

OMDC: "Culture is our Business." Promoting growth and investment in Ontario's book and magazine publishing, film and television, music and interactive digital media industries

\$12 million over four years to support the innovative economy through Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund

The Hon. Aileen Carroll, Minister of Culture, in a speech before the Economic Club of Canada on April 30, announced that the Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund will be renewed with a \$12 million investment over the next four years. OMDC co-administers the Partnerships Fund with the Ministry of Culture.



Hon. Aileen Carroll, Minister of Culture

"Ontario's creative cluster not only contributes to the province's economy today, it also has the potential to grow exponentially and ensure the jobs of the future. By supporting innovation, development and research, we help

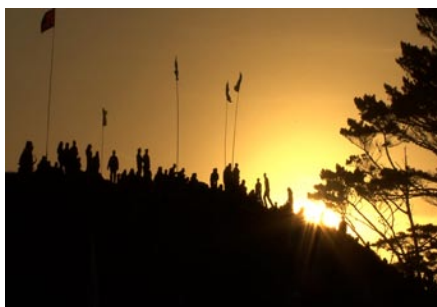
Ontario compete and succeed in the lucrative global entertainment and media market," said Aileen Carroll, Minister of Culture.

Karen Thorne-Stone, OMDC's President & CEO commented, "We are delighted that this program will continue to encourage the type of innovative, cross-sector projects that enable Ontario companies to compete on the world stage. Since it was established three years ago, the Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund has supported 43 projects, involving 285 partners and leveraging \$15.9 million dollars."

To find out more about past projects supported by the fund click **here**. The next round of the Partnerships Fund will be launched at the end of May with information sessions being held in June. The application deadline is September 23, 2009. Details will be posted on the OMDC website www.omdc.on.ca

Three OMDC-supported documentaries screen at Hot Docs!

Fierce Light: When Spirit Meets Action
World Showcase



Producers: Cher Hawrysh, Gerry Flahive /
Director: Velcrow Ripper

Inside Hana's Suitcase
Special Presentations



Producers: Jessica Daniel, Rudolf Biermann,
Larry Weinstein / Director: Larry Weinstein

Love at The Twilight Motel
Canadian Spectrum



Producers: Alison Rose and Gerry Flahive /
Director: Alison Rose

OMDC Showcases Ontario Talent at South by Southwest (SXSW)

SXSW - The **OMDC Showcase at Canada House** was a hit, with over 150 international VIPs turning out to see solid sets from Gentleman Reg (Arts and Crafts Productions), Jill Barber (Outside Music), Slim Twig (Paper Bag Records) and The Arkells (Dine Alone Records).



The Arkells (Dine Alone Records)

Gentleman Reg (Arts and Crafts Productions)



Slim Twig (Paper Bag Records)



Jill Barber (Outside Music)

As well, The **Canadian Blast BBQ** sponsored by Government of Canada, CIRPA, and SOCAN was a must-attend event - with 2500 guests inside and a line-up around the corner to see outstanding performances by Mother Mother (Last Gang Records), Beast (Pheromone Recordings), The Arkells (Dine Alone Records), Two Hours Traffic (Bumstead Productions) and Shout Out Out Out (Six Shooter Management).

Photos: @Duncan McKie who generously provided these photos.

OMDC Film Fund supported features garner acclaim!

The Sprockets **Audience Choice Award - Best Feature Film** went to Mark Jean's **Finn On the Fly** (producers: Michael Souther and Teza Lawrence) an OMDC Film Fund supported feature.



Finn On The Fly



How She Move

OMDC-supported feature **How She Move** nominated for **Shaw Rocket Prize**.

How She Move is in the running for the prestigious 2009 Shaw Rocket Prize! Produced by Sienna Films with the help of OMDC funding, **How She Move** tells an innovative coming-of-age story through competitive Caribbean-Canadian step dancing. Other productions short-listed for the prize include another Ontario production, **Instant Star** (Epitome), and two Quebec productions, **Fred's Head** (Spectra Animation), and **Sticks and Stones** (Dream Street Pictures and Cirrus Communications). Now in its 5th year, the Shaw Rocket Prize is the largest prize of its kind in Canada for independent Canadian producers of children's, youth and family programming in French, English and Aboriginal languages. An international jury of industry experts selects the finalists for the annual \$50,000 prize, and Canadian children pick the winner! The winner of the 2009 Shaw Rocket Prize will be announced in Toronto, May 6, 2009. www.rocketprize.ca | www.rocketfund.ca

OMDC News, Program Deadlines and Supported Events

May 11 | Deadline for OMDC Enhanced Interactive Digital Media Fund. New this cycle: maximum contribution level increased to \$150,000, fee-for-service and minority partnerships between book and magazine, film and television, music or interactive digital media companies are eligible and two deadlines per year. For updated guidelines and application forms please visit the OMDC website at www.omdc.on.ca and click on Programs / Content and Marketing Funds / OMDC Interactive Digital Media Fund.

