

Literary Arts Award : EMERGING



Anna Yin

Anna Yin is a gifted writer who has won several poetry contests including the Ted Plantos' Memorial Award from T.O.P.S. in 2005. In 2006, she was selected as the feature poet by the Canadian Federation of Poets and in 2007; her works in translation were chosen for a Canadian Studies' textbook used by the students at Humber College. Her work *Toronto, No More Weeping* has also been featured on CBC Radio.



Benjamin Thornton

Benjamin Thornton is a unique Canadian writer. He is the author of *The Ideal Candidate*, the only novel he knows of that satirizes that hotbed of political intrigue: the city of Mississauga. He is also a contributor to such well-respected humour websites as *McSweeney's Internet Tendency* and *The Big Jewel*.



Cheryl Antao-Xavier

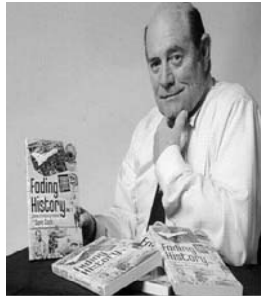
Cheryl Antao-Xavier is a poet, publisher and literary event organizer. Her book *Dance of the Peacock* was published in 2008 and her newest work, *Bruised but Unbroken* is due in 2011. She is the National Coordinator for the Canadian Federation of Poets, and a member of the Writer's Union of Canada and the League of Canadian Poets.



Kofi Aboagye Akrofi Sankofa

Kofi Sankofa writes to provoke, incite and awaken unconscious minds. After the great success of his previous spoken work/dub poetry recording *The Diary of a Son*, Sankofa released his highly anticipated full length CD *Sankofa Ancestral Callin*. Sankofa is on a mission to use his poetry to enlighten the world.

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David L. Cook

After his retirement from the City of Mississauga Council, David Cook turned his attention to writing and publishing books on community history. He has written and published four books on a wide variety of historical subjects. He describes his writing as a living history of events, places and people.



Igor Trutanow

Igor Trutanow is a writer, teacher, documentary filmmaker and community volunteer. His writing often focuses on Chinese Mythology, ancient Egypt, modern North Korea, Russian politics, and life in China, Cuba, and Canada. His body of work varies from political commentary to serious novels and humour. One of his most recent works *The Inventor of Freedom* has added to his international prominence in the literary scene. Currently, Igor is working on a book about Canadian inventions.

Literary Arts Award : ESTABLISHED



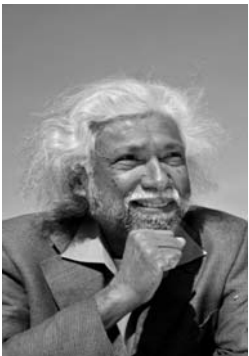
Kathy Buckworth

Kathy Buckworth is an award winning writer, television personality, and public speaker. Her parenting humour books include: *Shut Up and Eat: Tales of Chicken*; *Children and Chardonnay*; *The BlackBerry Diaries: Adventures in Modern Motherhood*; *Journey to the Darkside: Supermom Goes Home*; and *The Secret Life of Supermom*. She is the only two-time winner of the Professional Writers Association of Canada Excellence in Humour Writing award, and her writing appears in national publications and on websites around the world through her monthly “Funny Mummy” column. She is the parenting expert on Slice Television’s *Birth Day* and appears regularly on CBC, CTV, Global and CityTV.



Meena Chopra

As a poet and artist, Meena Chopra has held several exhibitions internationally. She represented India at the SARC Artists meet, and also represented Canada in India at the International Hindi Literature Meet. As a poet in English and Hindi, her first book of verse, *Ignited Lines* was published in 1996. Meena received an Honourable Mention for her poetry from the Mississauga Library System. She also co-founded Cross Currents, with a mission of embracing diverse culture through art.



Peter Jallall

Peter Jallall is a teacher, poet and storyteller who reads his work across North America, the U.K. and the Caribbean. He is an advocate of human rights, social values and environmental protection. His books include: *This Healing Place* (1993), *Yet Another Home* (1997), *When September Comes* (2003) and *Mother Earth: poems for her children* (2009).



Robert J. Sawyer

Robert J. Sawyer is one of the only seven authors in history – and the only Canadian – to win all three of the top science fiction awards for Best Novel: The Hugo, Nebula, and John W. Campbell Memorial Award. His novel *Flash-Forward* is the basis for the ABC TV series.

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A.J. Saudin

A.J. Saudin is one of the most promising talents on television today. He is currently playing a lead role on the well known Canadian TV Series *Degrassi the New Generation*, in the challenging role of Connor. A.J. has been busy the last few years while shooting various television and film projects such as, *The Line*, *Da Kink in My Hair*, *Vacation with Derek* and *Aruba*.



