

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Business for the Arts announces 2014 recipients of business and arts partnership awards

*Winners to be celebrated at the Canadian Arts and Business Awards on November 14, 2014
at the newly opened Aga Khan Museum in Toronto*

(TORONTO, ON – September 30, 2014) Business for the Arts, Canada’s only national charitable organization of business members who support the arts, announced today the 2014 winners of their business and arts partnership awards. The winners will be celebrated at the Canadian Arts and Business Awards on Friday, November 14, 2014 at the newly opened Aga Khan Museum in Toronto. The awards recognize companies and individuals who have shown outstanding commitment to the arts in Canada, and who understand and appreciate the extraordinary impact arts partnerships can make in communities across the country. This year’s winners are:

BMO Financial Group (Toronto): Corporate Champion of the Arts Award

The award recognizes a business for its long-standing commitment to strengthening the arts in Canada. BMO Financial Group receives \$5,000 to be directed to the arts organization(s) of their choice.

D'Arcy Lévesque, Enbridge (Calgary): Cultural Champion Award – Corporate Leadership

Awarded to a business individual who heads up a marketing, corporate sponsorship and/or donations department and has shown exceptional leadership by guiding the strategy of corporate giving and leveraging company resources in support of arts and culture. D'Arcy receives \$5,000 to be directed to the arts organization(s) of his choice.

Margot Holmes, Vancouver Island Symphony (Nanaimo, B.C.): Cultural Champion Award – Arts Leadership

Awarded to an arts individual who has shown exceptional leadership by engaging the business community in support of arts and culture. Margot receives \$5,000 to be directed to the arts organization(s) of her choice.

Luminato Festival and Manulife (Toronto): Community Impact Award

Recognizes an arts and business partnership that has enhanced the quality of life and enriched the cultural scene in the community through innovative program(s), creative business partnerships or neighbourhood revitalization initiatives. Luminato and Manulife receive \$5,000 to be put toward their partnership.

“I am delighted to congratulate this year’s award winners and look forward to celebrating with them at our gala in November at Toronto’s newest cultural institution, the beautiful Aga Khan Museum,” said

Nichole Anderson, President & CEO, Business for the Arts. “Coinciding with National Philanthropy Day on November 15, all of our winners represent what can be achieved when business invests in the arts, and when business and the arts collaborate to create successful partnerships that help contribute to a dynamic and flourishing creative sector.”

Previously announced award categories to be handed out on November 14, 2014:

Edmund C. Bovey Award: The Hon. Hilary M. Weston

Arnold Edinborough Award: Chris Farias (Hamilton, Ont.)

artsVest™ Outstanding Partnership Award: RuBarb Productions Inc. and K+S Potash Canada (Moose Jaw, Sask.)

For more information on the winners, visit our website at www.bftaawards.com.

About the Awards

Each year, the **Canadian Arts and Business Awards** bring together Canada’s foremost business and arts leaders to celebrate the extraordinary contributions made by individuals and companies who have shown outstanding commitment to the arts through philanthropy, volunteerism and innovative partnerships.

2014 Canadian Arts and Business Awards Partners:

Gala Presenting Partner: Sun Life Financial

Arnold Edinborough Award Partner: Michael Vukets & Associates

Community Impact Award Partner: Aimia

Corporate Champion of the Arts Award Partner/Media Partner: The Globe and Mail

About Business for the Arts

Founded in 1974, Business for the Arts is Canada’s only national charitable organization of business members who support the arts. Our vision is to inspire Canada’s business community to partner with the arts to ensure a thriving cultural sector. We connect, educate and invest to bridge the gap between business and the arts. For more information, visit www.businessforthearts.org.

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