



**GOVERNOR GENERAL'S
PERFORMING ARTS AWARDS FOUNDATION
FONDATION DES PRIX DU GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL
POUR LES ARTS DU SPECTACLE**

2015 Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Recipient Biographies

2015 Lifetime Artistic Achievement Award

Walter Boudreau

Composer, conductor and artistic director

Composer and conductor Walter Boudreau is one of the leading lights of contemporary music in Canada. As artistic director and principal conductor of the Société de musique contemporaine du Québec (SMCQ) since 1988, he has brought that organization international renown. He has directed prestigious musical ensembles and orchestras across Canada and abroad, and his works have been played around the world. An ardent promoter of musical creation, particularly by Canadian artists, he works tirelessly to raise awareness of and appreciation for contemporary music.

Atom Egoyan

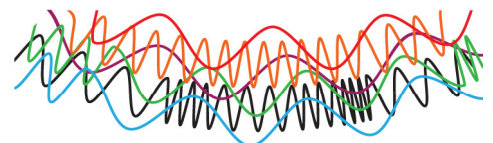
Film and stage director, visual artist and screenwriter

One of this country's most prominent and influential filmmakers, Atom Egoyan has created a remarkable body of work that has garnered critical and commercial success around the world. His distinctive, challenging films explore themes of community, isolation and displacement, our perception of reality, and the role technology plays in our lives. He has mentored many emerging filmmakers, and his dedication to showcasing Canadian talent has raised the profile and reputation of Canada's film industry internationally. Though best known as a filmmaker, he is also a successful visual artist and theatre and opera director.

Diana Leblanc

Actress and director

Diana Leblanc has received nationwide acclaim as an actress and director for theatre, opera, film and television. She is a member of the National Theatre School of Canada's first graduating class, a member of the original Neptune Theatre (Halifax) company, a former artistic director of Théâtre français de Toronto, and a founding member of Toronto's Soulpepper Theatre Company. Fluently bilingual, this intuitive and dedicated artist has worked in both English and French across the country.



Sarah McLachlan www.facebook.com/sarahmclachlan @SarahMcLachlan

Singer, songwriter, musician and humanitarian

Singer, songwriter and musician Sarah McLachlan is known for her profound lyrics and ethereal sound. Since the release of her gold-selling debut album *Touch* in 1989, she has sold over 40 million albums, earned gold, platinum and multi-platinum awards, and received three GRAMMYS and nine JUNOs. Besides her musical achievements, she is a committed humanitarian and a passionate promoter of music education.

R. H. Thomson

Actor, director, producer and arts advocate

An intuitive and versatile artist, R. H. Thomson is acclaimed for his ability to bring Canada's stories and characters to life. As a stage, film and television actor he has played such diverse roles as Glenn Gould, Frederick Banting, Hamlet and Cyrano, and he has directed at theatres nationwide. He spearheaded the commemorative projects *Vigile 1914–1918 Vigil* and *The World Remembers / Le Monde se souvient*, and is a passionate advocate for Canadian culture.

2015 Ramon John Hnatyshyn Award for Voluntarism in the Performing Arts

Michael M. Koerner

Michael Koerner is one of Canada's most influential and dedicated patrons of the arts. In a philanthropic career spanning 50 years, he has supported individual artists and new and established companies across the country (notably through The Koerner Foundation, which he established in 1985), and has tirelessly advocated the vital role of the arts in the lives of Canadians.

2015 National Arts Centre Award

Jean-Marc Vallée

Filmmaker

Jean-Marc Vallée is one of Canada's most celebrated contemporary filmmakers, known for personal yet universal works of exceptional dramatic intensity and visual appeal. Hailed by audiences and critics alike, his films have earned him an international reputation. His best-known work includes the Genie Award-winning *C.R.A.Z.Y.*, the Oscar-winning *Dallas Buyers Club*, and the Oscar-nominated *Wild*.