



Radical Arts Funding Initiative wins prestigious Vital Ideas Award

TORONTO, Date, 2012 – CUE, a radical arts-funding initiative for young, underground artists working in the margins, is pleased to announce it has been awarded the prestigious Vital Ideas grant from the Toronto Community Foundation.

A Vital Ideas Award honours a program that has a solid, successful track record in making Toronto a better place to live, work, learn, and grow.

CUE will be using this \$30,000 award to bring high-access arts-funding opportunities to marginalized young artists in downtown Toronto, as well as in Etobicoke and Scarborough. Artists will be provided grant-writing mentorships, peer-support, financial assistance for their art projects, as well as the opportunity to feature work in an annual exhibition.

Says program coordinator Jason Samilski: “Bureaucratic granting systems often contravene the artistic process itself, and because of this, we are missing out on some masterful work. Not only do we need more money arts funding, but we need a better format to support our artists. For these reasons, CUE is a Vital Idea, and we are extremely proud to be recognized for our vision, and to receive this grant.”

CUE will be accepting this award alongside other 2012 Vital Ideas recipients on **June 20th** at the **Glenn Gould Studio** (CBC building, 250 Front St. West), at a reception from **9-11 a.m. CBC’s Matt Galloway** will be hosting.

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CUE is a radical arts funding program working in partnership with Sketch Working Arts. Over the last 3 years, CUE has disseminated over \$100,000 to support art projects from marginalized young artists.

Toronto Community Foundation is one of Canada’s largest public charitable foundations. Their mission is to connect philanthropy to community needs and opportunities, all with a vision to make Toronto the best place to live, work, learn and grow, through the power of giving.

Sketch Working Arts creates art-making opportunities for young people who are street-involved or homeless, and are considered to be at-risk. Sketch provides CUE with administrative and collaborative partnership.

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