



## **2009 Nanaimo Cultural Awards: Call for Nominations**

### ***For Immediate Release***

*September 8, 2009-* The City of Nanaimo Cultural Committee will again be recognizing an organization or individual that has achieved regional and/or national recognition in the field of arts and culture, by presenting the “Excellence in Culture” Award for 2009. The “Honour in Culture” Award will also be presented to an individual, group or corporation for their dedication and support of the development of the cultural fabric which identifies this City.

The Nanaimo Cultural Committee invites you to nominate either an organization or an individual for the “Excellence in Culture” or the “Honour in Culture” Awards. This is your chance to pay recognition to people and groups that have made a significant contribution to making Nanaimo a more culturally vibrant city.

The “Excellence in Culture” Award is given to an individual or group for outstanding achievement in a cultural or arts field (e.g. a local artist with national or international recognition). The recipient of this award would be well recognized as a “Nanaimo Artist”, having demonstrated excellence in their field, and as being a significant inspiration to others. Previous recipients of this prestigious award have been Internationally acclaimed jazz pianist / singer Diana Krall, Jazz trumpet player Ingrid Jensen, visual artist Sandra Good, the Kirkwood Academy of Performing Arts, performing artist Joelle Rabu, Fred Peters, the Vancouver Island Children’s Festival and Music Educator Carmella Luvisotto.

The “Honour in Culture” Award is awarded to an individual, group or corporation for outstanding service, dedication or support to the development of arts and culture in our City. Previous recipients of this prestigious award have been theatre supporter, arts in the schools proponent and community theatre supporters Alastair and Isabel Highet, The Nanaimo Theatre Group, The Upper Island Music Festival, the Coastal Community Credit Union, teacher and volunteer Bea McLoed, Arts Alive Summer School of the Fine Arts and Camella Tang.

Nominations for both awards will be reviewed by the Cultural Committee with recommendations to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for their endorsement. The awards will be presented by City Council, in the form of a framed photograph of the recipient that will be displayed in the Margaret Strongitharm Gallery at the Port Theatre. The Nanaimo Cultural Committee gratefully acknowledges Gary Peters’ generous donation of professional photographic services.

Nomination forms may be picked up at Bowen Park or Beban Park Recreation Centres or off the City website: [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca). For further information please phone Bob Kuhn at 250-755-7512. Deadline for submissions is: 2009-OCT-02.

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