



Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts

Nomination Deadline – December 1, 2009

Nomination Guidelines

In 2006, the Government of Ontario created the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts as a sign of the Province's deep appreciation of the wonderful artists and arts groups that have chosen to work here.

Just as importantly, the award is a message of encouragement to the many innovative and promising new talents who will become the artistic creators of the future.

The Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts invites nominations from all Ontarians.

Juries for the Awards, chosen for their expertise in the arts and cultural disciplines, will evaluate the proposed candidates.

A selected shortlist will promote the achievements of all of the finalists. The winner of the individual artist award will share the prize with an emerging talent of their choice within their field.

The Province recognizes that our artists and cultural groups are essential to the vitality and well-being of the people of Ontario. We have established this award to show our appreciation for their invaluable and lasting contribution to the enrichment of our way of life.

The Ontario Arts Council administers the award submissions and evaluation process on behalf of the Government of Ontario.

For more information, contact the Ontario Arts Council Awards Office at:
416-961-1660 ext. 6666 / 1-800-387-0058 ext 6666
www.arts.on.ca / info@arts.on.ca



an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

The Government of Ontario is committed to providing services to the public in French in accordance with the requirements of the *French Language Services Act*.

CE DOCUMENT EXISTE ÉGALEMENT EN FRANÇAIS.

What is the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts?

The Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts recognizes outstanding achievement and contribution to arts and culture in Ontario, over a significant period of time. The award is conferred in two categories:

The **Individual Artist Award** recognizes a professional artist including the head/director of an arts organization. The value of the award is \$50,000. One recipient will receive a cash award of \$35,000. The recipient will nominate a promising new or emerging individual talent in the same field. The new or emerging individual talent will receive a cash award of \$15,000. Five short-listed finalists will each receive \$2,000 and a framed certificate.

The **Arts Organization Award** recognizes a not-for profit or commercial arts organization involved in the arts or cultural industries in Ontario. The value of the award is \$50,000. One recipient will receive a cash award of \$50,000. Five short-listed finalists will each receive \$2,000 and a framed certificate.

The award is not intended as an "end of service" reward or as recognition for a single great accomplishment but rather for a level of achievement that is extraordinary and unique.

Who can be nominated for the award?

The award recognizes candidates engaged in any professional arts practice, including community arts, crafts, dance, music, opera, theatre, visual and media arts, writing or cultural industries such as book and magazine publishing, digital media, film, television and sound recording.

Candidates for the **Individual Artist Award** must be professional artists, Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada and residents of Ontario.

Artists residing permanently in Québec border municipalities in the National Capital region who have been recognized as Ontario artists and who contribute actively to the artistic life of Ontario are eligible.

A professional artist is someone who has developed skills through training and/or practice, *and* is recognized as such by artists working in the same artistic tradition, *and* has a history of public presentation or publication, *and* seeks payment for her or his work *and* actively practises his or her art. Short breaks in artistic work history are allowed.

Candidates for the **Arts Organization Award** must be not-for-profit professional arts organizations or commercial enterprises based in Ontario. Commercial enterprises must be:

- primarily Canadian-controlled (51%), with at least one third of their activity available to Ontario audiences in the form of exhibits, performances, recordings, videos, publications or other forms of creative endeavour available to Ontarians
- liable to pay taxes to the Province of Ontario.

Previous finalists are eligible.

No award will be made posthumously.

Candidates can not be previous award winners, a collective of individual artists, or students (elementary, secondary, post-secondary including undergraduate graduate or graduate at a college, university or conservatory/training program).

Tip: A list of winners is available on the Ontario Arts Council's website at <http://www.arts.on.ca/Page1682.aspx>.

Who can submit a nomination?

Anyone can nominate. We are delighted to receive nominations from Ontario residents who enjoy and take an interest in Ontario's arts and cultural industries.

