MISSISSAUGA ARTS AWARDS | GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA

How MARTY Award Winners are Selected

All Established and Emerging Artist nominations and other awards will be evaluated by an independent jury comprised of discipline-specific artists, arts professionals and community leaders involved in the arts and culture community in Mississauga.

All nominations are evaluated by an independent jury using the same scoring criteria to ensure a fair process and must achieve a minimum benchmark score to be considered for an Award. A maximum of five (5) finalists will be selected in all categories.

Established Artist - Winner of a MARTY Award

Recognizing the recent outstanding achievement of a Mississauga artist or performer in an arts discipline, actively working in the arts and culture sector. An established artist is an individual who has been practicing professionally for at least five years or more and includes:

- a history of public exhibition, performance or publication
- recognition by their peers

Emerging Artist - Winner of a Creative Excellence Framed Certificate

Recognize and encourage Mississauga’s valued, next generation of artists who, in the early stages of their careers, have demonstrated exceptional talent and accomplishments, as well as a unique artistic expression and commitment to their art:

- Nominees have produced a modest, independent body of work, and have shown sustained commitment to the development of their artistic skills
- Nominees have increasingly demonstrated activity within the Mississauga arts community and have a history of public presentation or publication
- The nominee is committed to their practice as a career and is recognized as an excellent artist by others working in the same artistic genre

Established and Emerging categories:

**Dance** - Dance and choreography (all genres)
Theatre Arts - Opera, theatre and musical theatre productions, live performances.

Digital Arts - Film, video, audio/visual art, animation, digital art, web-based art, media art installation, new media, or any fusion thereof.

Music - Solo - Performance, composition, songwriting by an individual performer.

Music - Group - Performance, composition, songwriting by a group or ensemble.

Music - Instrumental (individual or group) - Performance, composition, songwriting by a group or ensemble.

Visual Arts - Painting, sculpture, drawing, printmaking, photography, graffiti.

Literary Arts - Poetry, short story, written journalism, fiction, non-fiction, playwriting, and publishing.

Fashion Design - Fashion, jewelry and stylists (makeup and hair).

The Creative Community Awards for the Mississauga Arts Awards are determined by a vote of the MAC Board of Directors and are given to the most deserving individual or group.

Lifetime Achievement Award
Nominees should meet the following criteria:

The award is for an individual’s lifetime’s body of work and achievement in the arts scene in Mississauga. For over 20 years, the deserving nominee should have demonstrated exceptional creative leadership and be a recognized and awarded talent in their arts practice. Ideally there is evidence of their influence and inspiration for others in their art works.

- Eligibility: Any resident can nominate a worthy artist who may or may not live in Mississauga but who has or had a significant relationship with Mississauga during their creative career.

Hazel McCallion Volunteer of The Year Award
Nominees should meet the following criteria:

The nominated individual might volunteer as an administrator of a creative event or arts group, or contributes his or her time and resources in support of an impactful creative
event, organization or movement in a way that brings honour to the arts and themselves. As a much valued contributor they deserve our heartiest congratulations and recognition, for their generous dedicated service to an arts event or organization, that makes a difference in their community.

- **Eligibility:** Nomination is open to any arts group or organization utilizing volunteers and the nominee should reside in Mississauga.

**Laurie Pallett Patron of The Arts Award**
Nominees should meet the following criteria:

The Laurie Pallett Patron of the Arts Award recognizes an enduring commitment to the local arts community, celebrates an individual or business that has made a meaningful contribution to the arts in Mississauga through entrepreneurial partnerships or philanthropic investments in artists, arts organizations and creative events. In Laurie Pallett’s word, “someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty, who has foresight, vision, and has truly contributed to the development of the arts in our community over a significant period of time”.

- **Eligibility:** Any resident may nominate a worthy patron and the nominee does not need to live in Mississauga but their beneficial impact is felt in the Mississauga arts community.

The winner of the Festival of the Year Award category is determined by a jury from the Mississauga News.

**Festival of the Year Award**
Nominees should meet the following criteria:

The award is for a reoccurring festival which features Mississauga artists and presents various art forms to a large and diverse audience. The award is presented to the festival’s organizing group for their outstanding quality and impact. The deserving festival must have operated for at least three years, take place in Mississauga, and be open to the public.

- **Eligibility:** Any resident can nominate a worthy group who organizes a reoccurring festival which adheres to the criteria. For example, a cultural or
music festival which features artists as a part of their programming can be nominated.

The Awards Criteria

- Finalists must be members of the Mississauga Arts Council and in good standing.
- One nomination form per nominee is required.
- Previously nominated candidates are eligible to be re-nominated. However, previous winners cannot be nominated for the same award within a 3 year period of receiving that award.
- Current Board of Directors and staff of the Mississauga Arts Council, the MARTYS Jurors are not eligible to apply or be nominated.
- Self-nominations or posthumous nominations, (with the exception of the Lifetime Achievement Awards) will not be accepted.
- The Mississauga public at large are encouraged to nominate individuals or organizations who they feel are qualified and deserving of an award.
- Members of the Board of Directors and staff of the Mississauga Arts Council may nominate in all categories but cannot participate in the selection of winners. The exceptions are awards for the Volunteer of the Year, Patron of the Arts and Outstanding Lifetime Achievement.
- Nominees must be residents of the City of Mississauga or have a significant connection to or have made a major contribution to the arts within the City of Mississauga.
- Only one category per year-per nominee will be accepted.
- MAC reserves the right to select no winners in a category in any given year if the jury deems that nominees are not qualified.
- Late or incomplete nominations will not be accepted.
- Attendance or representation at the Marty Awards ceremony is a condition of winning. Nominees may send someone to receive the award if they are unable to attend.