Toronto Arts Council (TAC) is the City of Toronto’s funding body for artists and arts organizations. Since 1974, TAC has played a major role in the city’s cultural industries by supporting a very broad range of artistic activity. TAC grants lead to exhibitions, performances, readings and workshops seen annually by over 9.5 million people throughout the City of Toronto and beyond. Through its ongoing funding, TAC cultivates a rich engagement between artists and audiences.

ARTS SPOTLIGHT

Ward: Willowdale
Organization: Subtle Technologies
TAC Grant: Visual/Media Arts
subtletechnologies.com

Founded in 1997, Subtle Technologies is a non-profit organization that invests in the integration of arts, science and technology. Through their annual festival and year-round events, they work to educate and nurture the next generation of makers and thinkers. In 2017, Subtle Technologies organized a weeklong project in Lee Lifeson Art Park (Willowdale) titled Summersong. Led by Indigenous sound and radio artist Autumn Chacon and artist-scientist Mitchell Akiyama, Summersong was a youth-focused education program that taught students about basic radio technologies, including making field recordings and creating their own antennae for broadcasting. Through its free arts-focused programming, Subtle Technologies is helping Toronto youth explore the unique cross-sections between technology and art in engaging ways.
OUR MISSION
Supporting artists and arts organizations with responsive and innovative granting programs.

OUR VISION: CREATIVE CITY, BLOCK BY BLOCK.
Working towards a vibrant and creative city where every neighbourhood is enriched by the transformative benefits of the arts.

In 2017, TAC:

- Distributed over $18 million in grants
- Supported 537 arts organizations and collectives and 492 professional artists
- Funded approximately 50 activities in ward 18, Willowdale

With an application success rate of 43%, TAC funds only a fraction of the artistic activity happening in the city. With more funds, we can invest more in the organizations and artists who are helping to build our vibrant, creative city.

The arts are not only important to Toronto artists, but they are important to Toronto residents. Toronto Arts Foundation’s Arts Stats 2018 revealed that nearly 90% of Torontonians believe that the arts make Toronto a better place to live, and more than 75% of them would like to see more opportunities to attend the arts in every Toronto ward.

We are happy to talk to you further about the impact of the arts on the city, its value for Toronto residents and what Toronto Arts Council is doing to strengthen the city through the arts.

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