Your nomination will be withdrawn if you are:

- a member of your candidate's immediate family (spouse or equivalent, son or daughter, parent, sibling or member of the immediate household)
- employed by/work for your candidate
- a member of your candidate's staff or board

Candidates may not submit a nomination on their own behalf for the award.

How many candidates can I nominate?

One. You can submit one nomination for either the **Individual Artist Award** or the **Arts Organization Award**, not both.

How do I nominate?

A complete nomination must be submitted to the Ontario Arts Council on or before the deadline by mail or courier. You are responsible for gathering the required documentation and submitting a nomination package to the Ontario Arts Council and informing your candidate of the nomination. Your candidate is not required to be directly involved and need not supply extra materials unless requested by the Ontario Arts Council.

The nomination form is available on the Ontario Arts Council's website at www.arts.on.ca/Page1682.aspx.

A complete nomination package consists of five easy steps

1. **Nomination form.** Fully complete the nomination form and include it in your nomination package. Your signature is required.
2. **Nomination Summary.** This is a summary of your candidate's achievements and contributions, included as part of the nomination form.
3. **Supporting Letter:** A well-written, impassioned letter (maximum 2 pages) outlining the merits of the work of your candidate, their achievements and contributions to arts or cultural industries in Ontario and the effect they have had on you personally can be very helpful during consideration. Your signature is also required on this document.
4. **Candidate's résumé or organization's profile:** For the **Individual Artist Award**; submit a résumé of your candidate (maximum 3 pages). For the **Arts Organization Award**; submit a profile (maximum 2 pages).
5. **Support material:** Please submit published reviews or articles in English or French to illustrate your candidate's achievements and contributions to the arts or cultural industries in Ontario (maximum 3 pages).

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The reviews or articles must be of a high quality reproduction submitted on letter sized paper (8 ½" x 11"). Documents submitted on oversized paper or material that exceeds the maximum pages requested will be withdrawn from your nomination package. Do not send original documents.

Support material in the following formats will not be accepted and will not be returned: audio/visual documents (CDs, DVDs, slides, etc.), books, catalogues, magazines, brochures, promotional posters/flyers or, art work.

To ensure clarity, the supporting letter and candidate résumé or organization profile must be computer-generated or typewritten and submitted on 8½" x 11" white paper in 11-point serif type (e.g. Times New Roman).

Your nomination package must not be bound (i.e. cerlox, stapled, spiral bound) to ensure ease of copying. Your nomination package will be copied by the Ontario Arts Council in black & white for the juries.

All of the above items must be included in the package. Sort each item in the order listed. Clip them together and attach to the Nomination Form. Do not staple.

Incomplete nominations will not be submitted for consideration. The jury will not review material that exceeds the maximum page requirements. Please remember to make a copy of the entire nomination package for your files.

Can I resubmit my nomination from last year?

No. Nominations will not be carried over to the next year. You are encouraged to re-submit a nomination from the previous year but you must complete a new nomination form and submit the required documents and support documentation each time.

Can I submit a nomination in French?

Yes. Nominations can be submitted in French or English. The OAC is committed to providing services to the public in French in accordance with the requirements of the *French Language Services Act*. If French language nominations are evaluated by an English jury, at least one juror is Francophone.

Nominations submitted in French are translated by accredited translators into English prior to assessment. English translations of nominations submitted in French are made available to nominators upon written request, for their information only, after the results have been announced. The OAC does not translate newspaper/magazine reviews/articles or written material that is not a required element of the nomination.

Can I receive the award guidelines and form by fax or email?

The Ontario Arts Council Awards Office does not send or receive documents by fax or email. Nomination guidelines and forms are available only from the Ontario Arts Council or on the Ontario Arts Council website at www.arts.on.ca. You should request the nomination guidelines and form well in advance of the deadline.

Do you return the nomination documents?

All nomination documents including support material will not be returned.

When do I submit my nomination?

The Ontario Arts Council will accept nominations postmarked by Canada Post or a courier company no later than **December 1, 2009**. You may also hand deliver your nomination to our office on the 5th floor of 151 Bloor Street West, Toronto. After 5 p.m. on the deadline day, building security will accept your nomination until 8 p.m. Your nomination must be complete before you drop it off.