Anna-Nina Kus

Anna-Nina Kus is a talented dancer who was born in Mississauga and is a grade 10 student at Cawthra Park S.S. She has represented Canada eight times at various World Championships, ranking 5th in the Junior World Latin competition in 2009. She is the only Canadian Junior competitor who has won the Ballroom, Latin and 10 Dances division three years in a row (2007-2009).

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Aramik Moosakhanian

Aramik Moosakhanian is a talented performer who is influenced by Armenian and Persian culture, and blends jazz-rock, and upbeat Spanish rhythms into his music. In 2006, *Aram'Aha Ays Yesem* was nominated for the best Alternative Album by the Armenian Music Awards. His CD *Lost Melodies* was awarded a C.A.C. Music Award for Best Instrumental CD. Aramik is also producer of music for other musicians, film and television.



Austin Di Iulio

Austin Di Iulio is trained in many styles of dance including: jazz, tap, ballet, lyrical and acrobatics. Most recently, Austin was a Top 10 contestant on the popular television show *So You Think You Can Dance Canada*. He has worked with various choreographers including Mia Michaels, Brian Friedman and Tyce Diorio and has worked on various TV and film projects including: *Hairspray*, *The Music Man*, *Wildcard*, *Nikita*, *The Last Don* and *The Sons of Mistletoe*.



Bradley Bonitatibus

Bradley is a 13 year-old student who is extremely passionate about music. When he was eight years old, Bradley picked up his dad's bass guitar and began studying performances of the famous Canadian rock band, RUSH, until he learned their songs. He has also taught himself to play the guitar and the drums. Currently, he is enrolled in the Band Chops program with the Merriam School of Music where he is the primary bass player. He hopes to continue to play music and inspire other young artists to spread positive messages.

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Catherine Bernardi

Catherine Bernardi is a third year student at York University, majoring in Theatre Studies with a specialization in Creative Ensemble. Catherine is the Co-Artistic Director of Cawrk Theatrical Productions, a Mississauga theatre company. She is also a member of Vanier College Productions at York University where she recently performed as Penelope Pennywise in *Urinetown*.



Darcei Giles

Darcei Giles is a talented singer and songwriter. Her debut CD was recorded in New York City and contains three songs written and composed by her. She was one of ten female artists who performed at the 2010 TemFest event. Currently, she is working on a demo CD with producer, Derek Brin.



Evan Alexander Smith

Evan Alexander Smith is a classically trained actor and graduate of George Brown Theatre School, where he appeared in *South of China*, *Laius*, *The Relapse* and *The Baker's Wife*. Most recently, Evan starred in the hit Toronto production of *The Toxic Avenger Musical* (DanCap Productions). Other selected credits include: *The Fantasticks*, *Evita*, *Ragtime*, *Bully*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *West Side Story* and *Les Misérables*.

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Georgio Petros Talias

Georgio Talias is a self-taught musician skilled on the piano, guitar and wood instruments. He has the ability to fuse various songs from different genres into masterpieces by extracting beats and melody from obscure backgrounds. His abilities have been compared with the likes of Timberland and Will-I-Am, which has led him to perform in over 40 live shows last year. Georgio also strongly believes in working with youth and giving back to the community.



Hanz Munoz

Hanz Munoz is a talented young vocalist who has reached a new level of performance and shows no signs of slowing down. With his most recent concert at Carnegie Hall, a showcase at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics and an album in the making, Hans continues to make his mark in the music industry.



Julia Juhas

Singer, actor and dancer, Julia Juhas, is a graduate of the prestigious Music Theatre Performance Program at Sheridan College. Immediately after her graduation, she performed in *The Producers* (Mirvish Productions) and has gone on to perform in various other theatrical productions. In the summer of 2008, Julia was a Top 20 finalist in CBC's *How Do You Solve a Problem like Maria* and had the opportunity to sing the song "Memory" (CATS) for Andrew Lloyd-Webber on the London Palladium stage in England.

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Konstantinos Stergioulis

Konstantinos Stergioulis was born in Komotini, Greece. As a child, he showed early signs of passion and skill in composition and performing music. He is skilled in guitar and harmonica, and orchestrates his creations. Konstantinos has taken part in various musical groups and has performed his own songs in Greece, and recently in Canada at many events organized by the Greek Community and other organizations.



Lorne Hind

Lorne Hind is a self-taught songwriter and music composer. His skills as a professional guitarist have led him to be compared to the likes of Joe Satriani, Jimi Hendrix, Stevie Ray Vaughan and Carlos Santana. Lorne specializes in performing instrumental, country music, hard rock and R&B. In his spare time, he likes to dabble with jazz music.