May 21 | Meet with a Tax Credit Expert at OFTTC Workshop! The Tax Credits and Financing Department at OMDC will be holding its next quarterly workshop and tutorial for new producers and those wishing to learn about the Ontario film and television tax credits (OFTTC) on Thursday, May 21, 2009. Check-in is 9:45 and session will run from 10 am-12 noon. The session will be held at OMDC and will offer an intimate and engaged forum for new participants seeking guidance on issues that arise on their productions or for those with more general questions about the OFTTC requirements. For information or to register call Barbara Hingley at 416-642-6639 or e-mail her at bhingley@omdc.on.ca. Space will be limited to 12 people, so register early.

June 1 | Deadline for the OMDC Film Fund. The fund provides support to Ontario producers for feature film projects in the final stages of development and production financing and consists of two components:

- Development - Provides funding in the form of an interest-free loan of up to \$25,000 for the final development stage.
- Production - Provides funding in the form of a repayable advance of up to \$400,000 on a last-in basis to complete the financing of a feature film.

Complete eligibility requirements are outlined in the OMDC Film Fund Production Guidelines and the OMDC Film Fund Development Guidelines at <http://www.omdc.on.ca/PageFactory.aspx?PageID=3209>.

June 1-2 | Mags University is now in its 18th year. This two-day conference offers dozens of sessions led by 40 experts from the publishing industry in Canada and the

U.S. Through Canadian Business Press, OMDC is pleased to provide support. Complete details, including registration, at www.magsu.com.

June 2-5 | MagNet: Canada's Magazine Conference is a three-day conference offering over 75 professional development sessions along with several business-building and targeted networking opportunities. OMDC is pleased to provide support to Magazines Canada for this event; visit www.magnetmagazinescanada.ca for full details and registration.

June 19 | Book Summit 2009 - Giving It Away: Books, Business and the Culture of Free - Ontario Media Development Corporation is pleased to provide support for this event which is being co-presented by the Book and Periodical Council and Humber College. The morning panel discussion, *Does It Pay to Be Free?*, will be moderated by Sarah Nelson (former editor of PW, New York) and features Brent Lewis (Harlequin), Darren Wershler (writer, teacher, creator, cultural commentator), Johnny Temple (publisher and musician), and Carolyn Pittis (HarperCollins US). The afternoon portion of the conference will feature a number of workshops discussing free culture. For further details visit www.giving-it-away.com

Sept. 23 | Deadline for Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund. The fund will be launched with information sessions to be held in June. Stay tuned to www.omdc.on.ca for details.

OMDC at the Locations Trade Show 2009 - Donna Zuchlinski, Manager of the Film Commission, and Janice Reid Johnston, Marketing Consultant, represented OMDC at the **Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI)'s Locations Trade Show 2009**, held in Santa Monica, California from April 14-18. Partnered with the Toronto Film and Television Office and the Mississauga Film Office, OMDC's booth featured publications, filming information and an interactive showcase of its award-winning digital location database. As well, Donna Zuchlinski and John Weber, Dufferin Gate Productions Inc. President and CEO, participated on a production finance panel at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles during the same trip, presenting a case study on the highly successful Canada-Ireland co-production *The Tudors*.

22nd Trillium Book Awards



On May 27 the finalists for the **22nd Trillium Book Awards** will be announced. On June 15th, OMDC will host, in association with Authors at Harbourfront Centre, author readings by the finalists. The winners will be announced at a luncheon on June 16th by Minister of Culture, Aileen Carroll, and OMDC Chair, Kevin Shea.

Ontario Talent in the Spotlight

The 29th Genie Awards took place on Saturday, April 4th at the Canada Aviation Museum in Ottawa. Here are some highlights from Ontario-produced features that took home a Genie.

Passchendaele

- **The Golden Reel Award & Best Motion Picture** - Producers: Niv Fichman, Francis Damberger, Paul Gross, Frank Siracusa
- **Achievement in Art Direction/ Production Design** - Carol Spier, Janice Blackie-Goodine
- **Achievement in Costume Design** - Wendy Partridge
- **Achievement in Overall Sound** - Lou Solakofski, Garrell Clark, Steve Foster
- **Achievement in Sound Editing** - Jane Tattersall, Kevin Banks, Barry Gilmore, Andy Malcolm, Dave Rose

Amal

- **Achievement in Music** - Original Song - Dr. Shiva - Rahi Nagufta

Fugitive Pieces

- **Achievement in Cinematography** - Gregory Middleton CSC

Young People F*&%king

- **Performance By An Actress In A Supporting Role** - Kristin Booth

For complete details on the 2009 Genie Award winners (plus photos), please visit www.genieawards.ca.



