

For Immediate Release

Start Me Up Niagara
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ART ME UP AWARDED GRANT FROM THE MDRT FOUNDATION

[ST. CATHARINES, ON, APRIL 27TH, 2021] The MDRT Foundation has awarded a \$1,500 grant to Start Me Up Niagara's Art Me Up program, a program designed for SMUN participants to archive their individual creative past and present.

Through its global grants programs, the MDRT Foundation is committed to building stronger families and communities worldwide. This year, the MDRT Foundation will award over \$1.5 million in MDRT member-endorsed grants to more than 250 charitable organizations worldwide.

"Through the exploration of multi-disciplinary arts, Art Me Up participants will have various opportunities in a safe studio environment, including workshops, facilitated open studios, access to a digital lab, and the establishment of web-based exhibition space to express personal memories and to map their journeys. The process of documenting your life journey through art can help ease participants' lives by helping people share aspects of their lives concerning the organization and their community. Self-advocacy has proven to have a greater impact on local communities than most other methods of edification. The positive health & social benefits of participatory arts activities include peer support, collaborative relationships and improved social skills." Jesse Matthews, Art Me Up's Creative Arts Facilitator.

About the MDRT Foundation:

The MDRT Foundation was created in 1959 to provide MDRT members with a means to give back to their communities. Since its inception, the Foundation has donated more than \$38 million in more than 72 countries worldwide and in all 50 U.S. states. MDRT members and industry partners raised these funds. For more information, visit www.mdrtfoundation.org

About MDRT:

Founded in 1927, Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT), The Premier Association of Financial Professionals®, is a global, independent association of more than 72,000 of the world's leading life insurance and financial services professionals from more than 500 companies in 70 nations and territories. MDRT members demonstrate exceptional professional knowledge, strict ethical conduct and outstanding client service. MDRT membership is recognized internationally as the

standard of excellence in the life insurance and financial services business. For more information, please visit www.mdrf.org and follow them on Twitter @MDRtweet.

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If you would like more information about this grant or our Art Me Up program, please call Sabrina Hill at 905 984-5310 or email mediacom@startmeupniagara.ca