

Want to Help ArtsCan Circle... ...host a House Concert!

House Concerts are a great way to generate interest, awareness and community support for ArtsCan Circle – especially to help raise funds for organizing ArtsCan workshops in isolated communities and shipping donated musical instruments there for at-risk youth.

This short document will help you manage the process of raising and sending donations to ArtsCan Circle. If you are a musician consider passing a hat during a gig to support the work of ArtsCan Circle, or designate a concert specifically to raise funds for ArtsCan Circle.

If you are a music lover hosting a House Concert fundraiser for ArtsCan Circle is a fun way to give the gift of music workshops and musical instruments to inspire at-risk youth in remote and isolated communities.

Getting Started:

So, you have decided to host an event for ArtsCan Circle. Where to begin? First, if you need tips on organizing a house concert, a simple Internet search of “House Concerts” will generate many resources to help you fill in any organizing FAQs. Here are a couple of sites with good info on the basics of organizing a House Concert, including setting a date, hiring the musicians, and sending out invitations:

- Eve Goldberg’s Website: www.evegoldberg.com
- Bob Bossin’s Website: www3.telus.net/oldfolk/housecon.htm

Telling Your Audience about ArtsCan Circle:

ArtsCan Circle has a donations brochure to inform your guests about the program and how the funds will be used to support free music and fine art workshops for at-risk youth in remote and challenged communities. Please send us a mailing address and we will mail you brochures for your event.

RAISING FUNDS:

- **Entry Fee:** Either set a ticketed price or suggest a donation amount. Either way, the proceeds from “the door” are a significant donation to ArtsCan Circle.
- **Talent:** If you are hosting a concert in your home, and hiring performers, invite them to donate their performance to the cause. If that is not in the cards, see if they are willing to waive their fee in lieu of passing the hat after the performance to cover their costs.
- **Door Prizes:** An easy promotional way to encourage people to attend. Think about donated items – donated CDs from the performers, or

donated gift certificates from local stores etc.

• **Silent Auction:** As obvious as this one is, it can raise a surprising amount of money – especially if the items are unique and don't have a pegged cash value. For example, a store gift certificate is not a great silent auction prize because it is basically a proxy for cash, whereas a hot air balloon champagne sunrise trip is fabulous and will drive a bidding war. Be creative. Set a minimum bid for each item, and remember to close the bidding well before the end of the event to collect money and deliver prizes to the winning bidders before the concert winds down and everyone scatters. Increasingly, silent auctions are posted pre-event online to get the bidding going early, and allow others who are not able to attend to bid as well.

• **Mobile Text Donations** are the newest way to make an online donation. The great thing is that the gift goes straight to ArtsCan Circle, so you don't have to collect, count and remit it yourself. Contact us and we can help you set this up.

Keeping Track of Attendees:

It is an important part of the work of ArtsCan to keep people informed of how their donation is making a difference in communities in remote locations. Invite guests to sign up for ArtsCan's e-newsletter when they arrive. Guests who need a receipt for income tax purposes (for gifts over \$20) must provide their legal name, address, and a signed receipt for the donation.

Remitting Donated Funds to ArtsCan Circle:

So the house concert has wrapped, and it was a GREAT evening of music and laughter, poignant and powerful. A resounding success in every way! There is one final, important step: remitting donated funds to ArtsCan Circle. There are a couple ways to do this:

Online: The easiest is by making an online donation through the www.ArtsCancircle.ca

Mail: count up the donations and send a cheque (but not cash) to ArtsCan Circle. Here's the address:

Attn: Office Manager, ArtsCan Circle
PO Box 95557
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 8J8

Tax Receipts.

ArtsCan's Charitable Registration Number is: 86230 9549 RR0001. We can provide receipts for donations over \$20. This is for donations only. If you benefit from the donation (e.g. silent auction item, the amount paid is not a tax deductible donation.