All nominations must be mailed or delivered to:

Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts
Ontario Arts Council, Awards Office
151 Bloor Street West, Fifth Floor
Toronto ON M5S 1T6

The Ontario Arts Council will open all nominations after the deadline date.

Can I send my nomination to the Ontario Arts Council after the deadline?

No. Incomplete and late nominations are ineligible and will be returned to you by mail at any point in the process after the deadline date.

Can I send my nomination to the Ontario Arts Council by fax or email?

The Ontario Arts Council will not accept nominations that have been faxed, emailed or sent on disc.

Can I send extra documents to the Ontario Arts Council after the deadline?

No. Check to ensure your nomination is complete, signed, accurate, legible and submitted in the correct order. We will not follow up on any of these requirements – they are your responsibility.

Will you notify me if you have received my nomination?

No. We will not notify you automatically when we have received your nomination package. If you want us to confirm your nomination has been received, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped postcard with your nomination package.

How are the candidates selected?

All eligible nominations will be reviewed by juries selected by the Ontario Arts Council each year.

Juries will be conducted in both French and English. Juries will represent the range of nominations in the competition representing regional, culturally diverse, Aboriginal and Francophone artistic practices

and communities in Ontario who are not in conflict with any candidate or nominator. The Ontario Arts Council chooses jurors who:

- ❑ Have a broad spectrum of knowledge and experience of relevant art forms, arts organizations and related issues
- ❑ Have knowledge of the cultural needs of particular regions or communities
- ❑ Will provide fair and objective opinions
- ❑ Are able to articulate their opinions and to work in a group decision-making environment.

Jurors are required to keep the contents of all nominations and discussions during the jury panel meetings confidential. Jurors do not disclose that they have been selected as assessors. Names of jurors will be released with results following each competition.

What are the jurors' responsibilities?

Before the meeting to assess nominations, jurors become familiar with the award and its assessment criteria. They read all nominations and written support documents, making notes about each nomination in the context of the award's assessment criteria.

At the meeting, the jurors review the nominations, using their knowledge and expertise in a group decision-making environment and recommend a winner and five short listed finalists in each award category.

What are the criteria for selection of the recipients?

Jurors will have the following points in mind when reviewing the nominations:

- ❑ The substantial and distinguished contribution to the arts or cultural industries in Ontario of the candidate over a significant period of time.
- ❑ The candidate's public recognition and respect of the excellence of their artistic work, programs or activities.

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How are nominators and award finalists notified?

Nominators

The names of the award finalists are announced publicly by the Ontario Ministry of Culture. The winner in each award category will be announced at an event hosted by the Ministry of Culture.

All nominators will be notified of results in writing from the Ontario Arts Council after the Ministry of Culture's public announcements in the spring.

Ontario Arts Council does not give award results by telephone or email, so please do not call us or email us for this information. The Ontario Arts Council does not provide feedback.

Award finalists

The Ministry of Culture contacts the finalists privately to confirm their acceptance. The award finalists are required to participate fully in all Award activities, including media conferences, ceremonies and receptions, and to make themselves available to the media for interviews. Finalists must allow photographs and public information about themselves to be used in promoting the Award.

About the Ontario Arts Council

The Ontario Arts Council offers more than 50 funding programs for Ontario-based artists and arts organizations, with funds from the Government of Ontario. Grants provide assistance for specific activities, support to create new work or for ongoing operations.

The OAC also administers awards, prizes and scholarships from private funds donated to the OAC and administers several awards for the Ontario Arts Foundation.



Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill out this form and prepare the supporting documents described on page 2. This document is confidential once complete. You must fill in all the information requested on the nomination form.

Please print clearly. If you are using the electronic Application, either print the form and complete it by hand, or complete it on your computer screen, then print it out. To complete on screen, simply move your cursor to entry spots or tab from one entry spot to the next.

