



Arts in spotlight at annual awards

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ST. CATHARINES — The City recognized outstanding contributions to its arts community Saturday night during the 2015 St. Catharines Arts Awards.

The City of St. Catharines honoured its 2015 Arts Awards recipients during the special event at Sean O’Sullivan Theatre, Centre for the Arts, Brock University. One of the last events at the Sean O’Sullivan Theatre, it was a night of fun and inspiring moments as the local arts and culture community took centre stage.

“Congratulations to the 2015 Arts Awards recipients and to all of the nominees,” said Mayor Walter Sendzik. “Tonight we celebrated the very best of our arts community. Many of this year’s nominees have achieved international accolades for their work, but it is always meaningful to be recognized in our hometown. Our artists play an important role in making our community such a great place to live.”

The 2015 St. Catharines Arts Awards winners were: Arts in Education Award — Dena Colling Gelentso; Emerging Artist Award — Mike Enns; Established Artist Award — Duncan MacDonald; Making a Difference Award — Debbie Slade; Patron of the Arts Award — Chris and Catharine Lowes, Mahtay Café; and Volunteer in the Arts Award — Janis Barlow.

Arts awards nominees Mendelt Hoekstra with Momentum Choir, KT Job, Lindsay Jack, Mike Enns and Ballet Etc. treated attendees to fantastic live performances and a film trailer screening. Past award recipient Stephanie Jones and Stephen Remus co-hosted the evening.

Arts Awards recipients received a civic certificate of appreciation and a \$400 cash prize. An independent jury of local arts community members representing various disciplines selected the recipients. Jury members included Kevin Hobbs, Wynne Nicholson and Carolyn Wren.

The City of St. Catharines also unveiled three designs under consideration for the future Arts Awards statue. The new designs will be on display at the St. Catharines Kiwanis Aquatics Centre starting this week. The final design will be selected in early fall and given to future St. Catharines Arts Awards winners at subsequent ceremonies.