

Community Matters

CAHEP Helps Youth to ‘Get Creative’

The Community Arts & Heritage Education Project (CAHEP) is a local organization whose mandate is to develop and implement inclusive, culturally diverse, high-quality arts and heritage intergenerational programming for people of all ages. CAHEP focuses on bringing professional artists into the community to educate and explore through art.

In 2022, CAHEP was granted \$5,337 for their 'Getting Creative' program from the Ontario Endowment for Children & Youth in Recreation Fund at the Thunder Bay Community Foundation. CAHEP partnered with the Boys & Girls Club of Thunder Bay to provide this programming to their members in grades 4-6. The funding brought CAHEP into the Boys & Girls Club from January to June for 24 sessions, once a week for a 1 hour after-school program. Every artist brought a different perspective and project style to the program and taught the young artists a variety of unique art & craft styles. Throughout the 6-month timeline, CAHEP was able to put on 30+ projects for hundreds of youth in the community.

“It was always a great feeling to come into the Boys & Girls Club and have the kids run into the craft room asking what we were doing that day. I myself still have one of the collage pieces I did with one of our regulars, Pryor, on my fridge for everyone to see. Creating programs that challenge, encourage, and teach young artists new skills is a privilege for CAHEP. We are very grateful for the funding we received from the Thunder Bay Community Foundation,” says Chris Merkley, CAHEP Co-Director.

“I would like to thank all of our donors who make all of this possible. Without them, we could not do what we do. We encourage organizations who need funding to apply for a grant this Fall,” says Mike Belliveau, Chair of the Thunder Bay Community Foundation.

The Thunder Bay Community Foundation specializes in building Endowment Funds to support the ever-changing needs of Thunder Bay. Every Fall, they give grants to local organizations for programs and services that support people of all ages. This year, the Thunder Bay Community Foundation will be accepting Grant Applications from September 5 - October 15, 2023. **For more information or to donate, visit their website at tbcf.org or call (807) 475-7279.**



Photos provided by the Community Arts & Heritage Education Project

Are you a Charitable Organization in need of funding for 2024?

Consider applying for a Grant through our online grant portal!

The Thunder Bay Community Foundation is accepting applications until **October 15, 2023.**

