

## LACOMBE ARTS ENDOWMENT GRANT SUCCESS STORIES

Recipients of the Lacombe Arts Endowment Grants are as varied as the citizens of Lacombe are. They are creative, inspirational, and enjoy sharing their learnings with others. Meet just a few of our PAST award recipients, and see how a grant from the Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund built their confidence, increased their skills in their chosen field and where they are headed in the future:

[Scott Tronnes – film](#)

[Blair Regier - ballet](#)

[Katherine Tilbury - piano](#)

[Danielle Fokerts – visual art](#)

[Harbour Lehocky - violin](#)

You can help more artists like these achieve their goals. Please donate to the Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund today. [Donate Online Here](#) or drop into Lacombe City Hall to make a donation in person.

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## Scott Tronnes – Videographer

Scott was the very first recipient of a grant from the Arts Endowment Fund in 2008.

I was sincerely honored to have my video chosen to receive the Lacombe Arts Endowment inaugural scholarship. The funds paid my attendance at the Teen Video Intensive course for two weeks at Red Deer College this Summer.

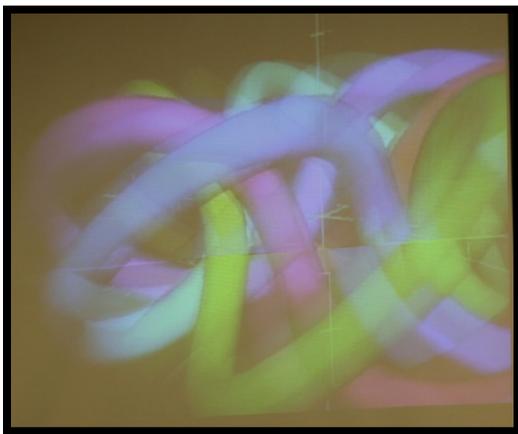
The intention of these courses is to teach students how to write, shoot, act, direct, edit and produce their own movies. I am very interested in pursuing a future career in movie production, so these courses seemed an excellent opportunity to grow and learn.

Throughout the course, we worked 10+ hours a day to complete our projects. We learned new techniques and used incredible equipment. It was a very valuable and rewarding experience.

Following these two weeks, I have kept busy putting my new knowledge to some practical use. I was hired to film two weddings this summer; I was asked by one of my teachers to produce a slideshow of video and photos of students' work and activities (this was used during our schools awards assembly this fall); and I am presently at work on a video project for my English 30 class. Additionally as I love to ski, I am really looking forward to shooting my 2008 / 2009 ski movie this winter.

As I thoroughly enjoy using my imagination, creativity and new skills, I hope to gain additional exposure in order to develop my interest in to a business enterprise.

Thank you once again, to the Lacombe Arts Endowment Committee for having made this terrific opportunity available to me.



An image from Scott's computer generated art in film production.

*You can help other film makers like Scott achieve their goals. Please donate to the Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund today. [Donate Online Here](#) or drop into Lacombe City Hall to make a donation in person.*

*Thank you!*



**Blair Regier** attended the School of Alberta Ballet's professional division summer intensive in 2018.

"The intensive was three weeks long and I loved every second of it! I have been looking up to several dancers from the Alberta Ballet and they have been my main inspiration throughout my dance career so far. Going to this intensive was an absolute dream come true. I met amazing teachers, dancers, and advisors. During the three weeks, so many lessons were learned."

"While attending this summer intensive I learned so much from my amazing teachers. I was lucky enough to get Ms. Bennett who is a former dancer for the company division of Alberta Ballet. She is the mistress for the company which is a huge job. She writes down all the choreography for their performances, teaches the dancers, and helps cast. Of course she has many more duties that I don't know the details of. She taught us the real foundation and technique of the art and really pushed us to be the best we could be. She challenged us every day to try something new and I felt like that training was exactly what I needed to keep progressing towards my goal. I feel that this intensive really improved my abilities and my knowledge in dance and I am going to use all the things I learned from my experience there to keep pushing myself.

My new skills will help me this dance season not only with my dances but my teaching abilities. I am assisting three classes this year and the new things I've learned will really help me improve the future dancers of my studio."

*You can help other dancers like Blair achieve their goals. Please donate to the Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund today. [Donate Online Here](#) or drop into Lacombe City Hall to make a donation in person.*

*Thank you!*

## Katherine Tilbury

Katherine was granted funding to assist her towards achieving her Bachelor of Music Degree, specializing in performance, at the University of Alberta.

“The Peter Lougheed Leadership College is the interdisciplinary program that is through the University of Alberta. This program has changed my outlook on many things, including the future of my career. Through the college they provide scholars the opportunity to apply for a grant; with which they can participate in a “stretch project” of their own choosing and making. This allows students to dive head-first into a project in their own discipline and learn something that is of value to them.



