



**Canada Council
for the Arts**

**Conseil des Arts
du Canada**

ENDOWMENTS AND PRIZES

Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts

Follow these three steps to nominate a candidate for this Canada Council for the Arts prize:	
Step 1	Read the Nomination Guidelines section for details about the purpose of the awards, who may submit nominations and other eligibility criteria, prize amount, assessment process and criteria, and so on.
Step 2	Read the Important Information section. If you still have questions about the awards or the nomination process, contact the Program Officer indicated below.
Step 3	Complete all sections of the attached nomination form and be sure to use the checklist (part F of the form) to confirm that you have completed the relevant sections of the form and have included all required support material.

Nomination Deadline

30 April 2011

If this date falls on a weekend or statutory holiday, the deadline moves to the next business day.

Your completed nomination form and all required support material must be postmarked on or before the deadline date.

The Canada Council will not accept nominations postmarked after the deadline date, incomplete nominations, or those submitted by fax or email.

Further Information

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Endowments and Prizes
Canada Council for the Arts
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NOMINATION GUIDELINES

<p>Description of Prize</p>	<p>The Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts is an annual prize that recognizes the highest level of artistic excellence and distinguished career achievement by a Canadian professional artist in music, theatre or dance. The prize is awarded on a four-year cycle – in dance, theatre, dance and music – and is in the amount of \$50,000. The prize to be awarded in 2011 will be in the field of theatre.</p> <p>Walter Carsen established the endowment fund for the prize in February 2001 through a generous donation of \$1.1 million to the Canada Council for the Arts. The Canada Council administers and promotes the prize.</p>
<p>Eligibility</p>	<p>Candidates must be professional artists who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada. The Canada Council defines a professional artist as someone who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has specialized training in the field (not necessarily in academic institutions) • is recognized as such by her or his peers (artists working in the same artistic tradition) • is committed to devoting more time to the artistic activity if financially feasible, and • has a history of public presentation. <p>Candidates in the current competition must have created, as creative and (or) interpretive artists, an outstanding and distinguished body of work in Canadian repertory or contemporary theatre.</p> <p>The nominee must be actively involved in the performing arts in Canada or have spent the majority of his or her artistic career in Canada. The nominee’s career will likely have covered a significant period of time. Ideally, the nominee’s work will have been recognized and respected for its artistic excellence by the nominee’s peers at the national and international levels.</p> <p>This prize is designed to recognize individual achievement rather than the work of an organization, but it may also recognize artistic partnerships in which each artist meets the eligibility requirements for the prize. No posthumous awards will be given.</p> <p>Members of the Board of the Canada Council for the Arts are not eligible for this prize during the course of their term as members and for six months following the end of their term.</p> <p>This Canada Council prize is open to Aboriginal artists and artists of diverse cultural and regional communities of Canada.</p>
<p>Amount of Prize</p>	<p>One prize valued at \$50,000 will be awarded in 2011 in the field of theatre.</p>

<p>Nomination Process</p>	<p>Candidates cannot apply for the prize; they must be nominated by a member of the Canadian professional performing arts community.</p> <p>Nominators are responsible for gathering the required documentation and submitting it with the attached nomination form. They must ensure that the documentation complies with the requirements set out in these guidelines.</p> <p>The Canada Council for the Arts may submit additional nominations, with appropriate documentation, to the peer assessment committee.</p> <p>Support Material</p> <p>Nominators must submit distinct nomination forms and support material for each nominee, if they are nominating more than one candidate. The following items must be provided with each nomination form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a nomination statement in two pages or less prepared and signed by the nominator, describing the artistic and lifetime achievements of the nominee and why the nominee should be awarded the Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts; • a current professional curriculum vitae of the nominee, with emphasis on his or her achievements in the performing arts; • a current one-page biography of the nominee, and • a minimum of one and a maximum of three letters of support for the nomination from professionals in the performing arts community in Canada and (or) abroad. <p>The content of the nomination and support letters has considerable impact on each nomination package. Therefore, nominators should ensure that all material is current and thorough.</p> <p>The Canada Council will not accept bound (for example Cerlox or spiral) or stapled material or nominations mounted in plastic. This is to ensure ease of copying. Originals should not be sent. The Canada Council for the Arts is not responsible for the loss or damage of support material, whatever the cause.</p>
<p>Assessment of Nominations</p>	<p>A peer assessment committee, composed of experienced professionals selected by the Canada Council for the Arts for their expertise in theatre, will assess the nominations and choose the laureate. The committee may include one expert from outside Canada. Committee members will also be selected with consideration to fair representation of artistic specializations, gender, generations, Canada’s two official languages, Aboriginal peoples, and the cultural and regional diversity of Canada, and the various types of artistic practices within the theatre community. New committees are formed for each competition.</p> <p>All decisions of the committee are final.</p> <p>The principal assessment criteria for the prize will be the artistic excellence of the artist’s work (including originality, creativity, innovation, technical mastery and impact in the milieu) and the significance of the artist’s achievements over the course of his or her career.</p>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Is the information protected?

