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TORONTO ARTS COUNCIL FOUNDATION AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2007 **Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards**. Established over a decade ago, these awards are an opportunity to honour prominent practitioners, supporters and organizers whose work have made a major contribution to the artistic and cultural life of Toronto.

This year's awards will be given in five categories, each award recognizing a body of creative accomplishment. Winners will be announced at the second annual **Mayor's Arts Awards Lunch** on October 17, 2007 at the Four Seasons Hotel.

New for 2007 is the Arts for Youth Award, a \$15,000 cash prize established by Martha Burns, Jim Fleck and Jim Pitblado. This award celebrates an individual, collective or organization that has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to engaging Toronto youth in the arts.

Nomination forms, criteria and awards adjudication policies are available for download at www.torontoarts.org. **The deadline for nominations is July 20, 2007.**

The Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards were presented last year at the first-ever Mayor's Arts Awards Lunch. Recipients included choreographer Peter Chin; Soulpepper Artistic Director Albert Schultz; theatre performer and director Natasha Mytnowych; musical director, performer and teacher Jeanne Lamon, C.M. and the corporation CIBC Mellon.

"I invite everyone who loves the arts to fully participate in these important awards," says Claire Hopkinson, Executive Director, Toronto Arts Council and Foundation. "Toronto's arts community has remarkable people and extraordinary accomplishments to celebrate. Let's do our part to recognize them!"

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2007 Award Descriptions

The Globe and Mail Toronto Business for the Arts Award – The Globe and Mail Toronto Business for the Arts Award is designed to recognize excellent examples of partnership between business and the arts within the city of Toronto. Established in 2006, this award is presented through a partnership between BFTA and the TACF. The recipient will receive an original work of art created by Nobuo Kubota.

Muriel Sherrin Award for International Achievement in Music – a \$10,000 cash prize presented to an artist or creator who has made a contribution to the cultural life of Toronto through outstanding achievement in music. The recipient will also have participated in international initiatives, including touring, studying abroad and participating in artist exchanges.

RBC Emerging Artist Award – a \$5,000 cash prize presented to an emerging Toronto artist working in any medium or performing arts discipline in celebration of current accomplishments and future potential. Established in 2006 by RBC Foundation, this award is intended to support the development or completion of new work.

Rita Davies Cultural Leadership Award – a \$10,000 cash prize sponsored by Margo Bindhardt and Toronto Arts Council Foundation. This award is presented biennially to an individual who has demonstrated creative cultural leadership in the development of arts and culture in Toronto. Administrators, volunteers, artists and creators are eligible for consideration.

A jury of 12 members will review candidate profiles and make a recipient recommendation for each award to Toronto Arts Council Foundation Board of Directors. Jury members recognize expertise, prestige, credibility and experience along with a sense of history and perspective. Each jury is comprised of artists, organizers, programmers, producers, curators, critics, commentators and patrons.

Incorporated in 1995 as a sister organization to Toronto Arts Council, 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. In addition to administering programs to further the above goals, TACF allows individuals, foundations and corporations the opportunity to support a broad spectrum of initiatives and arts disciplines in the City of Toronto through tax-deductible contributions.

For more information about last year's Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards and other TACF initiatives please go to www.torontoarts.org

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