Marshall Dane

Marshall Dane is an original singer-songwriter from Mississauga, Ontario and Canada's latest breakthrough country star. His debut country album *Running Stop Signs* will be released on July 13th, 2010. His new single *Love and Alcohol* is currently being played nationwide on country radio.

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Matthew Yipchuck

Matthew Yipchuck is a drama graduate of Cawthra Park S.S. and is currently working towards a Bachelor of Fine Arts in film production from York University. He has directed numerous films within his department and continues to stay active in the theatre community outside of school. Matthew is the founder of his own independent theatre company, Cawkr Theatrical Productions.



Michael Ciufu

Canadian tenor Michael Ciufu is quickly becoming known for his stage presence, charisma and gorgeous voice. As a graduate of the Glenn Gould School of Music at the Royal Conservatory, Michael has gained a lot of experience on the operatic, concert and recital stage. Michael's first original album, created in collaboration with Canadian songwriter and producer Chris Bilton, is set for release in January of 2011.



Mike Celia

Singer/songwriter, Mike Celia, has been performing since 2004 when he opened for his brother David at the legendary Hugh's Room in Toronto. Since then, he has released his first recording; an EP entitled *Things I've Sold*, gone on a grassroots tour across Canada, worked closely on the soundtrack for the film *Six Reasons Why*, and was the concert series Director for the Mississauga Independent Film Festival. Mike also believes in giving back and has contributed to local communities by performing at various fundraisers as well as volunteering to teach music to children.

Performing Arts Award : EMERGING



Pamela Rasbach

Pamela Rasbach is an emerging choreographer in the Canadian dance scene who is progressing contemporary dance style with her new creations as the Artistic Director of Typecast Dance Company. She has received professional training from both the National Ballet School and Ryerson Theatre School and was commissioned by Dance Ontario for *inCORPORATION*, a contemporary ballet quintet that premiered at Dance Ontario in 2009. Pamela was also one of nine international artists who participated in Berlin's TAKT Kunstprojektraum, at which she created dance films *Visceral Fabrications* and *Adults Suck (Then You Are One)*.



Sebastian Grainger

Sebastian Grainger is an emerging talented, soulful musician who is best known as the drummer and vocalist for the band Death From Above 1979. Currently, he has eagerly returned to the road after completing new recordings for his band Sebastian Grainger & The Mountains. Although he is a self-described 'domestic person', Sebastian's penchant for singing loud, performing and getting sweaty is as real as people's enthusiasm for him to keep doing so.



Shruti Javali

Shruti Javali is currently an assistant teacher at the SAMPRADAYA Dance Academy and has performed in numerous SAMPRADAYA productions including: *Howzaat*, *India: Kingdom of the Tiger* and *Kshetram – dancing the divine*. Her experiences training in bharatanatyam since the age of six, and with Lata Pada for the past five years, has led her take part in performances during Masala Mehndi Masti, Dance Ontario's Dance Weekend (Harbourfront Centre) and the South-Asian Festival at the ROM. Currently, she is also pursuing an undergraduate degree in Health Sciences at McMaster University.

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Subhadra Vijaykumar

Subhadra Vijaykumar is a Mississauga based violinist who has trained under renowned soloist and maestro Professor T.N. Krishan, accompanied several artists, participated in orchestras for Bharatanatyam dance performances, and given lecture-demonstrations, as well as solo recitals. She has performed at major venues across Canada, the far east and England. Her recent performance for the Canadian Opera Company's lunchtime series garnered excellent reviews from the media. She is also the Founder and Artistic Director of Radha Academy of Carnatic Violin.



Vikas Kohli

Vikas Kohli of FatLabs has taken part in notable projects in Bollywood and Canada, including composing for Bollywood films *Mission Istanbul* and *Tom, Dick and Harry Rock Again*. He has also produced a multi-million album-selling artist *Mika Singh* and Top 20 punk band *The Responsibles*. Vikas has also successfully collaborated with Cappadonna (Wu-Tang Clan), Moka Only, Justin Nozuka and Deva Bratt.



Zameer Rizvi

Zameer Rizvi is an award winning musician ranked amongst Toronto's Top 10 performers by the world's largest festival, Emergenza. Zameer is produced by five-time Grammy award winning, Steve Thompson. His first song was licensed by the Paralympics. Zameer's unique style has led him to tour in Canada, Pakistan, United States, Norway and the Bahamas with John Mayer.

Performing Arts Award : ESTABLISHED



Alex Pangman

A unique and powerful vocal presence on the Canadian Jazz scene, Alex Pangman has enlivened many a venue with her unerring take on classic-era jazz, created when melody and substance reigned supreme. Presented with all the love, fun and respect it deserves, Pangman makes music of the past captivatingly present with her persuasive and infectious charm.



