



2007 TORONTO ARTS COUNCIL FOUNDATION AWARDS JURY ANNOUNCED!

The Toronto Arts Council Foundation (TACF) today announced the jury for the 2007 Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards. The TACF Awards honour people who have made a significant contribution to Toronto's rich, vibrant cultural scene. The jury is comprised of renowned innovators, leaders and supporters from performing arts, visual arts, corporate and independent philanthropy sectors.

Judges for the 2007 TACF Awards include: broadcaster and arts advocate **Laurie Brown**; acclaimed jazz musician **Jane Bunnett**; actor **Martha Burns**; theatrical producer **Naomi Campbell**; Chair of the Ontario Arts Council **Martha Durdin**; pioneering art dealer **Av Isaacs**; Artistic Director of Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People **Allen MacInnis**; recipient of the 2006 Toronto Arts Council Foundation Emerging Artist Award **Natasha Mytnowych**; renowned musician, composer, music director and recording artist **Joe Sealy**; Managing Director of Lazard, an international investment bank, **Evan Siddall**; former Technical Director for the Canadian Opera Company **Julian Sleath**; Artistic Director of Cahoots Theatre Projects **Jovanni Sy**; and owner and director of Tatar Gallery **Judith Tatar**.

The 2007 TACF Awards will be presented in the following five categories: The Arts for Youth Award; The Globe and Mail Toronto Business for the Arts Award; the Muriel Sherrin Award for International Achievement in Music; the RBC Emerging Artist Award; and the Rita Davies Cultural Leadership Award.

The TACF Board is led by President **Diana Bennett**, former educator and TVO executive, and Executive Director **Claire Hopkinson**, a veteran producer of theatre and opera works. The TACF is sister organization to the Toronto Arts Council (TAC), an arm's-length agency responsible for administering grant programs for most of Toronto's not-for-profit arts organizations and artists.

“Our jury represents some of the most influential and important figures in Canadian art today. We are honoured to have people of this calibre donate their time and expertise to this important program,” said Hopkinson. “Creative communities are vital to the overall health and well-being of any large city, but the arts require ongoing support. Our awards program gives much-needed recognition and financial support to the artists and philanthropists who contribute so much to the quality of life in Toronto.”

The Toronto Arts Council Foundation Awards celebrate artists, cultural professionals and arts supporters from every creative discipline. Designed to highlight the significant contributions made by our city’s cultural leadership, the awards will be presented at the second annual Mayor’s Arts Awards Lunch on October 17, 2007 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Yorkville.

A short list of nominees will be released mid-August.

About the Toronto Arts Council Foundation

The Toronto Arts Council Foundation is the voice for the arts in Toronto. Incorporated in 1995, TACF has a two-fold mission: to increase awareness of the value that artists and arts organizations bring to the city of Toronto, and to increase resources for the arts.

Full bios for TACF executives and awards jurors are available on request.

Media Contact: FLIP Publicity and Promotions Inc., 416.533.7710 • www.flip-publicity.com
Grant Ramsay, X222, grant@flip-publicity.com or Carrie Sager X224, carrie@flip-publicity.com