2018 Culture & Heritage Awards

Thursday, April 5, 2018 @ 6:30 pm (Port Theatre)
Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Kait Burgan

Celebrating the best of Nanaimo’s culture and heritage, and 10 years as a Cultural Capital of Canada

Honouring
Mr. Rick Scott
Excellence in Culture

Mr. William Good
Honour in Culture

Ms. Jan Peterson
Honour in Heritage

Ms. Audrey Alexandra Brown
Lifetime Achievement

Reserve Free Tickets
Reserve your FREE tickets at the Port Theatre Box Office at 250-754-8550 or www.porttheatre.com

Questions?
Contact the City of Nanaimo at 250-755-4483 or cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca.

10 years as a Cultural Capital of Canada

2018 marks the ten year anniversary since Nanaimo was named Cultural Capital of Canada (2008) by the Department of Canadian Heritage. The prestigious designation recognized Nanaimo’s ongoing commitment to arts, culture and heritage, and cultural scene.
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Recipients to be honoured

Mr. Rick Scott, Excellence in Culture
This multi-award-winning singer-songwriter, musician, and actor has performed on the international stage for over 50 years and helped influence and build the cultural fabric of Nanaimo. He is Goodwill Ambassador for the Down Syndrome Research Foundation and curator of the Protection Island Museum.

Mr. William Good, Honour in Culture
Recognized for his dedication to the development of Nanaimo’s cultural sector. He has studied and been integral to the revitalization of the Traditional Coast Salish art style in this region. With his years of research, he has had an immense impact in the restoration, preservation, and documentation of the Coast Salish art style and culture and is an expert in his field. Mr. Good is dedicated to sharing his knowledge with his community and other emerging and established artists.

Ms. Jan Peterson, Honour in Heritage
Recognized for her dedication and award-winning work to expand our knowledge of our community and the people who settled here through her writing. Over the past 25 years, Ms. Peterson has researched and published a series of books on aspects of central Vancouver Island and Nanaimo’s history. Ms. Peterson is a respected member of the Nanaimo historical/heritage community in and around the Nanaimo region.

Ms. Audrey Alexandra Brown, Lifetime Cultural Achievement
Nanaimo-born poet Audrey Alexandra Brown is being recognized for her major contributions to the literary arts. Ms. Brown was born in Nanaimo in 1904. She attended St. Ann’s Academy and lived in Nanaimo until a lifelong crippling disease necessitated a move to live with her sister in Victoria where she passed away in 1998. Brown’s poems appeared frequently in Canadian newspapers and she published several well-received books. Nanaimo was the subject of many of her verses. In 1994, she was the first woman recipient of the Royal Society of Canada Lorne Pierce Medal for conspicuous merit in “imaginative and critical literature”. In 1968, she was installed as an officer in the Order of Canada for her contributions to Canadian literature.

Celebrating 10 years as a Cultural Capital of Canada
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2018 Temporary Outdoor Public Artworks Approved

On January 15, 2018, Council approved eleven new pieces of public art as part of the 2018 Temporary Outdoor Public Art Program. A total 28 submissions were received from a variety of artists and teams across Canada in response to a "Call for Artists" issued by the City of Nanaimo Purchasing Department.

Each year, outdoor artwork is installed on a temporary basis for the enjoyment of residents and visitors. City parks and spaces essentially become outdoor art galleries and showcase artworks for a limited period of time. The pieces will be installed throughout the City in May of 2018 as part of Public Art Week.

Everything Happens So Much
by Ben Sopow

Complexity, diversity and unity co-exist in playful harmony in Everything Happens So Much. The colours of the quadrants are symbolic of the diversity of peoples in the world. Their equally balanced positioning reinforces a strong design based on the geometry of squares. The intricate patterns speak to the unfathomable complexity of human interaction on the planet. Oceanic wave patterns remind us of the importance of water and the universality of life. Nanaimo, a harbour city nexus linking world travellers, is an ideal setting for this artwork. To be constructed of square aluminum tubing, tinted Plexiglas, wooden frame.

Rock Dragon
by Heather Wall

The sculpture is of a dragon perched on a globe of sea stones. The dragon is a well loved animal in ancient stories and mythology, in just about every culture around the world. Constructed of clear coated steel, aluminum and rocks. Approx. 6 feet tall and weighing approximately 150 lbs.

