

2015 Canadian Arts and Business Awards Sets The Stage For Inaugural Peter Herrndorf Arts Leadership Award

Award Ceremony and Performance tickets opened to the public for the first time for October 27th gala

TORONTO, September 30, 2015 -- On October 27th, Business for the Arts will award the inaugural **Peter Herrndorf Arts Leadership Award** to Peter Herrndorf, the President and CEO of the National Arts Centre in Ottawa, at their annual **2015 Canadian Arts and Business Awards** at The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. For the first time, the evening will feature a dynamic performance portion of the evening in the RCM's Koerner Hall, bringing together a multidisciplinary group of artists from across Canada.

Tickets to the awards and performances are available to the public, with special discounts on tickets for young professionals and arts leaders – bringing together the next generation of arts and business professionals.

“Now in its 39th year, the Canadian Arts and Business Awards distinguish those who exemplify and champion our mission with an evening that raises funds for our investment, connecting and educational programs. Business for the Arts strives to connect, educate and invest to bridge the gap between business in Canada and the arts. Through our artsVest National program, we have partnered over 2,000 businesses with hundreds of arts and cultural organizations across the country, pumping more than \$20 million into Canada’s cultural economy,” says **Nichole Anderson, President & CEO, Business for the Arts**.

2015 Canadian Arts and Business Awards Award Categories & Winners

- **Edmund C. Bovey Award:** Philip Taylor
- **Arnold Edinborough Award:** Jan-Fryderyk Pleszczynski
- **The Inaugural Peter Herrndorf Arts Leadership Award:** Peter Herrndorf
- **artsVest™ Outstanding Partnership Award:** RBC (for their partnership with Roseneath Theatre)
- **Community Impact Award:** First Air (for their partnership with National Arts Centre)
- **Corporate Champion of the Arts Award:** Great-West Life, London Life and Canada Life

Spotlight On: Peter Herrndorf, A Lifetime Merging Arts with Business

The Peter Herrndorf Arts Leadership Award is being founded this year, to recognize arts leaders who have spent a lifetime fostering the arts in Canada, by building partnerships with fellow arts executives, artists, media, business leaders and public sector officials. The inaugural award, bestowed upon Peter Herrndorf is announced today alongside fellow corporate honourees RBC (artsVest™ Outstanding Partnership Award), First Air (Community Impact Award) and Great-West Life, London Life and Canada Life (Corporate Champion of the Arts Award). Peter Herrndorf will join Philip Taylor (Edmund C. Bovey Award) and Jan-Fryderyk Pleszczynski (Arnold Edinborough Award) on October 27th to accept their awards.

“Peter Herrndorf has been an inspirational leader, an understanding and knowledgeable mentor and a catalyst for change, for a generation of artists and arts leaders. We are delighted to have his name grace our new Arts Leadership Award,” says **Jim Fleck, Chairman, Business for the Arts**.

Peter Herrndorf is the President and CEO of the National Arts Centre (NAC) and has devoted his career to journalism and the arts in Canada. Career highlights include Vice President and General Manager of CBC’s English Language Radio and Television Networks, Publisher of Toronto Life magazine, and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of TVOntario before stepping down in 1999 to accept his current position at the NAC.

Gala Unites Philanthropists, Artists and Professionals for Celebration of Business and Arts

On the eve of the October 27th, Business for the Arts will welcome 250 of its patrons, supporters and honourees for a reception and black-tie dinner in the Royal Conservatory of Music. Following dinner, gala guests will enjoy the awards ceremony in Koerner Hall, where honourees, including Philip Taylor (Edmund C. Bovey Award) and Jan-Fryderyk Pleszczynski (Arnold Edinborough Award) will accept their awards. Philip Taylor is bestowed the Edmund C. Bovey Award for his lifetime support and leadership in arts and culture in Canada, including his support of the Royal Conservatory of Music itself – where Taylor chose for the awards to be held this year. This year's awards ceremony is being hosted by Pamela Ritchie, Anchor, Bloomberg TV Canada.

For the first time, the Canadian Arts and Business Awards will feature a performance portion of the evening alongside the awards ceremony. Business for the Arts has opened up the evening by offering tickets for sale to the public, bringing together artists, young professionals and Canadians to enjoy performances by:

- The TSO Chamber Soloists with harpist Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton
- Art of Time Ensemble with bass-baritone Robert Gleadow and Andrew Burashko at the piano
- The National Arts Centre with Singer-Songwriter Lindi Ortega
- Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal
- The Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists

Awards Ceremony and Performance Tickets are \$85 to the public, \$45 to Young Professionals under 40, and \$25 for arts leaders in artsVest organizations. Schedule highlights include:

- **5:00PM:** VIP Cocktails and Media Photos
- **5:30 PM:** Welcome Reception
- **6:30 PM:** Black-Tie Dinner
- **8:30 PM:** Awards Ceremony in Koerner Hall
- **9:30 PM:** Post-Soiree

Tickets are available here: <http://performance.rcmusic.ca/event/canadian-arts-business-awards>

2015 Canadian Arts and Business Awards Partners:

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

Media Partner: CBC

About The Canadian Arts and Business Awards

The Canadian Arts and Business Awards were launched under the Chairmanship of Edmund C. Bovey in 1978 to celebrate business leadership in the arts. 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.

About The Peter Herrndorf Arts Leadership Award

The Peter Herrndorf Arts Leadership Award has been established to recognize arts leaders who have spent a lifetime dedicated to fostering the arts in Canada by building partnerships with fellow arts executives, artists, media,



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business leaders and public sector officials to ensure a vibrant cultural sector for all Canadians. This award will be presented to Peter Herrndorf as our inaugural honoree, and in subsequent years will be presented to those who live and work by this same ideal to see the arts thrive in Canada as their career mission. For more information on the 2015 awards, visit: www.bftaawards.com and www.businessforthearts.org/awards/.

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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