



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### \$205,000 FOR B.C. ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

**Vancouver, B.C. (Dec. 15, 2008):** 2010 Legacies Now, in partnership with the Province of B.C., is investing nearly \$205,000 in 22 provincial organizations as part of its commitment to strengthening the arts and cultural sector in B.C. Investments will be made in projects ranging from the collaboration of Galiano youth and professional filmmakers to produce an anti-bullying program, to a project showcasing the works of local artists with developmental disabilities, led by the Kelowna Art Gallery.

*"We Are Artists* will offer an opportunity to showcase the work of a population that is seldom given a chance to share their artistic vision, and will demonstrate to the general public that adults with developmental disabilities experience authentic art making when creating artworks," said Renée Burgess, head of public programming at the Kelowna Art Gallery.

2010 Legacies Now and the Province encourage and support creative activities through programs like Innovations, which helps arts, cultural and heritage organizations create new opportunities for community members to participate in arts and cultural activities. This year, 22 organizations in nine B.C. communities will share \$204,650 in Innovations funds.

"Arts and culture are a key part of British Columbia's continued economic strength and quality of life," said Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts Bill Bennett. "Through the Innovations program, we are investing in some of our province's most talented and creative individuals, to the great benefit of their communities."

Lori Baxter, Director of Arts for 2010 Legacies Now, added: "Innovations supports a wide range of works that break new ground for arts organizations and audiences. Many of the projects receiving support will involve experimentation with the creative process, new technology and interactions across disciplines."

Today's announcement brings the Innovations program's overall investment in the arts since 2005 to more than \$1.6 million. 2010 Legacies Now is committed to increasing community engagement in creative activities, improving the arts and culture sector's economic base and organizational capacity, and strengthening the sector's ability to achieve artistic excellence.

2010 Legacies Now is a not-for-profit society that works in partnership with community organizations, non-government organizations, the private sector and all levels of government to develop sustainable legacies in sport and recreation, physical activity, arts, literacy, accessibility and volunteerism. 2010 Legacies Now actively assists communities in discovering and creating inclusive social and economic opportunities leading up to, and beyond, the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. For more information, please visit [www.2010LegaciesNow.com](http://www.2010LegaciesNow.com).

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