

In the arts the Council assists organizations in such fields as music, opera, dance, theatre, visual arts, films, writing and publishing. It provides assistance for professional artists through senior arts grants (formerly awards), arts grants (formerly bursaries), short-term grants, travel grants and project-cost grants. In addition it has started an art bank of works by professional Canadian artists; works purchased for the bank are available on rental to government departments and agencies for display in public areas.

The Council's new Explorations Program is designed to support projects concerned with Canada's cultural and historical heritage and innovative projects exploring new forms of expression and creativity in the arts, humanities and social sciences.

Cultural exchange programs

On behalf of the Federal Government, the Council also administers several programs of cultural exchange with foreign countries. Under one of these, scholarships and fellowships for study in Canada are awarded to citizens of France, Belgium, Switzerland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. Another program provides Canadian universities and cultural institutions with grants to bring to Canada professors, scholars and artists from other countries; this program applies to the above-mentioned countries and also to continental Latin America. A special Canada-France program furnishes travel grants to Canadian scholars in the humanities and social sciences wishing to do research in France; the recipients are paid a living allowance by the French authorities. Under the Canadian Government's newly-inaugurated program of academic exchange with the U.S.S.R., the Council administers grants to Canadian universities for visiting Soviet lecturers and researchers, scholarships to Soviet graduate students and young specialists for study in Canada, and grants to Canadian researchers and lecturers in the humanities and social sciences who wish to be invited to Soviet institutions of higher learning. The Council also administers the funds of the Canadian Cultural Institute in Rome; the Institute's annual income is used to provide fellowships to one or two Canadian artists or scholars wishing to work or study in Italy.

The Council, in co-operation with the Foreign Area Fellowship Program (U.S.), provides training fellowships for graduate students studying for M.A.s in the social sciences, with provision for research in Latin America.

Through its program of Killam awards, the Council offers senior research scholarships, postdoctoral research scholarships and I.W. Killam memorial awards to scholars of exceptional ability engaged in research projects of far-reaching significance.