3. All applications must include the required support materials and be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on deadline date (either March 15 or September 15). Deadlines that fall on a weekend date will be extended to 5:00 p.m. the following Monday.

**Proposal Evaluation & Selection Process:**

1. Applications will be reviewed for eligibility by the program coordinator.
2. Eligible applicants will be assessed and judged by a Selection Committee, based on the Eligibility Criteria.
3. The Selection Committee will make every effort to choose presentations that reflect a wide range and variety of artistic styles, experiences, diversity and disciplines whenever possible.
4. Successful applicants will be contacted by the Program Coordinator to discuss the date and time of their presentation.
5. Unsuccessful applicants will receive written notification. They may, at the sole discretion of the Selection Committee, be kept on file to be considered as part of the next selection review, and/or in case of a cancellation.

**Selection Committee:**

A Selection Committee of three persons shall be appointed annually by the Alliance for Arts and Culture, and shall be composed of members of the community with extensive professional knowledge/experience in at least one of the following disciplines: dance, music, theatre, performance art, and literature. City staff and elected officials are not involved in the selection.

Terms of appointment for the Committee will be 1 year, with an option to renew, to a maximum of three years for each Committee member. Committee members will be asked to complete a "Conflict of Interest" form before each adjudication – and in the case of a conflict with an applicant group/individual, the Committee members shall absent themselves from the discussion and decision on that applicant.

Adjudication meetings shall take place at a mutually agreeable time for the Committee members, no later than 3 weeks after the twice-yearly application deadlines. The Committee will be asked to prioritize and select sufficient applicants to fill the schedule of Council meetings for the subsequent 6-month time period.

**Administration:**

This is a program of the City of Vancouver and is administered by the Alliance for Arts & Culture. The Alliance for Arts and Culture, working with the City Clerk's department, is responsible for the scheduling of selected artists for meetings in the Regular Council Meeting Schedule, on a 6-month basis. In addition, the Alliance for Arts and Culture oversees the application and adjudication process.

## APPENDIX B

### ARTIST AGREEMENT

1. Presentations are to be a maximum of 5 minutes in length. Please time your presentation accordingly.
2. Presentations at the Council meeting must be the proposed performance content as described in the original application form. Proposed changes to content can only be done with prior written consent by the Selection Committee.
3. All performances will be recorded by Shaw Community Cable. Shaw has provided agreement to **not** sever artist's performances from the City Council portion of the meeting; exchange, trade, barter or sell the artist's performance footage, for any purpose.
4. However, performances may also be video recorded by local media outlets (source unknown prior to the meeting commencement). Participating artists agree to release the City of Vancouver and the Alliance for Arts and Culture from any liability resulting from the future use of this footage by those media outlets.
5. The Program Coordinator will contact the Artist(s) in the week prior to the Presentation date. The Coordinator will review the presentation procedures with the Artist(s), and determine performance audio, space and other technical requirements. The Coordinator will also review the introduction & Council procedures for the day of the meeting.
6. On the date of performance, the Artist(s) will be asked to arrive no later than 1:15 p.m., and report to the Program Coordinator (or his/her designate) in Council Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 453 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver.
7. As the presentation is also a promotional opportunity for the Artist(s), if promotional material is available for an upcoming event/concert/program, it can be distributed through the Program Coordinator.
8. The Artist(s) is responsible for bringing any accompanying music and player (CD, boom box, etc.) required for the presentation.
9. The Program Coordinator will assist the Artist(s) in working with the Shaw Cable producer and camera operators to review the sighting of the presentation vis-à-vis camera angles, and to perform the necessary audio set-up and checks. The Program Coordinator will have the final say on the sighting of the presentation. If the audio/presentation requirements are particularly complex, the Artist(s) should arrange to meet the Project Coordinator at an earlier time.
10. Please note that Council members may ask questions regarding the presentation and/or group, after the presentation is completed.
11. Upon completion of the presentation, please leave Council chambers as quietly as possible to allow the next order of business to proceed.
12. Failure to show up for a scheduled presentation date will mean forfeiting the honorarium, and may make the Artist(s) ineligible for future application to the Program.
13. City staff and/or Council reserve the right to cancel or postpone a planned presentation based on unforeseen Council business, appropriateness to a particular meeting (or planned proclamation), or lack of time on a particular agenda. Artists will be notified of cancellations no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the scheduled presentation date.

Failure to adhere to any of the conditions of this Agreement may require that the presentation be cancelled and/or postponed, at the discretion of City staff and the Program Coordinator.



I/(we) certify that the Artist(s) included in the Application Form is/are aware of the Program, and agree to present at Council, should the application be approved. If the application is successful, I/(we) agree to adhere to the conditions of this Agreement.