Anthony Panacci

Anthony Panacci began his love for music when he studied the accordion in high school, while playing the baritone sax and the piano. He was trained in music at Humber College's Jazz program, as well as The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. In the Jazz scene, he has recorded many CDs and toured Canada playing numerous Jazz Festivals and noted clubs in Montreal, Toronto and Quebec City. In 1992, Anthony started his own recording studio, engineering and producing demo's and CD's. Anthony is currently on the faculty at Humber College, teaching Jazz Piano, MIDI and Audio recording. Anthony also received the "Musician of the Year" award in Mississauga in 1999.



Carolyn Lykkemark

Carolyn Lykkemark is a professional singer with a breathtaking voice and natural acting ability. Over the course of her career, she has performed in operas, dinner theatre, solo concerts and festivals. In 2008, she recorded her debut CD *Seeds of Me*; and is in high demand as a singing teacher.

Performing Arts Award : ESTABLISHED



Chris Graham

Chris Graham is an award winning composer, performer and producer who also teaches high-school band, guitar and music production courses in Mississauga. He was recently featured in Remix magazine and this past year, composed the score for an award-winning short film, as well as mixed and co-wrote a Top 10 charting album.



Cristina Pora Balaceanu

Cristina Pora Balaceanu began her ballet studies in the Russian-Vaganova method at The State Ballet School in Bucharest, Romania. She has performed internationally in various European cities and performed as a soloist with The Compagnia Italian di ballet in Italy. As Director and Founder of the Cristina Pora Balaceanu Classical Dance Academy, she has trained and championed an impressive list of students who have successfully been accepted into such prestigious international professional schools over the course of 35 years.



Jeff Scott

As a Humber Music graduate, Jeff Scott's love for classic pop led to "Kokomo", a Beach Boys tribute band that toured across America. In Las Vegas, he was first asked to impersonate rocker Buddy Holly, which led him to tour around the world. Today, Jeff appears at Stage West and performs music from his original recordings.

Performing Arts Award : ESTABLISHED (cont'd)



Sarah Marcucci

Sarah Marcucci began dancing at the age of four, and has never stopped loving it. She is trained in a variety of disciplines including ballet, tap, modern, jazz, hip hop, lyrical and contemporary dance. She is currently a member of the What's On? Tap! Dance company, and continues to encourage, share, and foster a passion for dance by teaching and choreographing for the TDS Dance company.



Sean Pinchin

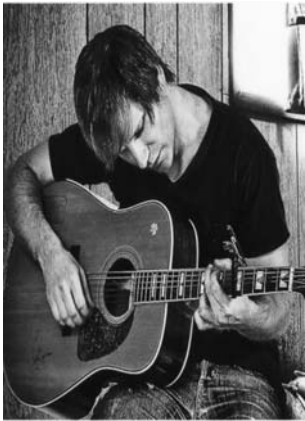
Singer/songwriter and slide guitarist Sean Pinchin combines elements of blues, folk and gospel music to create a sound that is both progressive and hypnotic. Performing solo, with a kick-board as a drummer, Sean Pinchin has been performing around various venues across Mississauga for almost a decade.



Tanya Birl

Tanya Birl began her dance training at the Dance Factory under the instruction of Cindy Dalzell and went on to attend Cawthra Park S.S., as well as the world renowned Ailey School in New York City. Tanya has continued her passion for dance while performing musical theatre in New York, as well as various venues around the world. Recently, Tanya performed in the Broadway revival of *Finian's Rainbow* which opened to rave reviews.

Performing Arts Award : ESTABLISHED



Tom Barlow

Tom Barlow is a seasoned musician who has performed in 13 countries around the world including England, The United Nations and China. He has been nominated for three Juno Awards and has had two singles go Top 10 on the radio charts. His music has appeared in various movies and TV Shows, and has shared the stage with John Mayer, Avril Lavinge, Tom Cochrane and Macy Grey. His rare combination of strong pop sensibility and powerful social messages has made his music a unique combination of what the media have labeled “activist pop”.



Vandana Vishwas

Blessed with prodigal vocal skills since childhood, Mississauga based architect-musician Vandana Vishwas has had to overcome serious physical challenges in order to share her gift of music with the world. Released in October of last year, her debut album, *Meera- The Lover...* has been getting wide-spread media coverage and has consistently appeared at the top 10 charts for International and World music in Canada. She has recently been nominated for World Artist of the year by The Indies – the 10th Annual Independent Music Awards 2010.

Performing Arts Group Award : EMERGING



Cawrk Theatrical Productions

Cawrk Theatrical Productions is an emerging non-profit theatre company currently entering its 5th season of production. Past productions have included classical pieces, works by Canadian authors as well as the development of original texts. Working from the inside out, Cawrk aims to cast a unique light on pre-existing material as well as developing new works.



