



For Immediate Release: May 12, 2008

Toronto Arts Council Foundation Accepting Nominations for 2008 Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the **2008 Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards** which celebrate artists, cultural professionals and arts supporters from every creative discipline who have made significant contributions to Toronto's artistic and cultural life. Nomination forms, criteria and awards adjudication policies for the 2008 Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards are available at www.torontoarts.org/awards.html. **The deadline for nominations is Friday, July 18, 2008 at 5 pm.**

The **2008 Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards** are:

Arts for Youth Award – a \$15,000 cash prize established in 2007 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.

The Globe and Mail Award for Business for the Arts – recognizes a local business that has made a significant contribution to the arts in Toronto. Established in 2006, this award is presented in partnership with Business for the Arts. The recipient will receive an original work of art created by Nobuo Kubota.

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

Roy Thomson Hall Award of Recognition – a \$10,000 cash prize presented to an individual, ensemble or organization to recognize creative, performing, administrative, volunteer or philanthropic contributions to Toronto's musical life. This award was established by the Volunteer Committee of Roy Thomson Hall in 1984 to recognize and thank the community that supported the conception, building and establishment of the new concert hall. In 2002, the Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall (RTH) asked the TACF to manage the award.

William Kilbourn Award for the Celebration of Toronto's Cultural Life – a \$5,000 cash prize presented to an individual performer, teacher, administrator or creator in any arts discipline, including architecture and design, whose work is a celebration of life through the arts in Toronto. Established in 1996, this award is funded through an endowment made possible by private donors who wished to celebrate and remember the life of William Kilbourn who died in 1995. Kilbourn was a writer and teacher who spent seven years as a board member of Toronto Arts Council, and served as its president from 1982 to 1984.

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Each year, a 12-member jury comprised of practitioners of the arts, organizers, programmers, producers, curators, critics, commentators and lay specialists is appointed; each juror is chosen based on their expertise, prestige, sense of history and perspective, credibility and experience. The jury will review candidate profiles and make a recipient recommendation for each award to Toronto Arts Council Foundation Board of Directors, which will make final determinations.

Winners of the **2008 Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards** will be announced on **Friday, October 17, 2008** at the Mayor's Arts Awards Lunch.

*Incorporated in 1995 as a sister organization to Toronto Arts Council, **Toronto Arts Council Foundation** 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. Toronto Arts Council Foundation administers a number of programs to further these goals and provides an opportunity for individuals, foundations and corporations to support a broad spectrum of initiatives and arts disciplines in the City of Toronto through tax-deductible contributions.*

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