

PRESS RELEASE

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Announcing the 2013 Winnipeg Arts Awards Nominees

Including the Inaugural Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts

May 16, 2013 - Winnipeg - The Winnipeg Arts Council is proud to announce the 2013 Winnipeg Arts Council Award Nominees. This year's nominees come from a wide range of disciplines and reflect the diverse nature of the Winnipeg Arts Scene. For the first time, the awards will also include an award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts. The nominees will be celebrated and the winners will be announced at the Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts, taking place Thursday, June 6 at the Fort Garry Hotel.

This year's luncheon will be hosted by writer and broadcaster Bill Richardson. Ticket information can be found at www.winnipegarts.ca/mayorsluncheon/tickets or by calling (204) 943-7668.

Five awards recognize excellence and creativity in, and contribution, to the arts: the RBC On the Rise Award; the Making a Mark Award; the Investors Group Making a Difference Award; the Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries Outstanding Volunteer Award. and the Arts Champion Award.

The **RBC ON THE RISE** Award recognizes the demonstrated promise of an emerging professional artist in any discipline. The award is a cash prize of \$2,500.



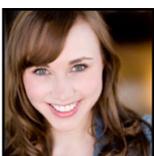
RBC
Emerging Artists
Project



Kevin Lee Burton

NOMINATED BY: Daina Warren

Kevin Lee Burton (Swampy Cree) is an award-winning filmmaker, programmer and freelance editor.



Samantha Hill

NOMINATED BY: Dry Cold Productions

Samantha Hill is a young actor who, having honed her skills in Winnipeg, has made the leap to the world stage while maintaining strong ties to the Winnipeg theatre community.





Ashley Hirt

NOMINATED BY: National Screen Institute

Ashley is a talented screen professional and actor. In 2008 she was an NSI graduate, and now she is Head of Development at the new Winnipeg production company Red Czarina.



Curtis Nowosad

NOMINATED BY: Charlene Diehl

With a recent CD, invitation to the Banff Centre and the Betty Carter program, and scholarship bids from both Juilliard and the Manhattan School of Music, drummer Curtis Nowosad is truly a rising star.

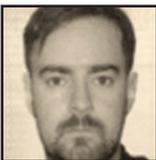


Ryan Segal

NOMINATED BY: Tatiana Carnevale

Ryan is a passionate theatre producer dedicated to presenting exciting, relevant and high-caliber theatre that draws a young and exceptionally engaged audience.

The MAKING A MARK Award applauds professional artist in mid-career, in any discipline, who is receiving critical recognition for excellence in their art practice in Winnipeg and beyond. The award is a cash prize of \$2,500.



Deco Dawson

NOMINATED BY: Carson Natrass

Deco Dawson is an international award-winning filmmaker and theatre designer working in Winnipeg. His work demonstrates a remarkable command of the medium, often blurring the lines of any given genre while creating visually stunning, surreal, and psychologically captivating independent films.



Mike Maryniuk

NOMINATED BY: Winnipeg Film Group

Mike Maryniuk is a gifted mentor, teacher and award-winning filmmaker who specializes in handmade experimental films created with love and humour. He is a lynchpin of Winnipeg's independent film community.



Divya Mehra

NOMINATED BY: Plug In ICA

Divya Mehra has garnered significant national and international recognition for her media-based work through which her often humorous sensibility addresses the displacement of South Asians in Western Society.

The **INVESTORS GROUP MAKING A DIFFERENCE** Award celebrates the contribution of an artist or arts administrator to the growth and development of the arts in Winnipeg. The award is a cash prize of \$2,500.



Cam Bennett

NOMINATED BY: National Screen Institute

Cam's commitment to the community's emerging and experienced film and TV producers has resulted in hundreds of documentaries, lifestyle and variety programs.



Columpa Bobb

NOMINATED BY: Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre

Award-winning, multiple-disciplinary performance artist Columpa Bobb propels artistic development and social change with her distinctive theatre program for young Aboriginals that has influenced thousands of people over the last decade.



Henry Engbrecht

NOMINATED BY: Canzona & Manitoba Choral Association

Henry Engbrecht, Professor Emeritus, is a widely respected choral music educator, conductor and artistic director. During his 54-year career, he's directed countless school, university, community and professional choirs, and has defined the choral landscape of this province.



Dr. Sherry Farrell Racette

NOMINATED BY: School of Art Gallery

Dr. Sherry Farrell Racette is a scholar and artist whose work contributes to the broader understanding of Métis and First Nations women's history.