The Jester
by Marc Walter

Playful, immersive, surprisingly sturdy, inspiring... The Jester will be a 5 metre tall sculpture evoking a being with a flame-like headdress built with locally sourced recycled branches, created on-site so that locals and tourists can observe the creative process. A place-making object that does not obstruct the view but offers an intimate space inviting a new look at the surroundings.
What’s New in March

**Big Bird**
by Ronald Simmer

*Big Bird* is an example of the artist’s aspirations to promote recycling by creating whimsical and bright pop art from waste materials. Constructed of recycled steel and aluminum (rebar, conduit, tank and bicycle parts). Approx. 9 feet tall.

**Taking Flight**
by Angellos Glaros

Transformations and new beginnings. Constructed of copper and steel, using traditional blacksmithing techniques, heat patina and finished with lacquer. Approx. 9 feet tall.

**Owl Under the Oaks**
by Scott Gillies

Black walnut owl holding an arbutus tree umbrella with oak wood leaves. Approx. 8 feet tall. Constructed of a Douglas fir driftwood pole (mounted on a steel plate).

**Forest Cloak**
by Maggie Wouterloot

Shelter is a basic human need. For most people, the words “shelter” and “home” are synonymous. A home can give us shelter for protection against natural threats such as extreme weather and dangerous creatures, and even security against other human beings. Yet for all its physical suggestions of permanence, the notion of home is susceptible to constant change.

To be constructed of wood frame filled with lightweight foam, wire mesh reinforcement, concrete and stained glass. Passerby are free to sit in the chair and feel the immersion of the “shelter” around them. Approx. 6 feet tall.
Giant Pacific Octopus
by Laura & Michael Timmermans
Our oceans are full of amazing creatures and the artists want to get people excited to learn more. This piece celebrates the importance of our oceans to our heritage, economy and environment. The waters off Nanaimo are said to be some of the best diving in the world. One can see Wolf eels, Giant Pacific octopus, Nudibranchs, Anemones, Sea sponges, and much more. Through artwork, the artists hope to inspire people to think about our connection to the ocean and help protect it. To be constructed of cedar posts, metal chain, carved western red cedar, aluminum and powder-coating.

Driftwood Nests
by Deryk & Samuel Houston
The artists want to create a sculpture that allows people to enjoy the natural shapes of driftwood and nature. When you study the lines in the wood, it is easy to discover faces, stories and movement as the light changes, creating new shadows and possibilities. To be constructed of steep pipe and base, driftwood logs and branches sculpted into nest-like shapes. Approx. 14 feet tall.

Windows to Nanaimo
by Jessica Kang
A real window frame superimposed onto 3D urban sketches of Nanaimo. Examines the permanence in capturing themes central to Nanaimo, initially made through fleeting, en plein air sketches. Urban sketching is a growing global phenomenon that aims to raise the artistic and story telling value of on-location drawing, connecting people around the world.

Bald Eagle
by Sheldon Murphy
(no image available)
A sculpture of a life-sized bald eagle, to be constructed of reclaimed metal, and scrap parts, and clear coated to protect it from the elements.

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View the Public Art Inventory online @ www.nanaimo.ca/public-art-inventory
What’s New in March

Nanaimo Historical Society presents:
The Best Main Street in the Country - Ladysmith’s First Avenue

Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 7:30 pm (Bowen Park Complex)

In November 2017, the Canadian Institute of Planners voted Ladysmith’s First Avenue the Best Main Street in Canada. This is not the first time First Avenue has been so honoured. As a result of the revitalization projects that Ladysmith implemented in the ‘80s it won the distinction as the Best Main Street in Western Canada in 1988.

With its importance to the community, Ladysmith’s First Avenue is typical of most main streets in the country. Main streets grow and change over time, and so it was with Ladysmith’s First Avenue. At first it was a dirt road catering to the needs of horse and donkey carts. It was incorporated as a part of the Nanaimo to Victoria road as a section of the Island Highway. The alignment of the old highway, straight through town, was as much a curse as it was a blessing.

This topic will be presented at the March 8 meeting. The presentation is free to attend and open to everyone. For more information, visit the Nanaimo Historical Society’s Facebook page.

Festival Nanaimo

Festival Nanaimo is a new multi-dimensional community festival taking place in Nanaimo throughout the month of March 2018. It showcases all the things that we love about the city where we live, work and play. Festival Nanaimo 2018 includes great entertainment, concerts, theatre, art and crafts, culinary delights, including Whiskey and Beer tastings, historical walks, runs, retreats, Nanaimo’s Biggest Dog Photo, St. Paddy’s Day, March Break activities including the 4th Annual PirateFest and GeekCon and finishing with Easter Weekend events! And of course a Festival celebrating Nanaimo would not be complete without our namesake dessert - the Nanaimo Bar!

For a full listing of events, visit their Facebook page @ www.facebook.com/festivalnanaimo.

