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.

Created in 2009, Art Spin is a multi-disciplinary arts organization that produces large scale exhibitions in unique public spaces along with curated bicycle-led art tours. The goal of their events is to bridge the gap between the art world and the general public. In 2017, Art Spin held 3 bicycle-led art tours that looked at Toronto’s relationship to Lake Ontario. Each bike tour featured unique dance, visual art and video projects. Audiences at Sunnyside Park (Parkdale-High Park) enjoyed Carrying Place, a video installation in response to rising lake waters. By presenting contemporary artworks in alternative, everyday spaces, Art Spin is moving art outside the traditional gallery context to make the topics they explore even more relatable to audiences.
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 more than 50 activities in ward 4, Parkdale—High Park

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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Alexander Bordokas, Artistic Director, Maracatu Mar Aberto; photo by Sean Howard