

# Snapshot of our recent dares



## Shaw Festival 2010

This Fall, twenty-six youths experienced live theatre at Niagara-on-the-Lake's **Shaw Festival**, taking in a performance of *The Doctor's Dilemma*, a play which examines a difficult question of personal morality while facing a tough decision. The play kept everyone on the edge of their seats. One young man's response was that it was "better than playing his favourite video game." We thank **Lombard Canada** for sponsoring this wonderful opportunity each year.



Kids get into character at the Stratford Festival's costume warehouse.

## Forty Youths 'Dare to Drama' in Stratford

Forty young DAREarts actors enthusiastically dove into Shakespeare's *The Tempest* at the DAREarts Summer Drama Camp, guided by professional actors **Adam Waxman** and **Jennifer Gillespie**. After reading the play and collaborating on their own versions of Shakespeare's classic, two DAREarts camps - one in east Toronto and one in the west, visited the Stratford Festival for a tour of the costume warehouse and to see *The Tempest*, starring **Christopher Plummer**. Afterwards, Mr. Plummer hosted the youths in a private interview session, which garnered them plenty of insight into the realities of the acting world. With this knowledge in hand, the young actors returned to Toronto to perform their own versions of *The Tempest*.

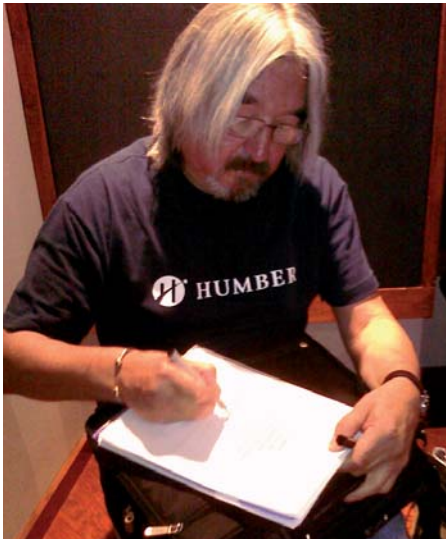


The DAREarts Drama camps enjoyed a private Q & A session with **Christopher Plummer** following his performance in *The Tempest* at the Stratford Festival.

Lead Supporters:



## DAREarts in Northern Aboriginal Communities



Canadian Aboriginal actor, author and artist Graham Greene lent his voice to the narration of DAREarts' documentary *Webequie* and signs the script.



The kids in Webequie and Marten Falls develop confidence while practicing creative skills.



Camera in hand, the youth gained a new perspective on their everyday life.

In September, a new group of thirty **Webequie** teens worked with a DAREarts teaching team consisting of Aboriginal artist **Cathy Elliott**, videographer **Peter Elliott**, musician **Glenn Marais**, Aboriginal actor and dancer **Waawaate Fobister** and playwright **Linda Carson**. Together, guided by elders, they created a story and prepared a multi-arts presentation of music, drama, photography and art as a way to share their story with their community at a feast on the final day of the program.

Following Webequie, the team introduced the program for the first time in nearby **Marten Falls (Ogoki Post)**, a community which also faces extreme challenges that isolation brings. The community's only school goes only to grade 8. Children in grades 5 - 8 took up the 'DARE' for the first time to do something they had never done before. They wrote their own story and told it to their community at the end of a week of workshops in song, dance, drama, art and photography. The program established trust within the community and the kids are eager for their new circle of DAREarts friends to return.

*"The children need people to invest and care about them. They need somewhere to expend their creative energies. How much better to invest in something creative instead of vandalism. I believe the DAREarts program is such a positive thing for the children here."*

- Cora Hunse, Community Health Nurse, Ogoki, ON

Aboriginal actor **Graham Greene** narrates the DAREarts documentary *Webequie*, edited by **Railway Town Productions** and sponsored by **Noront Resources**. The documentary tells a compelling story of the challenges faced by the remote Aboriginal community and the journey of healing that took place among its youth through a three year project with DAREarts. The documentary received positive feedback in both Webequie and Marten Falls and is hoped to inspire other Aboriginal communities.