Living History Speaker Series

Stories from Here

A Free Event!

4 Nights in March x 3 Speakers per Night = 12 Original Story Tellers

Last 4 Thursdays in March 6:30–8:00 p.m.
March 8, 15, 22, and 29
At Wellington Community Hall
3922 Corunna Ave (in the Meeting Hall)

Questions? Call (250) 755-4491 or email john.horn@nanaimo.ca

This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada’s New Horizons for Seniors Program.

CITY OF NANAIMO
**What’s New in March**

**Crimson Coast Dance Society presents:**
15th Annual Spring Body Break Talk Dance Workshop HiPHoPPoWWoW II, 2018!

Looking for a Spring Break Activity? March 19 to 23

Sign up now for this week-long youth program. This year TEENS are the focus as award winning guest artists, each with their own youth empowerment programs, come together to bring out the best in local youth while sharing Indigenous culture!

Pow Wow dancers and urban street dancers, James Jones (Tribe Called Red dancer) and partner, MarikaSila (Circus Hoop Artist) will share Indigenous dance, circus and urban street grooves. Local phenomenon, SirReal, keeps it real with his positive messages through rap arts. He will teach rap writing and performing. Snuneymuxw drum maker, Jorge Two Eagles Lewis, will facilitate drum making and Snuneymuxw teachings regarding drums. Participants will make their own Coast Salish drum to keep.

The weeklong workshop at Snuneymuxw Gym, 1145 Totem Road, March 19 to 23, 10am to 4pm, will offer teens full days with guest artists and the added opportunity to present what they learned in a culminating show on March 24, at Malaspina Theatre, Vancouver Island University 7:30pm. Guest artists will perform, too, immediately following.

Register early! Space is limited! Information, registration (Pay What You Can) or show tickets @ www.crimsoncoastdance.org 250-716-3230, or Snuneymuxw Health Centre @ 250-740-2300 (668 Centre Street, Nanaimo).

**Teens:** While at the workshop be sure to sign up for our youth council to plan Body Talk 2019! “By participating in the Body Talk Program, I have been able to make what turned out to be one of the best decisions I’ve made in relation to my career and adult life.” --- A. Shotton, former Body Talk Youth Council.

**TheatreOne presents:** With Glowing Hearts

**TheatreOne’s production of With Glowing Hearts:** How Ordinary Women Worked Together to Change the World (And Did) by Jennifer Wynne Webber, April 11 to 14 @ VIU Malaspina Theatre

This is the rousing true story of women in 1940s Kirkland Lake, Ontario who fought to improve conditions for their husbands working in the town’s mines. They became the heart and soul of a union organizing drive that eventually changed their lives — and the world. The role women have played in Canada’s labour movement is largely untold, though their efforts have led to profound social and legislative changes, including to important labour laws. This play has particular impact and resonance for communities like Nanaimo, which was founded on the coal-mining industry and identifies as a proud working-class town with deep roots in the labour movement. The recent women’s marches seen across Canada and around the world in January of this year also make this story particularly timely and meaningful.

“I laughed and cried. I got angry. I gained courage…. I saw the connections between yesterday and today.” -- Barb Byers, Member of the Order of Canada, former Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Labour Congress

Nanaimo Museum presents: Extension BC - Divided in Solidarity

Exhibit runs from February 9 to May 4

The community of Extension grew up around a coal mine started in the late 1890s by infamous BC coal family the Dunsmuirs. Extension was diverse and included residents with Italian, British, Finnish, eastern European, American and Chinese backgrounds. Churches, stores, hotels, a school, cultural halls and a Chinatown were part of the community. Surprising stories include the connection of acclaimed Canadian artist, EJ Hughes, to Extension, African American coal mining families and a group of Communists. The exhibit features artifacts, photos and maps from museums, archives, art galleries and public collections. For more information, visit www.nanaimomuseum.ca.

A Gala Celebration
Canada’s Poet Laureate, George Elliott Clarke, along with Vancouver Island’s Poet Laureates
The Nanaimo Museum,
100 Commercial Street April 5 at 1:00 p.m.
Partnered with The Wordstorm Society of the Arts

Kailey DeFehr
Youth Poet Laureate, Nanaimo

George Elliott Clarke
7th Parliamentary Poet Laureate

Tina Biello
Poet Laureate, Nanaimo

Yvonne Blomer
Poet Laureate, Victoria

Agartu Ali
Youth Poet Laureate, Victoria

Natalie Nickerson
Poet Laureate, Comox Valley

Connect With Us

Our office is open Monday to Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Phone: 250-755-4483
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411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo BC

Email: cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca
By Mail: 455 Wallace Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6