The *Privacy Act* gives individuals the right to access and request correction of personal information about themselves. The Canada Council will protect personal information as required by the *Privacy Act*. The information will be stored in a series of Canada Council data banks described in *Info Source*, a government publication that is available on the Internet. All other information may be accessible to others under the *Access to Information Act*.

The Canada Council for the Arts may share information related to applications and awards with officials in other arts and cultural industry funding agencies, on a confidential basis, to assist with program planning and evaluation.

When will the laureate be notified of the results of the nominations?

The laureate will be notified privately by telephone within four months of the deadline date. His or her nominator will be notified by letter shortly thereafter.

Non-winning nominees and their nominators will be notified of the results by letter, shortly before the public announcement of the laureate (which may take place somewhat later than four months after the nomination deadline date).

Except for notification of the laureate, results are not released over the telephone or by email.

What are the conditions of receiving the prize?

Once the laureate has been contacted, he or she must confirm acceptance of the prize and agree to keep the results of the competition confidential until the Canada Council makes its official announcement.

All the documentation submitted becomes the property of the Canada Council for the Arts for use in any publicity or promotion accompanying the prize. The laureate must agree to allow his or her photographs and public information to be used for promotion of the prize and in other Canada Council promotional initiatives. He or she must also agree to participate fully in all prize activities, including media conferences, ceremonies, receptions and other related events.

Who are the laureates for previous years?

Visit www.canadacouncil.ca/prizes/walter_carsen for the cumulative list of winners of the Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts.

PART C – NOMINATION STATEMENT

Describe in two pages or less why you are nominating this individual or artistic partnership for a Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts. Use a type size of 11 points or larger, and white, 8.5 x 11 inch paper. Please pay special attention to the artistic achievements of the nominee and the significance of these achievements over the course of his or her career. For a nomination involving more than one person (an artistic partnership), provide the same information for each member. **You must sign and date your nomination statement.**

PART D – CURRICULUM VITAE AND BIOGRAPHY OF NOMINEE

Submit a current professional curriculum vitae of the nominee, with emphasis on his or her artistic achievements in theatre. For a nomination involving an artistic partnership, provide the same information for each member.

Submit a current one-page biography of the nominee.

PART E – SUPPORT MATERIAL

Please include the following with your nomination:

- a **minimum of one** and a **maximum of three** letters of support for the nomination from professionals in the performing arts community in Canada and/or abroad.

PART F – CHECKLIST

Please ensure that you have included the following in your nomination.

Part A

- Part A1 – Identification

Part B

- Part B1 – Name and Location of Nominee and Nominator
 Part B2 – Declaration of Nominator (**an original signature is required**)

Part C

- Part C – Nomination Statement (**an original signature is required**)

Part D

- Curriculum Vitae(s) of Nominee
 Biography(ies) of Nominee

Part E – Support Material

- one to three letters of support for the nomination

Please remember to:

- Keep a copy of your completed form.
- Submit your nomination, together with all required additional support material, postmarked on or before the deadline date.

Send your application to:

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Canada Council for the Arts
350 Albert Street, P.O. Box 1047
Ottawa ON K1P 5V8