

PCO Grant Program - Juror Profiles, Spring 2009

Lynn Acoose has worked in the arts as an artist, programmer, editor, arts consultant, producer and curator. From 1992 to 1995, she worked with Circle Vision Arts Corporation as program officer, managing editor and executive director of *Talking Stick Magazine*. She was director of Sâkêwêwak Artists' Collective from 1999 to 2002 and the artistic director of the Sâkêwêwak Storytellers Festival from 2002 to 2004. She is also a former general manager of Common Weal Community Arts in Regina. Her curatorial work has included *Lateral Threats* (performance art), *Multicultural Perversions* (video), *Constitution* (group exhibition) and *Surveillance in the Rock Garden* (solo exhibition, Edward Poitras). Lynn has completed terms on the Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Canada Council for the Arts, Media Arts Advisory Committee - Canada Council for the Arts and the Minister's Advisory Committee on the Status of the Artist - Government of Saskatchewan.

Lynn maintains a multidisciplinary art practice and has exhibited at the Dunlop (Regina), the Centre for New Media, the Canadian Cultural Centre (Paris), the Mendel Art Gallery (Saskatoon), the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba (Brandon), Soil Digital Media Suite (Regina) and the Glenbow Museum (Calgary). Her poem, *Qu'Appelle, circa 2009* will be included in an upcoming exhibition of James Henderson at the Mendel Art Gallery in September 2009.

Lynn is from Sakimay First Nation and in July 2007, she was elected as Councillor for Sakimay, where she holds dual portfolios in Health and Social Development, and Governance and Justice.

Dennis Schaefer is a retired music educator. He holds a Masters degree in education and has worked as a teacher, music consultant, choral director, curriculum writer and instructor in various teacher education programs. Because of Dennis's curriculum work, he is familiar with curriculum expectations in several arts disciplines. Music continues to be a passion. Dennis was a juror on the ArtsSmarts jury in 2008.

Gerri Ann Siwek is an artist/educator who studied drawing, painting and illustration at the Ontario College of Art (Toronto) and at the Art Students League of New York. She moved to Regina in 1980 and studied Adult Education at the University of Regina. Gerri Ann has received numerous grants and awards and her works are included in private, civic and provincial collections. In 1998, Gerri Ann created the *Funomena Mobile Museum of the Weird and Strange*, a traveling museum on wheels featuring 13 exhibits, a souvenir shop and a tour guide. She traveled with her museum to festivals and exhibitions throughout North America and her museum has been featured in television documentaries and print publications. In 2007, she was visiting artist and arts educator in Verona, Italy and in 2008, the Saskatchewan Arts Board resident artist for the EnviroArt project with the Canadian Western Agribition in Regina.

Sam Beardman is a member of numerous boards and committees serving the sound recording industry on national, regional and provincial levels, and has distinguished himself as a leader in the cultural sector, particularly in the area of music industry development. He is the 2002 recipient of the Prairie Music award for Industry Builder of the Year. Sam has acted as a resource for numerous organizations to assist them in increasing their operational efficiency and service capacity. He was executive director of an arts service organization with over 700 members and with a budget of \$800,000. He has developed and implemented programs for music industry professionals in the following areas:

- Professional development and training
- Music business development/export readiness
- Music industry marketing
- Domestic and international market development
- Cultural industries research and policy development
- Aboriginal music development
- Market access