

Existere awarded grant

"[they] gave us the exact amount we applied for"



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by Mark Moss

One of life's sweetest rewards and most often stated cliches is that proud, hard work pays off! This is no idle version of the Protestant work ethic, for in the case of *Existere*, Vanier College's poetry and prose quarterly, it is a fact.

Existere is the recipient of a prestigious Ontario Arts Council Grant. Although not an enormous sum, the \$780 compensates for the fact that there is not enough

money in the Vanier College Council's budget to put out the magazine.

According to co-editor Dave Lomax, "The Ontario Arts Council gave us the exact amount we applied for." Lomax went on to say that this is a very rare bequest. "Ontario Arts Council grants are not given out to a lot of magazines." The fact that a grant was given reflects highly on the quality of the publication and the calibre of the editors and writers.

"Nothing is going to change," Lomax said, "not in the format or distribution. We won't become glossy. We are a student magazine and we intend to stay that way." Out of a press run of 550 copies, 50 or 60 are given away, and a number are sold in bookstores in Toronto.

The current *Existere* contains the same diverse array of poetry that has become a common feature of previous issues. Wonderful

short stories and careful photographs as well as the "uncommon" editorial are also included.

As a group, the works remain far above average but, as usual, certain pieces stand out. Brian Burkes' "The Day Hemingway Died" is one evocative and powerful example but mention should be made of Richard Olson's "The Emissary," Christopher Wood's

"Amphitheatre" and Kerry Lamond's "dream child." The three photographs are, as well, extremely suggestive and potent.

The position of editor is open for next year and Vanier College Council will be accepting applications.

The deadline for submissions for the final issue of this year is March 2.

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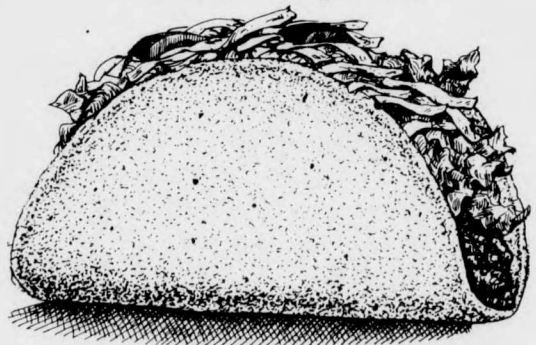
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