



**Tourism, Culture and Heritage**

**Culture Division**

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## **Portia White Prize**

### **Background**

This prize is named for Portia White, a Nova Scotian who rose through adversity to achieve international acclaim as a classical singer on the stages of Europe and North America. Although Portia White began her career teaching in Africville, she eventually turned her energy to developing her enormous musical talent. Portia White became a world-renowned contralto through much hard work and dedication and the financial support of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust, a charitable organization created in 1944 by the Halifax Ladies Music Club, the music community and the Province. Upon retiring from the stage, Ms. White devoted her time to teaching and coaching young singers. Her achievements continue to instill a sense of pride in the African Nova Scotian community and stand as a model to all Nova Scotians.

### **Purpose of the Portia White Prize**

To recognize cultural and artistic excellence on the part of a Nova Scotian artist who has attained professional status, mastery and recognition in their discipline.

To enable the province of Nova Scotia to promote excellence in the arts by honouring an outstanding Nova Scotian artist who has made a significant contribution to the province's cultural life.

### **The Prize**

The primary recipient, who is an established artist, either born in Nova Scotia or resident in the province for at least the past four years, will receive \$18,000 and a certificate of recognition.

A secondary recipient, who is an emerging Nova Scotian artist or a Nova Scotian cultural organization selected by the primary recipient, will receive \$7,000 and a certificate of recognition.

### **How often is the Prize Awarded?**

The prize will be awarded annually, unless the jury determines that there is no suitable candidate.

### **Who is Eligible?**

Creative and interpretive artists working in any medium, who either were born in Nova Scotia or who have been resident in the province for at least the past four years, may be nominated.

Nominated artists must have made an impact on the province's cultural life.

Nominated artists must be currently active in their artistic practice.

No means test will be applied to nominees.

Nominees must agree to be nominated.

Nominees cannot be nominated in the same year for the Grand-Pré Prize or the Established Artists Recognition Award.

### **How to Nominate an Artist**

Eligible nominees must be nominated by three individuals, all currently resident in the province, or by a cultural organization or business registered or incorporated in Nova Scotia.

Nominators may make one nomination per year.

Nominations must be submitted on the nomination form provided by the Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage.

### **Deadline for Nominations**

Nominations must be received or postmarked no later than **July 15**.

### **How are Recipients Chosen?**

The Culture Division assembles a 5 member jury who collectively possess the following characteristics:

- knowledge of the culture sector;
- knowledge of arts practices;
- current leaders in cultural development; and are
- representative of the province's cultural and geographic diversity.

The jury will review nominations, considering only the information required on the nomination form, to assess each nominee's artistic achievement and contribution to Nova Scotia's cultural life.

The names of jury members will be made public three months after the recipient is announced.