

NAC Major Grants Recipients for 2012

Name of Group	FY2012 Quantum	Panel's Assessment (in brief)
1. Bhaskar's Arts Academy (BAA)	\$130,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	Bhaskar's Arts Academy has been going strong under the leadership of Mr and Mrs Bhaskar in producing works of Traditional Indian dance and in offering fresh perspectives to inspire their dancers/choreographers in creating dynamic works. They have also been committed to grooming the next generation of dancers through their Core Dancers programme. The Major Grant will go towards supporting these efforts to develop young talent as well as BAA's plan to achieve greater outreach and expand its audience base for their core performances through workshops, masterclasses and in-house performances.
2. Cake Theatrical Production	\$160,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	The clarity and quality of Cake's artistic direction and organisation, and its appeal to young adult audiences signal strong growth potential for the company. Cake's plan to focus more on process rather than product is a welcome development which will give its work even more depth and quality. The Major Grant aims to assist Cake's progressive efforts at collective partnerships across different art forms, as well as to support the company's long-term development.
3. Chinese Calligraphy Society	\$115,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	The Chinese Calligraphy Society of Singapore is dedicated to the practice and transmission of Chinese calligraphy and has been a stalwart calligraphy institution in Singapore since 1968. The Society continues to play a role in the local traditional arts scene by keeping the practice of Chinese calligraphy alive through its broad outreach events and in educating the public through its classes and organised activities. In addition to helping the Society in its operations and programmes, the Major Grant is expected to help the Society train its marketing personnel and develop a marketing strategy that can convey its vision and raise the profile of and interest in Chinese calligraphy, especially among people who are currently unfamiliar with this traditional art form.
4. Chinese Opera Institute (COI)	\$150,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	COI has a newly appointed artistic and management team, and it is a good opportunity for it to reposition itself as a resource centre and play a more active role as a facilitator for the Chinese Opera community in Singapore. The new management team's new strategic plan is more focused on COI's role to drive the development of the scene in Singapore. The Major Grant will be to help the company stabilise and implement its strategic plan.

Name of Group	FY2012 Quantum	Panel's Assessment (in brief)
5. Chinese Theatre Circle (CTC)	\$180,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	CTC has been making conscious efforts to improve the quality of its productions as well as feature more Singapore talents, beyond the artists it usually works with. The Major Grant will help to further enhance the quality of its productions, as well as to recognise the contributions of the older generation of Chinese Opera practitioners – in particular, those who are still practising and involved in the training and development of the younger generation.
6. Dance Ensemble Singapore (DES)	\$130,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	In the last year and in their proposal for 2012, Dance Ensemble has been committed to putting more focus on traditional Chinese dance through their Chinese Dance Season. Given that DES's more established dancers possess the necessary foundations of traditional Chinese dance, there is room for the group to develop this genre even further; the Major Grant aims to support their plans to develop the artistic potential of the Chinese dance vocabulary more fully and deeply.
7. Drama Box	\$360,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	Drama Box's commitment and dedication to community theatre distinguishes the company in Singapore's theatre scene. Besides its community and youth engagement projects, its contributions to the theatre scene through its artist development platforms such as Blanc Space is notable and has helped strengthen exchanges with leading theatre practitioners in the region. While the company was ambitious in its vision and programmes, it had also paced itself well in its growth and expansion, and had made good effort to groom young practitioners. Moving ahead, the Major Grant support aims to grow the company's capacity and capabilities in achieving its proposal for expanded community and artist development initiatives.
8. Frontier Danceland	\$240,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	Frontier Danceland has contributed to the development of Singapore's dance scene through its work in contemporary dance and especially via programmes that showcase local dance talents, including Dancer's Locker, Pulse and SPROUTS. In the past year, there have been improvements in Frontier Danceland's overall management. Frontier has also made efforts to build up its full time artistic team. The Major Grant support is aimed to help strengthen the company's capacity and capabilities to bring its artistic endeavour and overall development to the next stage. The Grant also goes towards helping Frontier broaden its audience reach and strengthen its marketing efforts.