Niv Fichman and Francis Damberger



Rahi Nagufta

Kristin Booth

Photos courtesy of ACCT

Congratulations to Ontario talent and/or Ontario independent labels on scoring a JUNO win.

Here are some highlights:

- **Video of the year** - Feist (Arts & Crafts Productions Inc.)
- **Alternative Album of the Year / New Group of the Year** - The Stills (Arts & Crafts Productions Inc.)
- **New Artist Of The Year** - LIGHTS (Underground Operation Records)
- **Songwriter Of The Year** - City and Colour - Dallas Green "Waiting..." | "Sleeping Sickness" | "The Girl" Bring Me Your Love (Dine Alone Music Inc.)
- **Adult Alternative Album** - Serena Ryder - *is it ok* (Pandyamonium)
- **Children's Album of the Year** - Barenaked Ladies *Snacktime* (Desperation*Warner)
- **Best Blues Album of the Year** - Julian Fauth *Ramblin' Son* (Electro-Fi*Outside)
- **Classical Composition of the Year** - John Burge *Flanders Fields Reflections* (Marquis Classics)
- **Country Recording Of The Year** - Doc Walker *Beautiful Life* (Open Road)
- **Single of the Year** - Kardinal Offishall *Dangerous* (RC: Kon Live*Universal)
- **Rap Recording of the Year** - Kardinal Offishall *Not 4 Sale* (RC: Kon Live*Universal)
- **Vocal Jazz Album of the Year** - Molly Johnson *Lucky* (A440 Universal)
- **Contemporary Jazz Album of the Year** - Jane Bunnett *Embracing Voices* (EMI)
- **R & B / Soul Recording of the Year** - Divine Brown - *The Love Chronicles* (WEA* Warner)
- **Music DVD of the Year** - *Blue Rodeo*, Christopher Mills and Geoff McLean (WEA* Warner)

For a complete list of JUNO winners go to www.junoawards.ca

Upcoming Events & Industry Deadlines

May 5, 12, 19, & 26 | WIFT-T Feature Film Writing Workshop Part One: Emerging is a two-part writing course that provides an introduction to the major elements of feature film screenwriting, including the development stages of a screenplay. The program also provides in-depth analysis of the major elements of feature film screenwriting. The WIFT-T Feature Film Writing Workshop is presented with support from Telefilm Canada, Ontario Media Development Corporation and Bata Shoe Museum. Visit www.wift.com/production_09_ffw_series1.html for further details.

May 11-14 | Ontario digital creators are invited to come to Vancouver for the events at **Vancouver Digital Week**. Vancouver Digital Week is a not-to-be-missed series of events for top creative minds and business leaders working in digital media. Join visionaries from games and digital entertainment, social media, interactive design, and animation and VFX. Get access to international business matchmaking, big picture conference sessions, high-level seminars and workshops, as well as loads of networking parties. For more information, go to www.vancouverdigitalweek.com.

May 12-13 | Ontario interactive digital media companies are also invited to participate in the **Vancouver International Partnering Forum**. The Forum is a business-to-business matchmaking component of GDC Canada 2009. Attendees are offered up to 20 tailor-made meetings over two days with some of the top production companies in digital and interactive media. Participating companies include Google, Paramount Pictures Interactive, Disney Interactive and Nickelodeon. More information and registration can be found at www.vipf.ca.

May 12-13 | Future Play (Vancouver BC) has partnered with GDC Canada 2009 to bring you a series of influential speakers, panels and sessions to foster thought-provoking and industry-changing ideas. The objective is to provide an atmosphere for

discussion and networking between researchers, educators, industry-professionals and students to advance the game industry by focusing on three main themes: **Future Games Development** - addressing academic research and emerging industry trends in the area of game technology and game design; **Future Games Impacts and Applications** - including academic research and emerging industry trends focused on designing games for learning, for gender, for serious purposes, and to impact society; **Future Games Talent** - providing industry and academic perspectives on the knowledge, skills, and attitude it takes to excel in the games industry. More info at <http://www.futureplay.org/2009-home.php>

May 26-31 | Summer Institute of Film and Television (SIFT) 2009 - The Canadian Screen Training Centre presents SIFT in Ottawa. Choose from 20 workshops in screenwriting, directing, producing, acting, new media, editing and camera/lighting, all taught by top industry professionals. For more information, to view complete workshop line-up and descriptions, or to register, please visit www.cstc.ca/sift. 613-789-4720 or 1-800-742-6016.