Odette Heyn & Faye Thomson

NOMINATED BY: Stephanie Ballard

The School of Contemporary Dancers is recognized as a leading national centre for professional contemporary dance training in Canada. Directed by Odette Heyn and Faye Thomson, the Professional Program is renowned for its excellent training methods and high caliber of its students and graduates.



Robert Metcalfe

NOMINATED BY: PTE Playwrights Unit

PTE's longest-serving Artistic Director, Robert Metcalfe, has led a \$2.5 million renovation of the company's home and championed playwrights through establishing the Carol Shields Festival of New Works and the 10-member Playwrights Unit.



Elise Nadeau

NOMINATED BY: Art City

Elise Nadeau, Executive Director of the Edge Village and Gallery, is a professional artist dedicated to providing accessible art experiences to people of all ages and backgrounds.



Louis Ogemah

NOMINATED BY: Cathy Mattes

As founder of Urban Shaman Gallery and contributor to various arts organizations in Winnipeg, Louis Ogemah has made a strong mark on the Winnipeg arts scene.

The **MANITOBA LIQUOR & LOTTERIES** OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER Award honours an individual who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to volunteerism within the Winnipeg arts community. The award will be \$1,000 cash donation on behalf of the winner to the Winnipeg arts organization of his or her choice, and a unique work of art by a Winnipeg Artist.



Gerry Berard

NOMINATED BY: West End Cultural Centre

One of the hardest working volunteers around, Gerry Berard is truly outstanding -- just ask one of the five arts groups he's worked with over the years.



Heather Cram

NOMINATED BY: School of Art Gallery

Heather Cram is a passionate advocate for the important role art plays in building better places, places that are livable, enjoyable and foster transformative experience.



Kevin Friesen & Pam Poulter-Friesen

NOMINATED BY: The Winnipeg Folk Festival

Pam and Kevin are dedicated to supporting folk music in Winnipeg by volunteering their medical skills at the Winnipeg Folk Festival and by presenting their own successful house concert series.



Alison Norberg

NOMINATED BY: Manitoba Craft Council

In her five years as President of the MCC Board, Alison Norberg has, with wisdom, professionalism and a huge commitment of time, guided the organization through a period of renewal marked by innovation, collaboration and financial stability.



Tracy Peters

NOMINATED BY: Mentoring Artists for Women's Art

Tracy Peters was pivotal in helping MAWA to retire a substantial deficit, build one of the most successful arts fundraisers in the city, and secure MAWA's first corporate sponsorships. She has also provided care and support to staff, Board, volunteers, visiting artists and members.



Nicola Schaefer

NOMINATED BY: Agassiz Chamber Music Festival

Since moving to Winnipeg over 40 years ago, Nicola Schaefer has been a tireless volunteer in the arts. Her quiet, exemplary leadership has been an inspiration and her tireless efforts have made meaningful and enduring contributions.

The ARTS CHAMPION Award honours an individual or business that has demonstrated sustained support to the arts in Winnipeg. The award is a unique work of art by a Winnipeg Artist.



Gail Asper

NOMINATED BY: Dry Cold Productions and the Winnipeg Folk Festival

Gail Asper's commitment to the arts is indefatigable. Her support is evident not just through her financial contributions (of which there are many) but through her work as an advocate, fundraiser, volunteer and arts administrator.



Campbell McIntyre

NOMINATED BY: Rainbow Stage

Campbell McIntyre has championed Rainbow Stage for over four decades as a loyal patron: enthusiastic volunteer, committed board member, tireless fundraiser, generous donor and instrumental in the organization's 2005 revival.



Manitoba Bar Association

NOMINATED BY: Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre

For more than 23 years the MBA has championed RMTTC through their members who volunteered their time to rehearse and perform in 19 highly successful fundraising productions.



William F. White International

NOMINATED BY: National Screen Institute

William F. White is well-loved in the Winnipeg production community. Since NSI's arrival here in 1998, their support of our training programs has been invaluable to writers, directors and producers.

This year, we have also added a special award to for **LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT** in the ARTS for one of Winnipeg's most outstanding artists.



Doreen Brownstone

Doreen Brownstone is one of Winnipeg's most celebrated actors, with a stage, film and television career that spans six provinces and more than 50 years. Doreen's commitment, drive and talent seem to defy the boundaries of time, leading her to be the first Canadian Stage actor to work past the age of 80. She was the only actor to work at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre during both its first and fiftieth seasons!

Information about the awards and the Mayor's Luncheon for the Arts, and high resolution photos of the nominees can be found at www.winnipegarts.ca/mayorsluncheon/2013nominees.