Name of Group	FY2012 Quantum	Panel's Assessment (in brief)
9. I Theatre	\$230,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	I Theatre has made steady improvements in the quality of theatre offerings made available for children and youth in Singapore. I-Theatre's proposal to establish the ACE Festival as a mainstay in Singapore's arts calendar has the potential to champion the children's theatre scene. The Major Grant support is aimed at helping the company achieve this, as well as to continue to build up its management capabilities in tandem with its artistic growth.
10. National Book Development Council of Singapore (NBDCS)	\$243,500 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	NBDCS, as one of the most established organizations in the literary arts landscape, has delivered consistent outcomes in terms of programming, and strengthened its capabilities in children's literature and training in recent years. Its proposed developments in FY12, particularly the establishment of the Academy of Literary Arts and Publishing (ALAP), would further enhance their contribution to the broader Singapore literary scene. MG will give ALAP a firm start and help NBDCS professionalise, develop long term succession planning, and set up an independent Advisory Board.
11. Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT)	\$1,100,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	SDT has been developing well in the past two years on the artistic front; they have presented dance productions of improving quality and the standard of their dancing has also improved. SDT has demonstrated commitment in engaging a wider audience base, and in contributing to Singapore's overall dance scene, through their outreach programmes, and through programmes that develop new dance and choreographic talent. The Major grant support to SDT recognises these efforts. Moving forward, the assessment identified room for the company to strengthen its artistic identity and marketing strategy, so as to extend the reach of its productions and brand.
12. Singapore Lyric Opera (SLO)	\$320,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	SLO has sought to engage more Singaporean performers through its programmes and has evolved to be administratively stable. The Major Grant aims to support SLO's efforts in programming and outreach, as well as in expanding its local repertoire. In addition, it is noted that in the long term, having an Artistic Director to help steer SLO's artistic development would positively impact SLO's programming, as well as the skills development of its younger players. Support is also given to SLO's proposal to explore working with smaller ensembles, as a way to enhance its versatility and appeal to audiences

Name of Group	FY2012 Quantum	Panel's Assessment (in brief)
13. Singapore Repertory Theatre (SRT)	\$300,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	SRT has developed its strengths in producing, and has successfully identified and developed meaningful partnerships with overseas partners. Through these partnerships, SRT has contributed to the diversity of theatre offerings available for audiences in Singapore, and has enabled local practitioners to benefit from interactions with their international counterparts. SRT has also successfully developed a base of audiences, patrons and corporate supporters over the years. The Major Grant therefore aims to support the company's ability to meet its operations and programmes independently so that, over the next few years, it can "graduate" from the Major Grant Scheme. And, public funds can be channelled to build up the operating capacity of new companies under the Major Grant Scheme, while targeted support for SRT's specific artistic initiatives or projects can be via other Grant schemes.
14. T'ang Quartet	\$160,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	TQ has made good effort in recent years, in line with its key priority to groom younger talents. Apart from concert tours, the group's projects planned over the next two years include expanding the well-received The Ensemble Dimension Project (TEDP), which seeks to identify young talent and provide mentorship for ensemble playing. As such, the Major Grant supports TQ's expanded programming and efforts to mentor young talents and groom the next generation of chamber music players, as well as its community engagement plans.
15. Teater Ekamatra	\$140,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	Teater Ekamatra is a promising company with sound artistic leadership. It has the potential to develop the contemporary Malay theatre scene further, as well as to engage the wider community. The Major Grant support for Teater Ekamatra aims to help further its artistic development, to continue its organisation and management development, and to secure a wider base of audience and corporate support.

Name of Group	FY2012 Quantum	Panel's Assessment (in brief)
16. T.H.E. Dance Company	\$420,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	T.H.E's consistent presentation of quality contemporary dance work has distinguished them in the Singapore dance scene. They have also built a strong network internationally within a short period of time. T.H.E shows a commitment to developing local dancers, choreographers and young dance talent. They have Contact and T.H.E Second Company. The Major Grants aims to support them to continue their good work in this area and also for them to make more investment in its administrative manpower, in tandem with the rapid expansion of the company.
17. The Arts Fission Company (TAFCL)	\$185,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	TAFCL's strengths lie in the company's experimental works, and community and social projects, which have made an impact on the scene and the wider audience. The Major Grant aims to support the company to sustain their artistic and audience development in line with the rapid development of the dance landscape. This includes, support for new full time dancers and to develop new strategies for management and marketing.
18. TheatreWorks	\$200,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	Theatreworks' efforts in profiling Singapore on the international front, and its exploration of multi-disciplinary projects via the use of its 72-13 space are highlights of its role in Singapore's overall cultural landscape. The Major Grant support to Theatreworks recognizes these efforts. Moving forward, the assessment identified room for the company to deepen its engagement with the local arts scene and audiences, and to further the potential of the 72-13 space.
19. The Finger Players (TFP)	\$300,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	With the quality of The Finger Players' work and its artistic calibre, the company has contributed to the vibrancy of our arts scene, particularly through the company's committed exploration of puppetry in contemporary theatre. In addition, its Arts Education programmes are well-received in schools. The Major Grant support to TFP is aimed at helping the company build up its full-time team, and to invest in its proposal for long term puppet-making capabilities.
20. The Necessary Stage	\$500,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	The Necessary Stage has contributed richly to the local scene, in terms of its engagement with the community and the larger Singapore public through its main season and its work with various community groups, such as the Theatre for Seniors programme. Moving forward, the Major Grant will help the company stretch itself further by engaging with the international artistic community and expanding its artistic exploration. The company's proposed next steps to document, archive, publish and digitise its body of work is a positive move that will enable more people to enjoy, study and approach its works.