I WISH TO NOMINATE

Name of candidate: _____

If the nomination is successful, a cheque will be made out to the above name.

Number and street name _____	R.R. # / Postal station _____	Suite / Apt. / Floor _____
City / Municipality / Reserve _____	Province _____	Postal code _____

Phone number during the day ___-___-_____	Other phone number ___-___-_____
Email address _____	Website _____

Complete all of the information below that refers to your candidate:

Individual Artist Award Candidate

- Resident of Ontario
or
 Resident of a Québec border municipality in the National Capital region.
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- Salutation for correspondence:
 Mr. Ms None Other *specify* _____
- Preferred language for communication
ENGLISH FRENCH
Written
Verbal

Arts Organization Award Candidate

- Not-for-profit arts organization based in Ontario
or
 For-profit commercial enterprise based in Ontario
- Incorporation date: _____
- Incorporation number: _____
- Contact person of nominated arts organization:

Title: _____
Phone number during the day ___-___-_____
- Salutation for correspondence:
 Mr. Ms None Other *specify* _____
- Preferred language for communication
ENGLISH FRENCH
Written
Verbal

Artistic discipline of candidate (*check one that is most applicable*):

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dance | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Theatre | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crafts | <input type="checkbox"/> Visual Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Media Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book/Magazine Publishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial film, television | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi/Interdisciplinary | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

NOMINATOR INFORMATION**Your name**

First: _____

Last: _____

Number and street name
_____R.R. # / Postal station
_____Suite / Apt. / Floor
_____City / Municipality / Reserve
_____Province
_____Postal code

Phone number during the day (____) _____

Other phone number (____) _____

Email address _____

Preferred language for

communication

ENGLISH FRENCH

Written Verbal

Salutation for

correspondence

 Mr. Ms None Other *specify* _____Resident of Ontario or Resident of a Québec
municipality in the National
Capital region

DECLARATION OF NOMINATOR

As a nominator for the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts, I am not:

- a member of my candidate's immediate family (spouse or equivalent, son or daughter, parent, sibling or member of the immediate household),
- employed by/work for my candidate, or
- a member of my candidate's staff or board.

I have attached the following support documents to this nomination form:

1. **Nomination Summary**
2. **Supporting Letter** (maximum 2 pages)
3. For an **Individual Artist Award** candidate, submit candidate's *résumé* (maximum 3 pages) or for an **Arts Organization Award** candidate, submit arts organization's profile (maximum 2 pages).
4. **Support material** (maximum 3 pages).

All of the above items must be included in the package. Sort each item in the order listed. Clip them together and attach to the Nomination Form. Do not staple.

I agree to the following:

I have read and understand all the terms and conditions of the award requirements explained in the Nomination Guidelines.

I have informed the candidate of the nomination for this award.

I agree that the OAC is not responsible for loss or damage, however caused, to nomination and support documents.

The information given in this nomination is true, correct and complete in every respect.

I understand that late or incomplete nominations that do not meet the eligibility criteria for the award will be withdrawn from the nomination process and returned to me at any time in the process.

Date_____
Signature of the nominatorSend your nomination package post marked by Canada Post or a courier company by **December 1, 2009** to:

Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts
Ontario Arts Council
Awards Office
151 Bloor Street West, Fifth Floor
Toronto, ON M5S 1T6.



Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts

NOMINATION SUMMARY

Check one award category: Individual Artist Award or Arts Organization Award

Name of Candidate	Candidate's location: City/Municipality/Reserve
Name of Nominator	Nominator's location: City/Municipality/Reserve

INSTRUCTIONS: You can attach a computer-generated or typewritten document for the following summary of your candidate's achievements and contributions, submitted on 8½" x 11" white paper in 11-point serif type (e.g. Times New Roman) if you do not use the form fillable section of this part of the nomination.

Summarize your candidate's outstanding achievements and contributions to arts and culture in Ontario. (maximum 250 words)

Optional: List two websites that include your candidate's achievements or contributions.