June 15-16 | Registration is open for **Interacting with Immersive Worlds Conference (IWIW)**, an international conference presented at Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario. Focusing on the growing cultural significance of interactive media, IWIW will feature academic papers organized along four streams: *Challenges at the Boundaries of Immersive Worlds*, *Critical Approaches to Immersion*, *Immersive Worlds in Education* and *Immersive Worlds in Entertainment*. The IWIW conference also features four keynote speakers: Janet Murray (Georgia Institute of Technology), Espen Aarseth (IT University of Denmark), Geoffrey Rockwell (University of Alberta) and Deborah Todd (Author of Game Design: From Blue Sky to Green Light). Register to attend at www.brocku.ca/iasc/immersiveworlds.

Congratulations

Xenophile Media, an Ontario company, was nominated for the **2009 International Interactive Emmy® Awards** for their production of the *M.I. High Game* for BBC. The winner was announced at MIP-TV in Cannes on March 30, 2009. Although Xenophile Media did not take home the Emmy, *M.I. High Game* has also been nominated for the **2009 Rose d'Or** in Lucerne, Switzerland in the new category of Multi-Platform. The award winner will be announced May 5, 2009.

Congratulations to Ontario co-producers Paul Barkin and Christina Piovesan whose film **Amreeka** (directed by Cherien Dabis) has been invited to the prestigious **Director's Fortnight** program at the Cannes International Film Festival.

Upcoming Awards, Markets and Festivals

- Apr. 30-May 10** Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, Toronto, ON. www.hotdocs.ca
- May 11-14** Vancouver Digital Week, Vancouver, BC. www.vancouverdigitalweek.com
- May 12-13** Game Developers Conference Canada, Vancouver, BC. www.gdc-canada.com
- May 13-24** Cannes International Film Festival, Cannes, France. www.festival-cannes.com
- May 14-24** Inside Out Film Festival, Toronto, ON. www.insideout.ca
- May 27** The finalists for the **22nd Trillium Book Awards** will be announced at www.omdc.on.ca.
- May 28-31** Book Expo America (BEA), New York City, New York, USA. www.bookexpoamerica.com
- June 1-2** 2009 Mags University, Toronto, ON. www.magsu.com
- June 2-5** MagNet: Canada's Magazine Conference, Toronto, ON.
www.magazinescanada.ca/magnet
- June 5-7** nextMEDIA Conference, Banff, AB. www.nextmediaevents.com
- June 7-10** Banff World Television Festival, Banff, AB. www.banff2009.com
- June 13** Small Press Book Fair, Toronto, ON. www.torontosmallpressbookfair.org
- June 15** OMDC will host, in association with Authors at Harbourfront Centre, **Author Readings by the 22nd Trillium Book Award finalists**. Toronto, ON. www.omdc.on.ca
- June 16-21** CFC Worldwide Short Film Festival, Toronto, ON. www.worldwideshortfilmfest.com
- June 17-21** NXNE (North by Northeast), Toronto, ON. www.nxne.com
- June 23-26** Sunnyside of the DOC, La Rochelle, France. www.sunnysideofthedoc.com
- July 9-12** Tokyo International Book Fair, Tokyo, Japan. web.reedexpo.co.jp/tibf/english
- July 21-23** Casual Connect, Seattle, Washington. <http://seattle.casualconnect.org>
- Aug. 21-23** Ottawa Folk Festival, Ottawa, ON. www.ottawafolk.org
- Aug. 27-Sept. 7** The World Film Festival/Festival de Films Monde, Montreal, QC. www.ffm-montreal.org/en
- Sept. 10-19** Toronto International Film Festival, Toronto, ON. www.bell.ca/filmfest
- Sept. 16-18** Popkomm, Berlin, Germany. http://www1.messe-berlin.de/vip8_1/website/Internet/Internet/www.popkomm/englisch/index.html
- Sept. 17-26** Atlantic Film Festival, Halifax, NS. www.atlanticfilm.com
- Sept. 19-27** Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival, Sudbury, ON. <http://www.cinefest.com/>
- Sept. 27** The Word on The Street, Toronto, ON. www.thewordonthestreet.ca/toronto/
- Sept. 30-Oct.4** Pop Montreal, Montreal, QC. www.popmontreal.com

E-mail your news and events by the third Thursday of each month to newsletter@omdc.on.ca. To add or remove yourself from this newsletter list, e-mail Reception@omdc.on.ca

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