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## **TAF NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR 2010 Awards**

Nominations are now being accepted for the **2011 Toronto Arts Foundation Awards** which celebrate artists, cultural professionals and arts supporters from every creative discipline who have made significant contributions to Toronto's artistic and cultural life. Nomination forms, criteria and awards adjudication policies for the 2011 Toronto Arts Foundation Awards are available at <http://www.torontoartsfoundation.org/Our-Programs/ARTS-AWARDS>. **The deadline for nominations is Friday, July 15, 2011 at 5 pm.**

Three finalists will be chosen for each of the **2011 Toronto Arts Foundation Awards** which are:

**Arts for Youth Award** – a \$15,000 cash prize established in 2007 by Martha Burns, Jim Fleck and Jim Pitblado, this award celebrates an individual, collective or organization that has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to engaging Toronto youth in the arts.

**Toronto Arts and Business Award** – celebrates a local business which has made an important contribution to the arts in Toronto through innovative, transformative and entrepreneurial partnerships. Established in 2006, this award is presented in partnership with The Globe and Mail, Business for the Arts and the Toronto Arts Foundation. In addition to a work of art, the recipient of this award will be recognized for their achievement in the Report on Business section of The Globe and Mail.

**RBC Emerging Artist Award** – a \$7,500 cash prize presented to an emerging Toronto artist working in the new media or performing arts discipline in celebration of current accomplishments and future potential. In addition, finalists will receive \$1,000 each. Established in 2006 by RBC Foundation, this award is intended to support the development or completion of new work.

**Muriel Sherrin Award for International Achievement in Music** - A \$10,000 cash prize presented to an artist or creator who has made a contribution to the cultural life of Toronto through outstanding achievement in music. The recipient will also have participated in international initiatives, including touring, studying abroad and participating in artist exchanges.

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**Rita Davies and Margo Bindhardt Cultural Leadership Award** - A \$10,000 cash prize co-sponsored by the family of Margo Bindhardt and Toronto Arts Foundation. This award is presented biennially to an individual who has demonstrated creative cultural leadership in the development of arts and culture in Toronto. Administrators, volunteers, artists and creators are eligible for consideration.

The winner and two finalists for each award are selected by an arts saavy, multi-disciplinary jury comprised of practitioners, organizers, programmers, producers, curators and critics. Jury members are each chosen for their contribution of expertise, sense of history, unique perspective and range of experience. The jury will review candidate profiles and make a recipient recommendation for each award to Toronto Arts Foundation Board of Directors, which will make final determinations.

Winners of the **2011 Toronto Arts Foundation Awards** will be announced on **Thursday, October 20, 2011** at the Mayor's Arts Awards Lunch.

All recipients will receive an original work of art commissioned by the Toronto Arts Foundation. This year TAF has chosen **Katie Bethune-Leamen**, a contemporary artist living and working in Toronto, to create the piece.

***Toronto Arts Foundation** exists to provide the creative opportunity for donors to support the arts in Toronto. TAF believes that a great city demands great art, and by supporting, celebrating, financing and advocating for Toronto's local artists, we're improving the quality of life of all Torontonians. Although separate entities, the Toronto Arts Council and Toronto Arts Foundation benefit by being run as sister organizations, ensuring close contact with the arts sector in Toronto and an ongoing awareness of activities and needs throughout the community. For more information on the awards and the work of the Toronto Arts Foundation, please visit [www.torontoarts.org/awards.html](http://www.torontoarts.org/awards.html)*