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Name	Title (if applicable)	Date
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Name	Title (if applicable)	Date
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**APPENDIX C**  
**APPLICATION FORM**

**Application Deadlines**

- December 1, 2003** (for Council meeting dates January to June 2004)
- June 1, 2004** (for Council meeting dates July to December 2004)

Contact Name & Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Group (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Performer(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*(Please indicate if any of the above performers are members of the Vancouver Musician's Association - Local 145, AFM.)*

Artistic Discipline(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Emergency/Mobile Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a short description of your artistic career/mandate of your organization (attach additional pages if necessary):

Please list your recent public presentation history (concerts, readings, public events) – maximum time frame, past 2 years. (You may attach a detailed Curriculum Vitae instead if you wish):

In addition to the above performances, what community outreach do you undertake?

Do you or your group have a particular upcoming event/concert/program you wish to promote that might affect the timing of your preferred Council appearance date? If yes, please elaborate:

The cultural presentations are scheduled at the beginning of the Council Meetings which are on Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. Please circle any dates in 2004 that you would NOT be available for a performance from the following list of scheduled Regular Council Meetings:

Jan. 13, Jan. 27, Feb. 10, Feb. 24, March 9, March 23, April 6, April 20, May 4, May 18, June 8,  
June 22,  
July 6, July 20 (*No Events in August*) Sept. 14, Sept. 28, Oct. 5, Oct. 19, Nov. 2, Nov. 16, Nov.  
30, Dec. 14

Required Support Materials:

**ALL Applicants must provide:**

- Completed Application Form.
- Brief Biographies of principle performer(s). (Note: bios will be posted on City of Vancouver website for promotional purposes).
- A detailed description of the presentation for Council including a copy of the artist(s) performing the work to be presented at the Council Meeting (CD, VHS, etc. – **material will not be returned**). (Note: all proposed presentations to be a maximum of five minutes in length.)
- List of necessary technical requirements (audio, accompanying music, space needs, etc.)

Signatures:

I (we) certify that, to the best of my (our) knowledge, the information contained in this Application Form is complete, and that the Performers included are aware of the Program, and have agreed to perform at Council, should the application be approved. I (we) also certify that the applicant(s) meet the basic Eligibility Criteria as outlined in the Program Information. I (we) have read the **Artist Agreement** document found online at [www.allianceforarts.com](http://www.allianceforarts.com) and, if the application is successful, I (we) agree to adhere to the conditions of the Program, and those conditions set out in the Artist Agreement.

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Name	Title (if applicable)	Date
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Name	Title (if applicable)	Date
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**Send completed application and all attachments to:**

Jordan Nobles - Program Coordinator  
Cultural Presentations for Council Meetings  
c/o Alliance for Arts and Culture  
#100 – 938 Howe Street  
Vancouver, BC V6Z 1N9

## APPENDIX D

### CALL FOR ARTISTS

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2. All applications must include the required support materials (see application form) and be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date (either **December 1** or **June 1**).

#### Selection Process:

A live audition is not required. Applications will be reviewed for eligibility by the program coordinator and then assessed according to the selection criteria. City staff and elected officials are not involved in the selection. An independent three-person selection committee with experience in the arts will review all eligible applications and make the final decision.

For more information visit [www.allianceforarts.com](http://www.allianceforarts.com)

or contact: Jordan Nobles - Program Coordinator  
Cultural Presentations for Council Meetings c/o Alliance for Arts and Culture  
604-681-3535, ext. 214 Email: [jnobles@allianceforarts.com](mailto:jnobles@allianceforarts.com)

## APPENDIX E

### LIST OF PRESENTERS

January to July 2004

- January 13<sup>th</sup>      **Sandy Scofield**  
Performer: Sandy Scofield, voice, hand drum, rattle and guitar  
Composition: *All My Relations*  
Composer: Sandy Scofield  
Genre: First Nations Folk Singer
- January 27<sup>th</sup>      **Colin MacDonald**  
Performer: Colin MacDonald, solo classical saxophone  
Composition: *Pak Alit*  
Composer: Colin MacDonald  
Genre: Contemporary Classical Music
- February 10<sup>th</sup>      **Silk Road**  
Performers: Qiu Xia He, pipa (Chinese lute); Andre Thibault, guitar  
Composition: *Clouds*  
Composer: Qiu Xia He  
Genre: World Music Duo
- February 24<sup>th</sup>      **Touchstone Theatre**  
Performers: Andy Thompson, actor; Nathan Swartz, actor  
Artistic Director: Katrina Dunn  
Composition: except from the play "*The League of Nathans*"  
Playwright: Jason Sherman  
Genre: Theatre
- March 9<sup>th</sup>      **Voxsis: Vocal performance group**  
Performers: Barbara Soles, Francis Beazer and Kaare Long, vocals  
Artistic Director: Kaare Long  
Composition: *Ave Maria/Fever* medley  
Genre: Jazz and Classical Music
- March 23<sup>rd</sup>      **Tamara Nile**  
Performer: Tamara Nile, guitar and vocals  
Composition: *Get Together*  
Composer: Tamara Nile  
Genre: Folk Music
- April 6<sup>th</sup>      **Megan Metcalfe**  
Performers: Megan Metcalfe, vocals; Robbie Steininger, guitar  
Composition: *Vancouver You'll Always Look Like Home to Me*  
Composer: Megan Metcalfe  
Genre: Popular Music