Celebrity Symphony Orchestra

The Celebrity Symphony was founded in 1994 and performs Classical concerts of the highest caliber across the G.T.A. The ensemble has received words of praise and encouragement by several community members, including Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion. The Orchestra has performed a number of North American and World Premieres such as *Wola Nas Pan* by Korcz and Brill, *Ludmiers Vespers* by J.K. Pawluskiewicz and *Rhapsody* by Isaias Garcia.



Dance Electric

Dance Electric is a dance-punk / hardcore band based out of Mississauga. The band's latest record, *A Penance for Your Thought*, is a testament to the band's hard work, expressed with unique satirical flare. Always full of passion and intensity, Dance Electric intends to continue its mission; spreading the gospel of auditory destruction.



Ground Illusionz

Ground Illusionz is a multicultural crew of Hip-Hop artists. The group focuses on educating and empowering individuals through Hip-Hop culture's original style of dance. Their message of "transcending" foundation through originality have grown them into a crew that, not only represent as competitive champions, but also as contributors to the community through demonstration, development and sharing of knowledge.

Performing Arts Group Award : EMERGING



Orfeo Stella Maris

Orfeo Stella Maris is a classical choir that creates an atmosphere of musical reflection with repertoire ranging from fado, traditional and classical arrangements from different countries around the world. The ensemble, comprised of 50 members, has performed numerous concerts in a variety of venues, churches and performs charity concerts for various groups and hospitals. In April 2009, the choir conducted two major concerts in Sao Miguel, Portugal.



SAWITIRI Theatre Group

SAWITIRI Theatre Group, co-founded by Jasmine Sawant and Shobha Hatte in 2003, is a community theatre organization that presents original and exciting works of established, as well as emerging artists. Highlighting issues prevalent in the South Asian community, SAWITIRI is known to take risks, bringing unique theatre experiences and showcasing the talents of artists in the community.



Soul Nidus

For several years, Soul Nidus has created music, along with a growing buzz that has spread across the Atlantic to Europe. Their music is a fusion of sounds from all over the musical map. The band's unpredictable sound makes them so memorable in today's generic music scene. In time with the release of their album, Soul Nidus launched a successful campaign called "Promise" to sell wristbands in support of M.A.H.A.K., a charity for kids with cancer.

Performing Arts Group Award : EMERGING



Souladikts

Souladikts began in 2005 when three friends discovered a shared passion for Latin music in a living room in Mississauga. They decided to begin Souladikts to merge, create and express themselves through their music. They are now a five piece band with a combined 100 years of musical experience. They have received praise for their energetic and fun performances.



The Framework

The Framework is a new-wave rock band with members who grew up and honed their craft in Mississauga. This past year, their brand of catchy, synth-rock epics have earned national attention on MuchMusic and campus radio with the release of their debut, full-length album *Before Tonight* by Last Gang Labels.

Performing Arts Group Award : ESTABLISHED



illScarlett

Sony Music Recording Artist illScarlett, a pop-infused-reggae-rock band from Toronto, has toured with many high-profile artists including Blink 182, Billy Talent, Three Days Grace, Gym Class Heroes and Weezer. illScarlett are certified Gold in Canada, their music is featured in several soundtracks including Shaun White Snowboarding and the band has toured extensively throughout the world, including tours in Germany, U.K., USA and Japan.

Performing Arts Group Award : ESTABLISHED



Mississauga Festival Youth Choir

The Mississauga Festival Youth Choir is an inclusive, multi-cultural music education and performance program open to all youth in the community, striving to embody and reflect our community's diversity and musical practices. The ensemble takes pride in its diverse repertoire drawn from many cultures around the world.

Media Arts Award : EMERGING



Dr. Khan Monzoor-E-Khoda

Dr. Khan Monzoor-E-Khoda is a creative and technical minded computer savvy filmmaker, director of photography, video news journalist and editor who has his doctorate in Computer and Engineering Mathematics. He has over 35 years of experience in the media and film industry. Currently, he is involved as the Founder President and C.E.O. of Deshi Television Inc.



Morgan Muscat

Morgan Muscat is an independent filmmaker based in Mississauga. From early days as a PA on the cooking show *The Gathering Place*, Morgan developed into a thriving filmmaker with aspirations to become a screenwriter and producer. His body of work includes producing and writing *Title Match* and *Severance*, production management for the film *Botched*, and work on feature film *Six Reasons Why* and the TV show *Departures*. Morgan is a rising talent and his willingness and determination will surely become a great asset in a thriving career.

