

**Albert Millaire
(1935-2018)
GGPAA 2006**

Albert Millaire was a giant of theatre and television in Canada. He received a Governor General's Performing Arts Award in 2006, went on to serve as co-chair of the board of the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Foundation from 2008 to 2011, and mentored playwright Benjamin Pradet through the GGPAA Foundation's Mentorship Program in 2016. Mr. Millaire passed away on August 15. He was 83.

Throughout his long career, Mr. Millaire maintained his passion for Canadian theatre. He was known to English television audiences for his role on *The Road to Avonlea* and for his work as an actor and director at the Stratford Festival for five seasons. Many French Canadians will always remember Mr. Millaire for his role as Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville in *D'Iberville*, a popular television series in the 1960s.

Mr. Millaire dazzled theatre audiences with his work at Théâtre du Nouveau Monde and Théâtre populaire de Québec. Mr. Millaire's Lifetime Artistic Achievement Award was one of many honours and distinctions, which included being named a Companion of the Order of Canada and a Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Québec. He received his GGPAA at the age of 71 and continued working in theatre for years afterward.

Mr. Millaire became an invaluable member of the GGPAA Foundation's board of directors, where knowledge and passion for Canadian theatre became a vital part of the board's discussions. In 2016, as part of the GGPAA Foundation's legacy film project, Mr. Millaire spoke to former GGPAA board co-chair and past laureate Paul-André Fortier about his participation in the Mentorship Program, a role he took very seriously. In the interview, Mr. Millaire shared that he had met with his protégé Benjamin Pradet several times before the 2016 GGPAA Gala weekend. His goal was to open Mr. Pradet's eyes to theatre all around the world. He wanted to guide Mr. Pradet's writing but said he was careful not to insert himself in the work. Collaborating with young people, Mr. Millaire said, allowed a person to rediscover the young person's soul inside of themselves.

Mr. Millaire was a kind, thoughtful and passionate man. We will always be grateful for his contribution to the GGPAA Foundation. We send our sincere sympathies to Mr. Millaire's family, friends and colleagues, particularly his wife, Michèle Marchand.