

The Arts and Heritage Awards recognize and celebrate artists, curators, historians, writers, scholars, volunteers, community groups, organizations and businesses who are making outstanding contributions to Surrey's heritage, culture and art.

### **Discussion**

Arts and heritage are integral to understanding and appreciating our diverse communities and will play a key role in Surrey's development into a thriving, green, inclusive city. The Arts Awards honour and celebrate individuals, groups or organizations that display excellence in their artistic practice and make significant contributions to Surrey's cultural community. The Heritage Awards recognize the outstanding contributions of individuals, groups or organizations for preserving, interpreting and/or promoting Surrey's built, natural and cultural heritage.

### **Award Categories**

There are five award categories for the Arts and Heritage Award:

- **Visual Arts:** Recognizes excellence in all visual art forms, including painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, video, conceptual art and all other visual practices.
- **Performing Arts:** Recognizes excellence in dance, music, theatre, circus arts and all other performative art practices.
- **Literary Arts:** Recognizes excellence in creative writing and literature, including poetry, prose and all other language art practices.
- **Heritage Education and Awareness:** Recognizes the development and delivery of innovative and creative presentations, programs or special events that highlight Surrey's history and heritage. This could include programs or events that improve knowledge, increase awareness and/or encourage appreciation of heritage (e.g., workshops, lectures, signage and content creation).
- **Heritage Preservation:** Recognizes the protection, preservation or restoration of a built, natural or cultural asset of the City. This could include initiatives related to habitat preservation, building or site restoration, or the documentation of unique cultural knowledge or skill.

### **Eligibility**

All Surrey residents, groups, and organizations are eligible, as well as projects and initiatives with a Surrey focus. A project or body of work from the last four years (2020-2023) can be submitted for consideration.

## **Nomination/Submission Requirements**

The submission requirements and process will be described on the Civic Distinction Awards web page, and nominations will be received until the advertised closing date. The nominator will make a submission by completing the online submission form through the City of Surrey's website, or by hard copy delivered to City Hall.

Nominating individuals or groups will be asked for:

- contact information for the nominee and nominator;
- a short description of the project, initiative or body of work and why the nominee should be considered for the award; and
- supporting documentation such as: publications, media coverage, images, and letters of support from community partners.

Nominations may be submitted without the permission or knowledge of the nominee. If the nominee is short-listed for the award, they will be contacted to request their permission to be considered.

## **Nominations Review and Evaluation Process**

**Heritage:** The Surrey Heritage Advisory Commission (SHAC), supported by Heritage Services staff, will receive nominations and recommend award recipients for Council consideration.

**Arts:** The Surrey Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC), supported by Cultural Services staff, will receive nominations and recommend award recipients for Council consideration.

Nominations will be assessed based on:

- Creativity and innovation
- Impact to the community
- Quality of work

## **Recognition**

Award recipients will be recognized through the Civic Distinction Awards program and will be presented with awards of excellence. Recipients will be recognized by the City through a press release, social media campaign and website acknowledgement.

The City reserves the right to award multiple Arts and Heritage Awards, or none, within the award cycle.