



LIZ SANDALS, MPP

Guelph

MEDIA RELEASE
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Raising the Profile of Jazz and Improvisational Music Thanks to \$134,800 OTF Grant

Guelph – Liz Sandals, MPP for Guelph, and Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) representative Catharine Collins announced today that a \$134,800 grant is being awarded to the partnership between the Guelph Jazz Festival and the Improvisation, Community, and Social Practice (ICASP) project.

“I am pleased that this Ontario Trillium Foundation funding will support our outstanding Guelph Jazz Festival in expanding their programming, especially the Nuit Blanche event which was introduced so successfully this past year,” said MPP Liz Sandals.

The three-year OTF grant will allow this partnership to provide ongoing community outreach activities, which includes their Improviser-in-Residence program, to enhance their Nuit Blanche programming, and strengthen their overall capacity by hiring staff.

“A commitment to diversity, collaboration, and rootedness in the community have long been hallmarks of the Guelph Jazz Festival, and with the generous support of this recent Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, we're excited to have the opportunity to enlarge on these commitments as well as on the success of our existing outreach initiatives,” said Ajay Heble, Artistic Director of the Guelph Jazz Festival and Project Director for ICASP. “Through partnerships with a range of community-based organizations, we will use the funds we've received from OTF to develop innovative strategies to put improvising musicians in direct, meaningful, and sustained contact with the broader communities in which they live and work.”

Over its sixteen year history, the Guelph Jazz Festival has sought to celebrate performance practices that challenge and expand our understanding of the music's defined limits. As one of Canada's most influential music festivals, the Guelph Jazz Festival is committed to providing opportunities for all people to be excited by and engaged in improvisational jazz and experimental music.

www.guelphjazzfestival.com

A leading grantmaker in Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation strengthens the capacity of the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives. An agency of the Government of Ontario, OTF builds healthy and vibrant communities. www.trilliumfoundation.org.

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