Media Arts Award : EMERGING (cont'd)



Nitin Sawant

Nitin Sawant has a deep passion for the arts. Coming to Canada was pivotal in Nitin discovering his true identity. Photography and videography, which had been relegated to hobbies, are now front and centre focuses of his life. Nitin has made Mississauga his home for the past 15 years, where he resides with his wife and two sons.



Oswald C. Shields

Oswald Shields is a Mississauga based artist who combines traditional techniques and New Media to create a unique form of art fusion. Formally trained at Humber College for Graphic Design, he uses interactive pieces to express both natural and ultra modern styles, passionately telling stories about the human experience.



Sean Edward Morgan

Photographer, Sean Edward Morgan, has an innate talent to express his art visually. He elevates what others may view as unadorned, and fashions pieces of work that verbalize the focal point of the image. Leaders in industries across the board have sought Sean to capture their look, brand, message and voice. He continues to push boundaries and techniques to form original editorials, beauty shots and portraits.

Media Arts Award : EMERGING (cont'd)



Taghreed Saadeh

Taghreed Saadeh runs her own production company (Ram Productions) and has had the opportunity to work with Canadian filmmakers B.H. Yael and Elle Flanders. She holds a Masters Degree in Social Political Science and studied Journalism at Sheridan College. Taghreed has also taken numerous workshops and courses about filmmaking.

Media Arts Award : ESTABLISHED



Richie Mehta

Richie Mehta recently directed his first feature film, *AMAL* in New Delhi, India. *AMAL* has won over 31 international awards, including being named one of Canada's Top 10 films by the Toronto International Film Festival. Currently, he is working with a top Hollywood company writing two feature films, as well as a sequel to *AMAL*. He is also currently directing a film for Disney India.

Visual Arts Award : EMERGING



Alexei Vella

Alexei Vella is an award-winning artist and illustrator. He specializes in creating images that are striking, complex, sensual and intellectually involving. In order to achieve this unique look, Valla employs a complex colour palette, an eclectic application of graphics and texture, and a sophisticated use of antiquated surfaces.



Andrea Beiko

Born and raised in Mississauga, Andrea will be graduating from the University of Toronto from the Art and Art History program. She studied photography throughout high school and during that time, realized her passion for art was what she wanted to pursue full time.



Andrew Kmiecik

Andrew Kmiecik's polymorphous artworks have been exhibited at Sheridan College, Mississauga Civic Centre, Gallery 44 and the upcoming Nuit Blanche. An artist with various talents, Kmiecik is also a Junior Assistant at Beesley Architecture Inc., as well as a musician who performs concerts throughout the G.T.A. with his band, the Dirty Folks.

Visual Arts Award : EMERGING (cont'd)



Bruce Teel

Bruce Teel graduated from Humber's Theatre Program and has performed in productions including Hamlet, Gypsy, as well as 'Crime Stoppers' on TV. He has always had a passion for all things creative and in 2008, began delving into the visual arts medium. Bruce also has several theatre production credits to his name.



Cachelle Legada-Buenafe

A practicing artist ever since childhood, Cachelle Legada-Buenafe is currently an Artist Assistant for Mississauga's Hotbox Projects. She also illustrates and writes features for Mississauga's *Local City Fun* entertainment newspaper. Consistently on the move, she has taken part in art exhibitions, consignments, competitions, and is a musician on the side.



Dayna Shura

Dayna Shura is a graduate of the University of Toronto's Art and Art History program, as well as the University of Ottawa's Bachelor of Education program. Her artistic practice consists primarily of acrylic paint, watercolour, pencil and ink. She hopes to use her art to illustrate children's literature. As an aspiring art teacher, Dayna believes that art can be life-enriching for people of all ages and abilities.

Visual Arts Award : EMERGING (cont'd)



Inge Kjeldgaard Tajik

Originally from Denmark, Inge Kjeldgaard Tajik, received her training from the Funen Academy of Fine Arts. Her work reflects her life's passions, as she strongly believes that if you paint something that is meaningful to you, it may also be meaningful to other people. She focuses on new ways to create new images to ensure that her art is always evolving.



J.A. Fligel

Due to his fathers strong ties with the art community; J.A. Fligel was born an artist and has been sculpting ever since he can remember. During the last five years, J.A. has focused on figurative work as his main pursuit, because he finds it more challenging. He had the honour to participate at the 2009 Florence Biennale in Italy, representing Canada. His most recent works have included sculptures of Mississauga Olympic and Paralympic athletes.



Jade Lee Portelli

Jade Lee Portelli is an artist and photographer. She began her interest in photography at the age of eight, when she received a camera as a gift from her parents. She is a graduate of the Ontario College of Art and Design and has exhibited in Toronto. Her continuous photographic series explores and documents the ephemeral beauty of the old, abandoned and desolate. She finds inspiration in the ability to create compelling photographs out of ordinary surroundings.

