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.

Founded in 1997, Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival is the largest photography event in the world, and a premiere cultural experience in Canada. With over 200 exhibitions and happenings in May in the Greater Toronto Area, CONTACT aims to present outstanding photographic imagery that reflects relevant, modern issues. In 2017, CONTACT produced 15 public installations throughout Toronto, including photography displayed on billboards at Dovercourt Rd and Dupont St (Davenport). The 2017 festival theme was Focus on Canada, which looked at the complexity of Canada across space and time in recognition of its 150th anniversary. By celebrating the work of lens-based artists, CONTACT is fostering a broader interest in the art of photography and building audience engagement throughout Toronto’s streets and galleries.
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 150 activities in ward 9, Davenport

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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