

## CULTURAL MAPPING COMMUNITY STORIES



WEA Awards and Grants Recipients | 2016

# Windsor Endowment for the arts

In 1995, the Windsor Endowment for the Arts was established to create a permanent funding base for community artists and arts organizations.

WEA's four founding members were Mary Rodgers (Arts Council-Windsor & Region), Gina Lori Riley (Gina Lori Riley Dance Enterprises), Barb Bondy (Artcite) and Nancy Nicholson, President.

Fundraising began with the City of Windsor granting seed monies for a cultural assessment by

consultant John Fisher, who stated "WEA is not only an excellent idea but does not exist anywhere else in North America."

WEA was incorporated in 1998, and a strategic plan was set forth:

- Create a stable funding base
- Establish principles for the growth and governance of the organization
- Develop a systematic approach for the evaluation of funding applications

In 1999, the City of Windsor approved – as a matching grant – the funding of \$250,000 to establish the endowment fund.

In 2010, the WEAs, a biennial awards and grants program, to acknowledge and financially benefit emerging artists and arts organizations and celebrate community leaders in Windsor-Essex was inaugurated.

Since 2010, WEA has distributed \$97,000 in grant funding, and celebrated 64 awards and grant recipients.

[www.wea-arts.com](http://www.wea-arts.com)



WEAs Carolyne Rourke and Stephanie Barnhard | 2019



WEA Awards 2018



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