Name of Group	FY2012 Quantum	Panel's Assessment (in brief)
21. The Philharmonic Winds (TPW)	\$73,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	TPW has been a consistent feature in the Singapore wind ensemble scene, both in terms of performance quality and programming innovation. TPW plans to work more closely with its regional counterparts, and to continue collaborating with artists to commission works. In addition to supporting TPW's programming, the Major Grant seeks to help strengthen TPW in two areas, going forward: first, in its administrative processes, so that it would be able to develop as a stable organisation; and second, in enlarging its audience base and enhancing its sponsorship efforts.
22. The Substation	\$285,600 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	As a multi-disciplinary arts organisation in the local arts landscape with an interest in nurturing emerging artists, The Substation aspires to be a critical and rigorous developmental space for interdisciplinary contemporary art practice in the context of Singapore and the region through active partnerships, collaborations and dialogues with diverse artists and communities. In recent years, The Substation has championed new kinds of exploration across a range of mediums and communities in its programming. In engaging marginalised communities in its programmes, The Substation is also building new audiences for the arts. The Major Grant is expected to help The Substation with its marketing strategy. NAC support through the Major Grant also acknowledges the increasing leadership role that the Substation is taking on within the local arts ecology, as seen from its 2012 and 2013 programming.
23. The Theatre Practice (TTP)	\$350,000 <i>2-year Major Grant</i>	The Theatre Practice has maintained a strong presence in the local Chinese theatre scene, and has taken up the role of a presenter by hosting Chinese theatre festivals in recent years, in addition to a variety of other programmes. It has also demonstrated commitment to youth outreach, with a strengthened presence in schools over the last few years through its education programme. The Major Grant aims to help TTP sustain its broad programming, as well as long term focus and branding.
24. Toy Factory	\$70,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	Toy Factory remains important in the local scene as a bilingual theatre company. However, its artistic output is lower compared to previous years as Toy may be going through a quiet phase to recharge itself for renewed artistic development in the future. The Major Grant will continue to sustain the company and its work and provide support while Toy rejuvenates itself.

Name of Group	FY2012 Quantum	Panel's Assessment (in brief)
25. Wild Rice	\$110,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	Wild Rice has contributed to the diversity of our theatre Offerings available for audiences in Singapore with its accessible programming, as well as in the development of local works through the Singapore Theatre Festival. Wild Rice's broad-based appeal and successful efforts in securing private patrons and corporate sponsorships, the company had the potential to meet its operating needs independently over time. The Major Grant therefore aims to stabilise and support the company's ability to meet its operations and programmes independently so that, over the next few years, it can "graduate" from the Major Grant Scheme. And, public funds can be channelled to build up the operating capacity of new companies under the Major Grant Scheme, while targeted support for Wild Rice's specific artistic initiatives or projects can be via other Grant schemes.
26. Young Musicians' Society (YMS)	\$90,000 <i>1-year Major Grant</i>	While YMS has had well-presented programmes, the number and variety of these programmes have decreased in recent years, especially since YMS moved out of Waterloo Street. The Major Grant seeks to support YMS' programming and to consolidate and sharpen its vision and identity, with a possible area of focus being on choral development in Singapore.

Traditional Arts Seed Grant³ Recipients 2012

Name of Group	FY2012 Quantum	Panel's Assessment (in brief)
27. Apsaras Arts	\$150,000 <i>Traditional Arts (TA) Seed Grant</i>	With the Seed Grant, Apsaras' rapid artistic development could be better supported – growth could be achieved in a more sustainable manner, and its artistic and administrative capacities could be strengthened and expanded.

³ The other Traditional Arts Seed Grants recipients, assessed last year, were awarded the following grant quanta: Ding Yi Music Company: \$265,000; Era Dance Theatre Limited: \$223,000; Siong Leng Musical Association: \$195,000; and Sri Warisan: \$100,000.