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2007 TORONTO ARTS COUNCIL FOUNDATION AWARDS
TO BE PRESENTED AT MAYOR'S ARTS AWARD LUNCH
Wednesday, October 17, 2007 • Four Seasons Hotel

OVER \$40,000 IN PRIZES TO BE AWARDED

Designed to highlight the significant contributions made by our city's cultural leadership, the **Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards (TACF Awards)** celebrate artists, cultural professionals and arts supporters from every creative discipline.

The five awards, collectively worth over \$40,000, will be presented at the second annual **Mayor's Arts Awards Lunch** to be held on Wednesday, October 17, 2007 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Yorkville hosted by broadcaster, writer and musical artist **Jian Ghomeshi**.

*"The presentation of Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards at the Mayors Arts Awards Lunch reminds us of what makes Toronto a great community. It brings together a unique spectrum of people who invest their private and creative "capital" into making this city a better place to live in. We salute artists, philanthropists, creative workers and community leaders." said **Diana Bennett**, President, Toronto Arts Council Foundation. "Their efforts make possible this celebration of creativity, and we thank them for their outstanding support."*

Local luminaries scheduled to attend include: Artistic Director of Soulpepper Theatre and last year's award winner **Albert Schultz**; Genie Award-winning actor **Martha Burns**; composer **Brian Current**; previous award winner and a multi-disciplinary dance-artiste **Peter Chin**; Waterfront Toronto CEO **John Campbell**; broadcaster **Andy Barrie**; President and CEO of the Ontario Media Development Corporation **Karen Thorne-Stone**; newly appointed Executive Director of the Institute of Canadian Citizenship, **Curtis Barlow**; Video Artist **Kim Tomczak**; Chair of the Ontario Trillium Foundation **Helen Burstyn**; partner in the award-winning Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects **Bruce Kuwabara**; Resident Managing Director of Lazard Canada **Evan Siddall**; TSX Group's Director of Investor Relations **Paul Malcolmson**; entrepreneur **Sam (the Record Man) Sniderman**; curator **Judith Tatar**; City Councillors **Kyle Rae** and **Joe Mihevc**; the Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall's **Heather Clark**; Gardiner Museum Executive Director **Alexandra Montgomery**; fashion designer **Pat McDonagh**; United Way President and Chief Executive Officer **Francis Lankin**; President of the Ontario College of Art & Design **Sara Diamond** and of course, all of the fabulous finalists.

As previously announced, the 2007 Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards Finalists:

- **Muriel Sherrin Award for International Achievement in Music:**
Oboist **Lawrence Cherney**; and the Juno award-winning ensemble **Gryphon Trio**;
- **The Globe and Mail Toronto Business for the Arts Award:**
Robert Lowrey's Piano Experts; leading financial services organization **Sun Life Financial**; and internationally renowned Toronto-based law firm **Torys LLP**;

- **Arts for Youth Award:**

Arts for Children, under the leadership of Lola Rasminsky; **Mammalian Diving Reflex** led by Artistic Director Darren O'Donnell; and **Red Pepper Spectacle Arts**, lead by directors Andy Moro and Gabriella Caruso;

- **Rita Davies Cultural Leadership Award:**

Franco Boni, Theatre Centre Artistic Director; CanStage Artistic Producer **Martin Bragg**; and theatre director and abilities community activist **Ruth Ruth Stackhouse**;

- **RBC Emerging Artist Award:**

Jamaican-Canadian dub poet, actor, author and playwright **d'bi.young.anitafrika**; visual artist **Andrew Morrow**; and playwright **Hannah Moscovitch**.

For complete bios and background on the artists visit <http://www.torontoarts.org/awards07/index.html>

The Toronto Arts Council Foundation is the voice for the arts in Toronto. Incorporated in 1995, TACF has a two-fold mission: to increase awareness of the value that artists and arts organizations bring to the city of Toronto, and to increase resources for the arts.

The TACF Board is led by President **Diana Bennett**, artist, former educator and TVO executive and Executive Director **Claire Hopkinson**, a veteran producer of theatre and opera works. The TACF is sister organization to the Toronto Arts Council (TAC), an arm's length agency responsible for administering grant programs for most of Toronto's not-for-profit arts organizations and artists.

A limited number of tickets for the Mayor's Arts Awards Lunch have been made available for purchase. Tickets are \$75 and will be available starting October 4th. To purchase a ticket please contact Kim Ashby at kim@torontoartscouncil.org or 416.392.6802 x 226.

Joining Founding Partner RBC Financial Group and Media Sponsor The Globe and Mail, benefactors for 2007 include: Diana Bennett & Spencer Lanthier; City of Toronto, Economic Development, Culture & Tourism; Susan Crocker & The Canadian Stage Company; George Fierheller; George Brown College; The George Partnership; Great-West Life, London Life and Canada Life; Donald K. Johnson; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects; Lazard; John D. McKellar Charitable Foundation; NOW Communications; Ontario College of Art & Design; RBH Inc.; Award Finalist Sun Life Financial; TSX Group Inc.; and the University of Toronto.

Patrons include: The Arts Advocate; Caldwell Investment Management Ltd.; Cannon Design; CIBC Mellon; Classical 96.3 FM & Moses Znaimer; IBI Group; Roger and Kevin Garland; Scott Griffin; John and Gail MacNaughton; Judy Matthews; Mirvish Productions; Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund; Ontario Media Development Corporation; Sam Sniderman; and Award Finalist Torys LLP.

Sponsors of individual awards include: Margo Bindhardt; Martha Burns; Jim Fleck; James B. Pitblado, RBC Foundation and the Globe and Mail.

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