Visual Arts Award : EMERGING (cont'd)



Jan Cyril Fundano

Jan Cyril Fundano received his Honour Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto in 2008, majoring in Visual Studies and Architectural Design. Currently, he is a Resident Artist at the Living Arts Centre in the painting and drawing studio and has exhibited around Toronto. He has plans to obtain a Masters of Fine Arts in the near future.



Jarrett Hather

Jarrett Hather purchased his first camera three years ago, and made the unexpected career shift from sound technology to photography. Currently, he is attending Ryerson University, earning credits toward a photography studies certificate. Having gained media recognition with photos in Visual Arts Mississauga's Annual Photographic and new media shows, and a promotional photo inside TORONTO Magazine, it is his hope that one day his pursuits will lead to making a larger impact than just a 'photo'.



John Carvalho

John Carvalho, has been living in Mississauga for nineteen years, and is currently a freelance photographer. Carvalho grew up around cameras and found that, because of this, photography became his passion. Through photography, he escapes to a peaceful place, as he is battling a rare form of cancer.

Visual Arts Award : EMERGING (cont'd)



Megan McCabe

Megan McCabe is a graduate from the prestigious Ontario College of Art and Design. McCabe focuses on utilizing personal and found family vacation photographs as a springboard into the exploration and understanding of the notions surrounding family, nostalgia and vulnerability. McCabe is currently represented by Le Gallery in Toronto.



Nathalie Fave

Nathalie Fave is dedicated to different forms of arts. She has been recognized for her talents in poetry and writing, and has been published in Africa, France and Canada. Nathalie was born in Paris, spent 18 years in Africa, and moved to Canada in 2006. Just recently, she moved her family to Mississauga, where she is currently employed as an Executive Director of a French organization providing services for women victims of violence and immigrant women.



Paola Savasta

Paola Savasta is an Art and Art History specialist and Philosophy minor at the University of Toronto and Sheridan College. She works in video and paint where she explores ideas about fragmentation, conversation and the art of repair. She has performed and screened at Nuit Blanche, and exhibited work at VMAC and Blackwood Gallery. She is also the recipient of the Faculty Photography award, Faculty Painting award, Blackwood Gallery award and the Art Gallery of Mississauga award.

Visual Arts Award : EMERGING (cont'd)



Renato Rossi

Renato Rossi was born in Udine, Italy and moved to Canada at the age of eight. He has been a resident of Mississauga for the last 20 years. Renato is a father of four, and a computer professional with a long love affair for the camera and the art that it can create.



Rochelle Aranha

Rochelle Aranha is currently a student at St. Marcellinus Secondary School in Mississauga. She has been making art ever since she was a child, and finds most of her inspiration through comic book illustrations, pastries and desserts. In the future, Rochelle intends on pursuing a career in medical illustration which involves both of her hobbies: science and art.



Samantha Staresincic

Samantha Staresincic is a local artist contributing her talents to the community, particularly through her volunteer works with Dancers Preparing for a P.L.A.R. Challenge. Her artwork focuses on her friends to whom she gives her pieces. Samantha looks forward to incorporating art in her everyday life now, and in the future.

Visual Arts Award : EMERGING (cont'd)



Sean Edward Morgan

Photographer, Sean Edward Morgan, has an innate talent to express his art visually. He elevates what others may view as unadorned, and fashions pieces of work that verbalize the focal point of the image. Leaders in industries across the board have sought Sean to capture their look, brand, message and voice. He continues to push boundaries and techniques to form original editorials, beauty shots and portraits.



Sheida Sims

Growing up, Sheida Sims was continuously surrounded by music, dance, and the visual arts. At the age of six, she was inspired by her father's artwork, and years later she continued her investigation of the visual arts at Cawthra Park S.S. Sheida is currently refining her artistic skills at Sheridan College.



Tanya Morgan

Tanya Morgan is one of the most artistic nail designers you will ever see. Raised in Toronto, Tanya has been designing nails as a hobby since 2002. Her ability to express her visual art in the form of nails is unique and stylish. She makes wearing acrylic nails or nail designs, a fashion statement.

Visual Arts Award : ESTABLISHED



Claudio Ghirado

Claudio Ghirado began his arts career at the Joe Kubert School of Cartoon and Graphic Art in New Jersey where he studied comic drawing. After one visit to the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, the experience changed his perspective on art. Since then, he has evolved into a freelance illustrator, and has participated in many group exhibitions. He is also a member of Visual Arts Ontario, Visual Arts Mississauga, and the Mississauga Arts Council and has taught art part-time at Springbank, The Learning Club and Exhibition Gallery in Streetsville and Imagemaker Studios in Port Credit.