For my project, I chose to go to Phnom Penh, Cambodia and live there for 2 months volunteering through teaching music and art in rural and urban areas to children and young adults. I worked there as a pioneer going into communities who had not had any sort of work done in the arts. It was exciting, nerve racking and an informative learning experience all at the same time. I was there from the end of June until about a week before the Fall semester began in August, so the transition was a bit crazy but well worth it!

This was an incredible experience that has made me re-think what I want my graduate studies to be about. It sparked in me a desire to see how we can use the arts for the greater good, how we can find healing, promote social change and community building. Music can be an amazing tool for global development. For this reason, I am now considering studies in Ethnomusicology (or studies of the music of the world) and figuring out how to create more social change through not only music but in all art forms.

In my Piano Pedagogy course, there was also a CSL learning component with a Community Service Learning addition to the regular class time experience. I was given the opportunity to work with the Keyboards for Kids program in Edmonton who teach piano to students in an inner-city school who would otherwise not be able to take lessons. The time there, although only for a semester, was eye-opening and I think really set the stage for what I was going to try to accomplish in the summer. Music is often something that is for privileged few, but I hope and dream that it will become more accessible and available to kids everywhere whether they live in a big city or in a smaller center like Lacombe.

*Katie's note to the Granting Committee:*

*Although the objectives slightly changed and I went through somewhat of a rollercoaster year, I believe that what I gained from this last year of education at the University of Alberta is much more than I could have ever anticipated. This would not have been possible if I had not received the grant funding from you, because I would not have been able to afford the Peter Lougheed class (as it was an add on to my regular course load). I learned a great deal in my regular classes*

*about what it means to be a professional musician, and techniques that will stay with me for the rest of my life and career. But the experiential knowledge that I had gained is much more valuable to me, and you made it possible.*

*You can help other musicians like Katheriner achieve their goals. Please donate to the Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund today. [Donate Online Here](#) or drop into Lacombe City Hall to make a donation in person.*

*Thank you!*

## Danielle Folkerts – Visual Artist

I am so honored to have received your financial support and encouragement, as I still continue to work hard on developing my art practice and creative business.

I am thrilled to report that my residency at Small Pond Arts, in Picton, Ontario went better than I could have planned! On my drive out to Ontario I made sure to make a stop at the Detroit Institute for the Arts for some old master and contemporary art inspiration and history – it did not disappoint! During my time in Picton I was fortunate to live with Krista and her husband Mile, who are both talented, inspiring artists, and strong arts and community advocates. Your support went directly to my residency fee of \$1350.00 September 6 – October 6, 2016. This included my housing, studio and meals.

I spent a great amount of time and energy networking and getting to know the Picton and Kingston art scene and community. I was fortunate enough to join and assist Krista, who serves on the Prince Edward Country Arts Council, at the Baxter Centre in Bloomfield for an artist talk and lecture on the importance of social media as an artist. I became a great resource for an older generation of artists in the area with a lot of questions surrounding the topic! It was amazing.

During my residency I also spent time brainstorming and developing future workshop and class materials. What I am very excited about is my new relationship with the Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning here in Kingston. I have been collaborating with Shannon Brown, to create a dynamic children's PA Day workshop series that began this past October. The feedback was incredible from both the kids and their parents - I was even featured in the local paper! I am happy to announce we have a selection of upcoming dates already for 2017.

I was also approached and challenged by the Kingston Shoe Box Project this fall to run, organize, and instruct a giant paint party workshop to raise a huge collection of shoe boxes. These shoe boxes went directly to women in need in Kingston over the holidays. It was a successfully sold out fundraiser and I was excited to work alongside them in creating a unique and exciting event.

My objectives for this residency were met, and exceeded my own expectations. All of my local involvement and current success has benefited directly from my dedication, motivation and networking leading up, during, and after my residency. It set my entire fall and winter up for an incredible schedule of events.

Update 2019 – Danielle now lives in Kingston Ontario, and has been contracted by Lulu Lemon and Oxford Learning in Kingston Ontario to paint storefront window murals. She teaches a variety of workshops at the Tett Centre and the Kingston Collective.



*You can help other visual artists like Danielle achieve their goals. Please donate to the Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund today. [Donate Online Here](#) or drop into Lacombe City Hall to make a donation in person.*

## Harbour Lehocky, violin studies

Harbour was a 15 year old student from Lacombe and one of the 2018 Endowment Award winners. Harbour attended violin studies at the Orford Music Academy in Quebec for two weeks, and when asked about her experience, this is what she shared:

“I learned a lot from the amazing teachers I studied with and also from the other musicians I spent time with and listened to. I was motivated and inspired to practice up to six hours a day. I could not have attended this academy without the financial support of the Arts Endowment Fund and my parents.”



**Harbour Lehocky**  
**Violinist**

Harbour received a \$2500 grant from the Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund to further her education in the arts and follow her musical dreams.

*You can help other musicians like Harbour achieve their goals. Please donate to the Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund today. [Donate Online Here](#) or drop into Lacombe City Hall to make a donation in person.*

*Thank you!*

