

47th Annual
Business / Arts
Awards Celebration

Presenting Partner

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2026 Business / Arts Awards – Recipients Announced

Honouring Leadership and Partnership in Canada's Arts Sector

TORONTO, ON – May 14, 2026 – Business / Arts is celebrating the power of partnership with the announcement of its 2026 Award recipients. Presented annually, the **Business / Arts Awards** recognize leaders, corporate champions, and innovative partnerships advancing Canada's arts and culture sector.

The celebration will take place on **Monday, October 5, 2026**, at **the ROM**, bringing together cultural champions from across the country to recognize the shared investment and partnerships that sustain a thriving arts sector. The evening is presented in partnership with Burgundy Asset Management.

2026 Award Recipients:



Louise and James Temerty, C.M., are receiving the **2026 Edmund C. Bovey Award** for their exemplary philanthropic leadership and decades of volunteerism in arts and culture.

Guided by the conviction that investing in the arts is investing in society itself, they strengthen institutions including the Royal Ontario Museum, The Royal Conservatory of Music, Music Toronto, Canadian Opera Company, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, the Shevchenko Foundation, the Canada Ukraine Foundation, and the Ottawa Chamber Music Society.

Together, they are expanding access to the arts, supporting artists and youth, and inspiring generosity across the sector.

"The arts are a pillar of vibrant, economically competitive communities. We have always believed in the importance of supporting cultural institutions as they tell our stories and connect us through shared experiences. We are honoured to receive this recognition and to continue to work alongside organizations expanding access to the arts across Canada." — Louise and James Temerty, C.M.



Janice Price, President & CEO, ROM Governors, is receiving the **2026 Peter Herrndorf Arts Leadership Award** for over four decades of service to Canada's cultural sector.

Price has held senior leadership positions at major institutions in Canada and abroad, including the Stratford Festival, Luminato Festival, and Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. She is currently responsible for all philanthropic activities in support of the Royal Ontario Museum's mission.

A respected mentor and strategic leader, she has dedicated her career to strengthening organizations, empowering arts leaders, and building partnerships that advance a vibrant arts sector.

"A career in this sector teaches you that great arts and culture experiences are never the work of one person — they're enabled by communities of artists, administrators, and partners. Canada's arts and culture sector has an incredible depth of talent and ambition, and I've been fortunate to work alongside remarkable leaders and to mentor the next generation, seeing their impact carry forward. I'm honoured to receive this award named for my longtime friend and mentor, the late Peter Herrndorf." — Janice Price, President & CEO, ROM Governors



Photo: Michelle Diamond

Neesha Hothi is receiving the **2026 Arnold Edinborough Award** for her community-driven leadership and work advancing South Asian artists and cultural communities across Canada.

As Executive Director of 5X Festival, Canada's largest South Asian youth festival, and Founder of SHOR and Women Behind the Sound, Hothi creates stronger pathways for emerging artists while expanding representation and access across Canada's music and arts sectors.

Through her entrepreneurial and advocacy work, she is championing culturally responsive leadership and building more inclusive spaces for artists and audiences alike.

"Much of my work has focused on building the visibility, relationships, and opportunities that help artists and communities too often pushed to the margins move to the mainstage. I've always believed cultural work is about creating pathways so the next generation sees themselves reflected in leadership, creativity, and the stories we tell as a country. Cultural fluency is a strength and it is essential to the future of Canada's arts sector. I'm deeply honoured by this recognition and grateful to the many collaborators who have helped shape this work." — Neesha Hothi



MacLeod Group is receiving the **2026 Corporate Champion of the Arts Award** for its longstanding commitment to cultural and community life across the Atlantic Canada.

A leading provider of long-term care and retirement living in Atlantic Canada, the company is guided by values of care, connection, and community reflected in the legacy of its founders, the late Brian and Irene MacLeod (pictured).

MacLeod Group supports arts organizations including Festival Antigonish, Mulgrave Road Theatre, the Antigonish Highland Games Society, as well as educational and healthcare institutions across the region. Through longstanding partnerships and leadership, it invests in the people, places, and cultural experiences that bring communities together.

"We are honoured to carry forward Brian and Irene MacLeod's legacy of supporting the arts. They understood that strong communities are built not only through care, but through connection, creativity, and shared experiences. That belief continues to guide us today, as we invest in the people and organizations that bring culture to life across our communities." — Ramsay Duff, CEO, MacLeod Group



Jamii and Berkeley Castle are receiving the **2026 Community Impact Award** for their transformative partnership in Toronto's Esplanade neighbourhood. Over the past fifteen years, the collaboration has created a vibrant, community-centred arts campus rooted in belonging, creativity, and public participation.

Together, they present hundreds of arts events, support more than 600 artists, and welcome nearly 100,000 participants through community festivals, youth leadership initiatives, workshops, and public art activations.

"At the heart of Jamii is a belief in the power of the arts to bring people together. We create spaces where neighbours, artists, and families feel connected to one another and to the community around them." — Isorine Marc, Founder and Artistic/Executive Director, Jamii



"For us, this partnership is about investing in place-making through the arts — and continuing to evolve alongside the community it serves. We're proud to help build a cultural home where artists, residents, and community life can grow together." — Linda Leistner, Manager, Berkeley Castle

For more information about the event and the honourees, please visit businessandarts.org/awards

About Business / Arts

Business / Arts is a national charitable organization that champions business investment in the arts and works to build strong, lasting partnerships between the arts, business, and government in Canada. Through targeted programming initiatives and a connected network of arts champions, Business / Arts is committed to ensuring that the arts are recognized as playing a vital and necessary role socially, culturally, and economically across Canada. Learn more at businessandarts.org

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