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## **NEW ARTS FUND FOR YOUTH**

### **ORGANIZERS OF WORLD FESTIVAL OF CHILDREN'S THEATRE SUPPORT YOUNG ARTISTS IN PERPETUITY**

**November 23, 2017** – Stratford, ON – Early in June of 2016, the City of Stratford made history by hosting an International Amateur Theatre Association event – the first time an event like this had ever been held in North America.

For 10 days, the 14<sup>th</sup> World Festival of Children's Theatre brought together the world's best in children's theatre. Over 200 young thespians between the ages of seven and 15 rocked the stages of Stratford, participating in performances, workshops and academic events exploring the theme "My World, Our Planet."

Now that the dust has settled on the Festival, the organizers want to show their appreciation to a community that opened its arms and hearts to them. As such, they have established the [Stratford Perth Youth Arts Fund](#) at the [Stratford Perth Community Foundation](#) to provide support for local children and youth arts programs and projects. "We wanted to do something that would continue to inspire and engage generations of young people around arts, theatre and culture – today, tomorrow, forever," shares Dave Bean, Treasurer of the 14<sup>th</sup> World Festival of Children's Festival.

"We are just thrilled about this Fund," adds Tracy Van Kalsbeek, Executive Director of the Community Foundation. "We receive a lot of arts programming grant requests, yet we have limited funds focused in this area. Having the Stratford Perth Youth Arts Fund will assist us in providing better support to our local arts organizations."

Donations can be made to the **Stratford Perth Youth Arts Fund** by clicking [HERE](#).

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#### **About the [Stratford Perth Community Foundation](#)**

The Stratford Perth Community Foundation (SPCF) is an organization for everyone and unique because donations – large or small – are never spent but are combined and invested. The earned income is used to make grants to local charities year after year to build a vibrant not-for-profit sector in Stratford, St. Marys and Perth County. To make all this work, we share our unique understanding of community needs and help mobilize and guide donors to specific community initiatives. For more information about SPCF please visit [www.spccf.ca](http://www.spccf.ca)

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