

The theatre department tours Canada with productions from the subscription series and also forms small companies which perform in high schools and elsewhere, offering professional theatre in English and French. Workshops for students and teachers are among other NAC services.

The dance and variety department brings in some 100 different shows a year. The NAC is the only centre in Canada where every Canadian dance company of importance appears and has been a showcase for performers from every part of the country. Each year during July a festival of mainly musical entertainment is presented, centred around the NAC's own opera productions. Altogether, there are about 900 performances annually in the NAC, entertaining almost 800,000 people.

Support for the arts

17.2

The Canada Council

17.2.1

The Canada Council was created in 1957 by an act of Parliament to foster and promote the study and enjoyment of, and the production of works in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Under the provisions of the Government Organization (Scientific Activities) Act passed by Parliament in June 1977, the council's work in the humanities and social sciences became the responsibility of a new body, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, on April 1, 1978.

The council offers a wide-ranging program of financial assistance and services to individuals and organizations in the arts. It also maintains the secretariat for the Canadian commission for UNESCO, administers the Killam program of scholarly support, funds an explorations program to assist projects on Canada's cultural and historical heritage and innovative creative projects and has some responsibility for promoting Canadian culture abroad.

The council is headed by a 21-member board appointed by the Government of Canada. Its decisions on policies and programs are implemented by a staff headed by a director and associate director, both appointed by the Government of Canada.

The council enjoys a large measure of autonomy, setting its own policies and developing and carrying out its own programs in consultation with the artistic community, represented by a 27-member advisory arts panel composed of Canadian artists in many disciplines. A large number of artists and arts-related professionals also serve on council juries, selection committees and advisory boards. The council works in close co-operation with federal and provincial cultural agencies and with a bureau of international co-operation of the external affairs department.

The council's income is derived from three sources: an annual parliamentary grant which amounted to \$39.2 million for the year ended March 31, 1979; interest from an endowment fund established by Parliament in 1957; and private funds willed or donated and used in accordance with the wishes of the donors.

In 1978-79 the council disbursed nearly \$42.5 million in grants and services to the arts, nearly \$4.7 million of the total to individual artists, nearly \$1.5 million for explorations grants, \$758,000 for an art bank, and \$2.4 million for a touring office. Total grants and services by category amounted to over \$10.4 million for music and opera, \$9.6 million for theatre, \$4.7 million for dance, \$4.9 million for visual arts and photography, \$2.0 million for film, video, audio and performance art, and \$8.8 million for writing, publishing and translation. The Killam scholarships funded by the late Mrs. Dorothy J. Killam support scholars of exceptional ability engaged in research projects of broad significance. In 1978-79, awards made under this program totalled \$1.2 million.

A number of small programs funded by the federal government or external sources are administered by the council. They include grants to Canadian cultural organizations for visits to Canada of distinguished foreign artists; grants for young Canadian artists wishing to study music, ballet or theatre in the USSR; and provision of studio space for Canadian visual artists in Paris and New York.

The council annually awards three \$20,000 prizes from the Molson Foundation for outstanding contributions in the arts, humanities and social sciences. The Governor General's literary awards financed by the council are awarded each year to six Canadian