

**The Creativity Gap: How the Arts Inspire an Innovative Society**  
**Canadian Conference of the Arts National Policy Conference 2003**  
*November 28-29 - Neptune Theatre, Halifax, Nova Scotia*

## Call for Workshop Proposals

The CCA invites proposals for workshops (2 hours in duration) that reflect a wide range of perspectives, research, and practices, for its upcoming policy conference

### Conference Theme and Objectives

The 2003 CCA National Policy Conference will attract a wide diversity of people and offer a cross-disciplinary and multifaceted exploration of how the arts inspire an innovative and creative society. The Conference aims to establish the policy implications of asserting the centrality of the arts to the concepts of creativity and innovation with a focus on education and working life.

The objectives of the conference are to:

- heighten understanding of the importance of the arts in an innovative and creative society
- demonstrate the links between creativity in the arts and innovation in other fields
- raise awareness of the importance of a creative education in fostering an innovative workforce

The conference is organized around the following themes:

- Role of the arts and artists in an innovative society:
  - *What is required to develop an innovative society? And how do the arts contribute to it?*
  - *Why are the terms creativity and innovation frequently narrowly defined to exclude reference to the arts? How do we make the arts an integral part of Canada's innovation agenda?*
- Links between the arts, creativity and innovation:
  - *What are the intersections between the arts, innovation and creativity being nurtured and promoted?*
  - *What are the successful examples of cross-sectoral collaborations?*
- Importance of a creative education:
  - *Why is much lip-service being paid to creativity and imagination, but not explicitly made an object of investigation and reflection in the education system?*
  - *Why aren't the arts more central to school curricula? How can artists engage more easily in educational contexts?*

### Proposals for Workshops

Workshops should be designed to offer participants the opportunity to acquire a deeper understanding of the themes of the conference. Discussions and findings will feed into the policy development sessions during which participants will define policy objectives and recommend advocacy activities. The CCA invites group or individual submissions.

**Group Submissions:** artists, professionals and researchers who wish to assemble and chair a panel (up to a maximum of four individuals) on a particular issue relevant to the conference themes are invited to submit an abstract describing their proposal. Research papers, slide presentations, success stories, demonstration projects, performances, videos, story telling or other activities that can demonstrate alternative ways of thinking about the issues, will be considered as possible formats. Submissions are limited to one hour in length so that speakers and audiences may have time for discussion.

**Individual Submissions:** artists, professionals and researchers are invited to submit an abstract for a fifteen minute to one hour presentation or performance. Research papers, slide presentations, success stories, demonstration projects, performances, videos, story telling or other activities that can demonstrate alternative ways of thinking about the issues, will be considered as possible formats. The CCA may group together individual submissions with similar topics or focuses.

### Selection Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed by the CCA Conference Advisory Committee and assessed against the following criteria:

- fit with the conference theme.
- potential for generating stimulating discussions and useful results for policy development.
- diversity of structure and format. The CCA especially welcomes creative & innovative approaches that will engage conference participants.
- overall balance of topics in the workshop session
- cost of technical requirements

### Deadline

To submit a proposal, please complete the attached form. Please note that the CCA may invite chosen authors to submit more detailed proposal.

- Completed form must be received by **June 27, 2003**
- Notice of acceptance will be sent by **July 31, 2003**
- If a more detailed proposal is required, it must be received by **August 29, 2003**.