Erdmute Gottschling

Erdmute Gottschling received her training at the Ontario College of Art. She has done numerous workshops with well known North American artists and has taken painting trips to various locations around the world. She has exhibited in juried, group and solo shows since 1978 and has had her paintings in private collections in Germany, England, the USA and many parts of Canada.



Hilarie McNeil-Smith

Hilarie McNeil-Smith is an established Canadian photographer who did not realize her full artistic potential until her retirement from nursing. Over the years, she has taken part in various formal training workshops including, most recently, a photography workshop with Richard Martin in 2009. Her work has been displayed in various exhibitions including the Newton-Johnson Winery Gallery in South Africa, international magazines and newspapers. She is a member of the Mississauga Camera club and has taught workshops at various places around the world.

Visual Arts Award : ESTABLISHED (cont'd)



Ishrat Raza Suhrwardy

Ishrat Raza Suhrwardy studied ceramics at National College of Arts, Lahore and taught at Absa, NCA, and the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture in Pakistan. She has hosted various international exhibitions across Pakistan, Singapore and Thailand and is currently a Resident Artist at the Living Arts Centre, Mississauga.



Noni Kaur

Noni Kaur, an award-winning international artist, obtained her Master of Arts from Curtin University of Technology, Australia. Her works have been featured in major visual arts events and Biennales, Triennials in Australia, Cuba, China, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Singapore and Bangladesh. She has been practicing actively for the last 20 years, and is also on the Board of Directors of S.A.V.A.C., and member of Visual Arts Ontario, Mississauga Arts Council and Visual Arts Mississauga. She is currently a Professor at Humber College.



Sherry Khorasani

Self-taught award-winning artist, Sherry Khorasani paints mainly in watercolour. Sherry's engineering degree gives her the added advantage of a structured mind. As such, she enjoys converting her paintings to wallpaper and fabric designs. Sherry serves her community as a volunteer, art instructor and mentor.

Visual Arts Award : ESTABLISHED (cont'd)



Sorino De Luca

Sorino De Luca, a very experienced iconographer, was trained in architecture, construction and Byzantine art in Romania. He has done various church restorations in the United States, Australia, Canada and Europe. De Luca's work has been featured in exhibitions throughout Greece, Romania, Athens, and Australia. He also works with murano mosaic and carves iconostasis in wood and marble.

Lauren Pallett Patron of the Arts Award



Eileen Oswald

Eileen Oswald is an established artist living in Mississauga whose paintings are in private and corporate collections throughout Canada, USA, England and Australia. She has exhibited widely in juried exhibitions as well as in group and solo shows. Eileen is a member of many art societies and organizations including the Colour and Form Society and the Pastel Artists of Canada. She joined the MAC Board in 2000 and served on the Grants Committee and the Arts Award Committee for many years. She served as a director on the Board of the Mississauga Arts Council from 1999 until 2007. Prior to that she was Chair of Fine Arts, on the Mississauga Arts Awards Committee, and served on the executive of the Pastel Artists Canada and Clarkson Art Society, as well as sharing experiences by teaching and mentoring.

Volunteer of the Year Award



Steve Kahn

Steve Kahn, a visual artist, has made a unique contribution to the arts community in Mississauga by reaching out to artists and non-artists alike to stimulate community dialogue around issues of oppression. He has volunteered with, and given his time to, various different organizations and causes throughout the years including: QXposure, a Lesbian and Gay health initiative; United Way of Peel and Peel Region; Oprah's Run Charity Fundraiser; Inside Out Toronto Lesbian and Gay Film and Video Festival; the Toronto Fringe Festival and TIFF. Although all of Steve's volunteer work is admirable, his commitment to promoting the arts to traditionally under-represented and under-engaged groups is what stands out. He is an active volunteer in strengthening arts-based organizations such as his work as the Founder and President of Tart, the Student's Art Association at Sheridan College and UTM.



Freda Harrington

Freda Harrington has been an active volunteer in Mississauga for 19 years. As a lover of theatre and music, in 1991, she joined forces with renowned Soprano and local Musical Theatre Director, Eleanor Calbes. This began a 19 year unbroken period of support for Mississauga's musical theatre community.

As a board member of City Centre Musical Productions for 14 years, she was able to positively influence the company due to her expertise and was an integral part of the company's growth and success in terms of financial stability and performance quality. For 10 years, she coordinated production for the City Centre Musical Productions' annual major Musical, and also organized Front of House for many years. In 2006, Freda joined the Board of Windmill Theatre Productions, a new non-profit company at the time. She continues to be an active board member, taking on roles such as board secretary, volunteer coordinator and catering supervisor for Windmill.

Freda Harrington is known and loved within the arts community and her continued passion and commitment has made the Mississauga arts scene a better place.