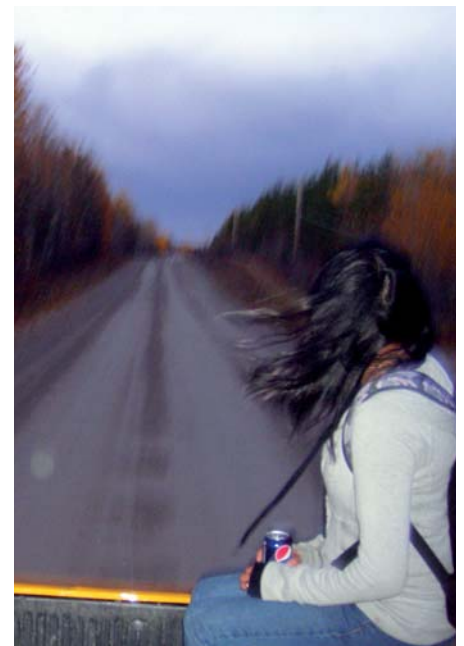
*"This documentary, left with the school, is helping to keep the culture of the school alive and give the students a base to ground them through all the comings and goings of new teachers."* - Team member **Linda Carson**

### Funding from the Government of Ontario

DAREarts is pleased to announce a grant of \$40,000 from the **Government of Ontario** through the *Cultural Strategic Investment Fund (CSIF)*, administered by the Ministry of Culture. This funding has allowed DAREarts to expand its programs in Webequie and Marten Falls, working alongside elders to empower youth in these remote communities and reduce their sense of isolation by helping them share their creative voices and connect with other youth across Ontario.

*"There was growth in all our students: greater self-confidence, higher self-esteem, improved cooperative skills."*

- **Mary Gardiner**, Webequie School Principal



Aboriginal youth creatively told their stories through the camera lens.

## 'We Are One' DARE to Sing - Jazz

Over 250 children from six participating schools in the TDSB Scarborough district gather weekly to experience the power of jazz music with the **We Are One** jazz choir, a joint venture between **DAREarts** and **Howard Rees Jazz Workshops**. Legendary jazz master **Dr. Barry Harris** makes occasional guest appearances to inspire the kids in preparation for their final concert on January 28<sup>th</sup> at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. For tickets call 905-729-0097.



Jazz legend **Dr. Barry Harris** leads Scarborough children in singing with the *We Are One* jazz choir.

## DARE to Design

The **ERA 2011** rug design competition, held by **Weavers Art** yielded five winners and five finalists. The contest, open to all Canadian high schoolers, encouraged teens to design a rug for the Weavers Art 2011 ERA collection. Winning designs will be hand-woven and sold through Weavers Art. A portion of the proceeds will go to DAREarts. Visit [weaversart.com](http://weaversart.com).

Congratulations winners: Daniel Roher, Markie Tuckett, Tasreem Merghani, James Sylvester, and DAREarts grad Anna Kan! Finalists: Devante Thomas, Nicole Mech, Lea Jonas, Vicky Chen, and Kaan Kun. Winning teens learned from Weavers Art President Michael Pourvakil, how their designs will be transformed into rugs.

## DARE to Sing - Glee

Students at Dixon Grove JMS responded overwhelmingly to **DAREarts** and the **Queensmen of Toronto Men's Chorus** with the formation of a weekly after-school Glee Club directed by **Rachel Cleland-Ainsworth** and **Sam Chung**. The 45 youth recently sang *O Canada* to an audience of 800 at an Ontario Conservative Party event. An energetic and awe-inspiring performance!

## DARE 2 Act

**DARE 2 ACT (D2A)** encourages DAREarts grads to take positive "action" using creative and technological tools. With Toronto as their after-school classroom, they explore the city's diverse cultures, while enhancing financial, career and leadership skills.

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, **Lombard Canada** hosted the D2As in a 'Global Work Party', part of a worldwide movement to solve the climate change crisis. The teens delivered hand-painted t-shirts designed by students of Beaumonde Heights Elementary School with messages of climate change solutions and learned about insurance through interaction with Lombard staff. Art supplies and organic, sweat-shop free t-shirts were supplied through the generous personal donations of Lombard employees.



Our group of **DARE 2 ACT (D2A)** youth, proudly displaying climate change t-shirts, were inspired by the opportunity to learn about leadership from Lombard Canada President **Fabien Richenberger** and staff.



