



## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

### **2018 Cultural Grants help support 16 arts organizations**

(Barrie, ON) Sixteen community arts organizations will receive funding as part of the City of Barrie's 2018 Cultural Grants Program. A total of \$324,500 was awarded through the program as per the approved 2018 budget.

2018 Cultural Grants were awarded to the following organizations:

- Barrie Concert Band
- Barrie Film Festival
- Barrie Music Festival
- Huronia Symphony
- Kempenfelt Community Players
- MacLaren Art Centre
- Simcoe Contemporary Dancers
- Talk Is Free Theatre
- Theatre By The Bay
- Barrie Concert Band
- Bravado Show Choir
- King Edward Choir
- La Cle de la Baie
- Ontario Musicians Co-op
- Skyliners Youth Big Band
- Theatre by the Bay

In addition to helping organizations cover their operating expenses and undertake special projects, the City's financial support enables organizations to secure funding from other sources. In 2017, the City of Barrie invested \$325,000 through the Cultural Grants Program. This investment enabled recipient groups to leverage over \$1.7 million in additional funding from provincial and federal programs, as well as private and corporate sector sponsorships. In many cases, these other sources of funding would not be available without the demonstrated municipal commitment.

The funds raised by the organizations are primarily spent locally, providing additional income for local businesses and generating local employment opportunities. The not-for-profit arts organizations that received grants in 2017 also generated over \$1.4 million in earned revenue through memberships and ticket sales on events and performances, adding to the total economic community benefit.

Applications to the City's Cultural Grants Program are accepted annually starting in September and are judged by a panel of arts experts from other municipalities and across the province. Visit [www.barrie.ca/CulturalGrants](http://www.barrie.ca/CulturalGrants) for more information.

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