- April 20<sup>th</sup>      **Kathryn Cernauskas**  
Performer: Kathryn Cernauskas, solo flute  
Composition: *Sonatina for Solo Flute* (1954)  
Composer: Barbara Pentland  
Genre: Classical Music
- May 4<sup>th</sup>      **Phoenix Chamber Choir**  
Performers: Corlynn Hanney, Bonnie McCoy, Carman J. Price, Jim Sanyshyn  
Artistic Director: Dr. Ramona Luengen  
Composition: *When I Fall In Love*  
Composer: A. Selden  
Arranger: Cortland Hultberg  
Genre: Choral Music
- May 18<sup>th</sup>      **Brave Waves**  
Performers: Andrew Kim, guitar; Joe McDonald, bagpipes; Aboubacar Camara, djembe  
Composition: *Randy's Reel*  
Composer: Joseph George McDonald  
Genre: Multicultural Music Trio
- June 8<sup>th</sup>      **Sangha**  
Performers: Sangha: Gordon Grdina, Oud; Hedayat Honari, Tar  
Composition: *Eclipse*  
Composer: Hedayat Honari  
Genre: Arabic/Persian Musical Group
- June 22<sup>nd</sup>      **One Voice Harmonic Choir**  
Composition: *Daramsala*  
Composer: Jerry Desvoignes  
Genre: World Music (Tibetan Harmonic Overtone Singing)
- July 6<sup>th</sup>      **Christina Maria**  
Performers: Christina Maria, vocals; Myles Kump, guitar  
Composition: *Away*  
Composer: Christina Maria  
Genre: Popular Music
- July 20<sup>th</sup>      **Jabulani Ensemble**  
Performers: Members of the Jabulani Ensemble  
Artistic Director: Pasi Gunguwo  
Composition: *Chikende*  
Composer: Traditional  
Arranger: Pasi Gunguwo  
Genre: World Music (Afro-Cuban)

## APPENDIX F

### LIST OF PRESENTERS September to December, 2004

September 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Dharmakasa</b> shakuhachi and sitar duo
September 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Woody Sparks</b> (aka Rolf Kempf) Roots and Blues singer/songwriter
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Heather Haley</b> performance poet with accompanying cellist and percussionist
October 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Boris Sichon</b> multi-instrumentalist
November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Khac Chi Ensemble</b> traditional Vietnamese music
November 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>The Town Pants</b> Celtic Folk Trio
November 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Jai Govinda Dance</b> classical Indian dance
December 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Kathara Canada</b> Philippine-based collective of artists, musicians, and dancers



**CITY OF VANCOUVER**  
**CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
 Coordinated by the Alliance for Arts and Culture



### Possible Upcoming Presenters for 2005

**Flamenco Rosario** - a World-renowned Flamenco dancer based in Vancouver.

**Leslie Polgari** - fiery solo classical guitar.

**Tandava** - a multi-instrumental, multi-ethnic ensemble.

**Guitarchestra** - a 15 member acoustic guitar orchestra will perform a piece written especially for the Council Meetings by Stefan Udell utilizing the main area as well as the balcony.  
 Genre: Alternative Instrumental Music

**Adama** - a World Music/Jazz Fusion trio of guitar, percussion and upright bass.

**Orchid Ensemble** - an ensemble of professional musicians performing a mix of Chinese and Western instruments together.

**The Wink** - a contemporary folk mix of mandolin and cello.

**Jean Routhier** - an acclaimed electroacoustic/sound art composer.

**Theda Miller** - a promising young a capella singer.

**Biramous** - a duo of dancer and cello.

**Mathias Hacker** - actor performing a single act, one person, five minute Kafka play

**Crystal Cote** - folk music singer.

Plus slam poets, dance works written for a small stage, and possibly even a puppet show.