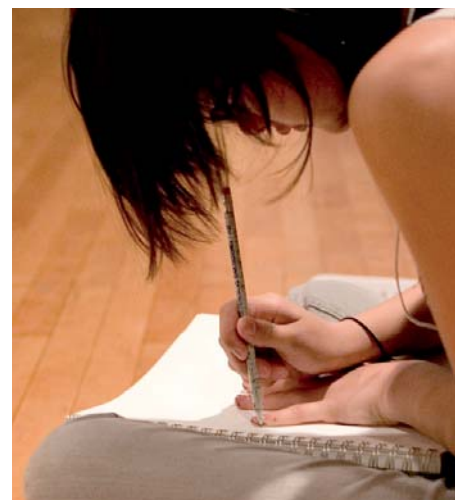
The arts opens up a new world of possibilities.

## Vancouver 2010

Twenty-eight grade 7 students from Britannia Elementary Community School launched a week-long program in Vancouver's east side, supported by **Lombard Canada**, **OPUS Framing & Art Supplies** and the **Canucks Family Education Centre**. In partnership with the **Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company**, DAREarts engaged the youth in an intense week of arts activities inspired by a performance of *"The Fantasticks"*. The students' own performance piece and four murals were displayed in the lobby of the Playhouse on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Canucks left winger **Tanner Glass** was on hand to support their work.

*"During the DAREarts week the Playhouse Salons, Lobby and the newly opened Recital Hall were all a hive of positive energy and activity."*

- **Max Reimer**, Artistic Managing Director, Vancouver Playhouse



The arts inspires and motivates kids to learn.



Handmade cards like this one, by 13-year-old **Melissa**, are available for purchase.



A unique card by 14-year-old **Mikaela**.

## Support DAREarts with Children For Peace cards

The holidays are the best time to show your clients, employees and loved ones how much you care about the well-being of children by purchasing **DAREarts Children for Peace cards**. Thousands of children across Canada have each made a card to support our Canadian troops and help war-affected children in Afghanistan.

**Order today! 905-729-0097**

## A DAREarts Grad speaks

*"For as long as I can remember, DAREarts has been a part of my life. With the skills and knowledge I have learned from the DAREarts program, I have found myself being guided to become the person I want to be..."*

*I believe it is important for everyone to see why this program is such a valid way of learning. It removes traditional learning as we know it and teaches us history and science through life and life skills. It challenges us to see things we normally would not see and pushes us to our limits in the best way possible." - Bailey, 17*

## Did You Know?

You can designate DAREarts as your charity of choice when you donate to the United Way?

## Increase Your Gift at no extra cost to you!

Many companies will match or even double an employee's gift to a non-profit charity. If your company has a matching gifts program, please enclose the appropriate form with your gift. We will complete the required information and return the form to your company.

Responses received from this year's participant surveys...

**100%**  
of parents want their child involved again next year

**100%**  
of teachers want their students involved again next year

**100%**  
of principals want their schools involved again next year

**98%**  
of children loved being a leader

**89%**  
self-determined increase in children's leadership skills

## Save these Dates!

January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011

'We Are One' Children's Jazz Choir Concert  
Toronto Centre for the Arts

April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Annual DAREarts Leadership Awards  
Celebrating Arts & Leadership  
at The Liberty Grand.

Call 905-729-0097 for more information.

**Happy Holidays!**

## Help Ignite Change in a Child's Life

Your gift will help empower children to reach their potential through experiences in the arts.

**Yes!** I would like to help DAREarts ignite change in the lives of children using the arts. (See benefits at [www.darearts.com](http://www.darearts.com).)

- I/We wish to join the Governors Council with a \$1,000 gift
- I/We can empower a child with a \$450 gift
- I/We can empower a child with a \$100 gift
- I/We can empower a child with a \$50 gift
- I/We can empower a child in the amount of a \$\_\_\_\_\_ gift

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by:  
Cheque  Amex  Visa  MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to:  
DAREarts Foundation Inc.  
3042 Concession 3 Adjala, RR1  
Palgrave, ON LON 1P0

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

If you prefer to receive your newsletters electronically, please e-mail [info@darearts.com](mailto:info@darearts.com).

**DAREarts**

**t.905-729-0097 or 1-888-540-ARTS**  
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