



# CANADIAN CENTRE ON DISABILITY STUDIES

research and education on issues that affect us all

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## Arts Ability Project wins Access Awareness Award

The Arts Ability Project of the Canadian Centre on Disability Studies (CCDS) has been given an Access Awareness Award for 2004 by the Province of Manitoba and the Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities (MLPD). The awards are given to recipients for their efforts on behalf of persons with disabilities. The Arts Ability Project received the award "for creating more opportunities in the arts for persons with disabilities."

The award ceremony took place Thursday, June 3, 2004, 5-7 PM at the Lower Dining Hall of the Manitoba Legislative Building on Broadway Avenue in Winnipeg. The Honourable Christine Melnick, Minister responsible for Persons with Disabilities, Province of Manitoba presented the award to Sue Proctor, Project Manager and a number of other representatives of the project including Clair Stephensen, Maya Gislason, B. Pat Burns, Marcia Barkman, Briditte Urben, and CCDS Board Chair George Dyck.

"Receiving the award is a good way of letting people know about the program in the arts for people with disabilities; it demonstrates that such programs are possible, that they are needed and that the Provincial government and the disability community have recognized their value. Accessibility to the arts is important for personal, community and cultural growth. Very important two-way learning happens!" said Sue Proctor, Project Manager.

Winnipeg City Councillor Jenny Gerbasi congratulated all awards recipients and brought greetings from the City of Winnipeg. Deborah Stienstra, Director of the Disability Studies Program at the University of Manitoba was the guest speaker.

