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Nominations for 37th Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards Announced!

Tarragon Theatre Leads in General Theatre Division with 12 Nods – 7 for *Mustard*.

Why Not Theatre Heads up Independent Theatre Division with 9 Taps – 8 for *Butcher*.

Mirvish Productions Leads the Pack in Musical Theatre Division with 13 Noms – 10 for *Kinky Boots*.

Canadian Opera Company Front-runner in Opera Division – *Siegfried* and *La Traviata* 8 each.

DanceWorks Flies Highest with 8 Taps in Dance Division – 5 for *Woven*.

Young People's Theatre Fronts Theatre for Young Audiences Division – 5 for *Scarberia*.

Toronto (May 30, 2016) – At a press conference held May 30 in the lobby of the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, the **Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA)** announced **236 nominations** for **221 eligible productions** for the **37th Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards**, which honour excellence in the performing arts in Toronto.

For the 2015-2016 season, **113 producing companies** registered eligible productions; **48 Dora Mavor Moore Awards**, the Silver Ticket Award and the Audience Choice Award will be given out in a glittering ceremony on Monday, **June 27** at **Harbourfront Centre's Concert Stage**, hosted by the award-winning actor **Bruce Dow**.

GENERAL THEATRE DIVISION:

Tarragon Theatre leads the **General Theatre Division** with **12 nominations**, with its production of *Mustard* garnering **7**: Outstanding New Play, Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction, Outstanding Performance - Male, Outstanding Performance - Female, Outstanding Costume Design and Outstanding Scenic Design. *Blind Date* receives **2** nods: Outstanding Performance - Female and Outstanding Sound Design/Composition. *The Summoned* earns a tap for Outstanding New Play, *You Will Remember Me* (a co-production with **Studio 180 Theatre**) sees a nod for Outstanding Performance - Male and *Within the Glass* gets one for Outstanding Scenic Design.

Factory Theatre is the runner-up in this division with **11 nominations**, including **4** each for *Bombay Black* and *Salt-Water Moon*, both of which earn taps for Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction, Outstanding Performance - Female and Outstanding Lighting Design. Outstanding Performance - Male nods go to *A Line in the Sand* and *The Crackwalker*, while an Outstanding Performance - Ensemble nom goes to *Banana Boys*.

In addition to the Tarragon nods for Outstanding New Play above, other taps in this category go to **Theatre Passe Muraille** for *Elle*; **Buddies in Bad Times Theatre** and **Independent Aunties Productions** for *Gertrude and Alice* (up for a total of **3 taps** including Outstanding Performance - Ensemble, with **Buddies'** total tally at **4** including Outstanding Performance - Male for *The 20th of November*); and **Canadian Stage** for *Botticelli in the Fire & Sunday in Sodom* (A **Canadian Stage** Production in collaboration with the Department of Theatre in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design at York University) which is also up for Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction and Outstanding Performance - Female, bringing that production's total to **7**. (In total, **Canadian Stage** earns **11 nods – 9 taps** in General, **1** in the Dance Division and **1** in the Touring category.)

Additional Outstanding Performance - Ensemble nods go to **Soulpepper's Happy Place** (Soulpepper's total take is **7**: **2** in the General Division and **5** in Musical Theatre), **VideoCabaret's The Great War** (whose total is **5 taps** including Outstanding Production) and **The Theatre Centre's We Are Proud to Present a Presentation About the Herero of Namibia, Formerly Known as Southwest Africa, From the German Sudwestafrika, Between the Years 1884-1915** (whose total in this division is **3** including Outstanding Direction, plus a further **3** in a co-production with Modern Times Stage Company in the Independent Theatre Division for a grand total of **6**).

INDEPENDENT THEATRE DIVISION:

In the **Independent Theatre Division**, **Why Not Theatre** takes the lead with **9 nominations**: **8** for *Butcher* – including taps for Outstanding New Play, Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction, Outstanding Performance - Male, and a full sweep of the design award nominations: Outstanding Costume Design, Lighting Design, Scenic Design and Sound Design/Composition – and a sole nomination for *Iceland* for Outstanding Performance - Female.

Three companies tie for the runner-up position with **5 nods** apiece: **Groundling Theatre Company** for *The Winter's Tale*, **Videofag** for *Crawlspace* and **Native Earth Performing Arts** with **4** for *Huff* and **1** for *Stitch* (with Culture Storm).

Along with **Why Not's Butcher** noted above, *The Winter's Tale*, *Crawlspace* and *Huff* are up for Outstanding Production. *Crawlspace* and *The Winter's Tale* join *Butcher* for Outstanding Direction, *Huff* and *The Winter's Tale* along with *Butcher* are up for Outstanding Performance - Male while *The Winter's Tale* is also up for Outstanding Performance - Female.

Additionally *Huff* and *Crawlspace* join the race along with *Butcher* for Outstanding New Play, as does **Circle Circle's A Man Walks Into a Bar** and **Watah Theatre's She Mami Wata & The Pussy Witchhunt** (which also garners a nod for Outstanding Performance - Female, and a total of **3** for the company).

Coal Mine Theatre is up for **3 noms** in total, all for *Killer Joe*, including Outstanding Direction and Outstanding Performance - Male. **Modern Times Stage Company and The Theatre Centre's The Death of the King** garners **3 nods** as well including Outstanding Performance - Ensemble. *It Comes In Waves*, produced by **Necessary Angel** with bluemouth inc. garners **2 nods** including Outstanding Direction. (In total, **Necessary Angel** earns **3 nods: 2 taps** as above and **1** in General for Outstanding Scenic Design for *Hedda Gabler*.) **Red One Theatre Collective's La Chasse Galerie** is up for Outstanding Production as well as Outstanding Performance - Ensemble for its total of **2**.

MUSICAL THEATRE DIVISION:

In the **Musical Theatre Division**, **Mirvish Productions** leads the pack with **13 nods**, **10** of which are for *Kinky Boots* (produced by Daryl Roth & Hal Luftig, James L. Nederlander, Terry Allen Kramer, Independent Presenters Network, CJ E&M, Jayne Baron Sherman, Just For Laughs Theatricals/Judith Ann Abrams, Yasuhiro Kawana, Jane Bergere, Allan S.Gordon & Adam S.Gordon, Ken Davenport, Hunter Arnold, Lucy & Phil Suarez, Bryan Bantry, Ron Fierstein & Dorsey Regal, Jim Kierstead/Gregory Rae, BB Group/Christina Papagjika, Michael Desantis/Patrick Baugh, Brian Smith/Tom & Connie Walsh, Warren Trepp and Jujamcyn Theatres by arrangement with **David Mirvish**) and **3** of which are for *Titanic: The Musical* (produced by **David Mirvish** in association with Michael Harrison and Paul Elliott).

Kinky Boots' nominations are Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction, Outstanding Musical Direction, Outstanding Choreography, Outstanding Performance - Ensemble, Outstanding Performance - Female, Outstanding Performance - Male (x2), Outstanding Costume Design and Outstanding Scenic Design. *Titanic: The Musical* nods are Outstanding Choreography, Outstanding Performance - Ensemble and Outstanding Costume Design.

Acting Up Stage Company is the runner-up in this division with **8 nods: 7** for *Grey Gardens* – including Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction, Outstanding Performance - Female (x2) and Outstanding Performance - Male – and an Outstanding New Musical/Opera **tap** for *Reframed* (co-produced by **Acting Up Stage Company** and Art Gallery of Ontario in association with Yonge Street Theatricals).

Other Outstanding New Musical/Opera nods go to *M'dea Undone* (A **Tapestry Opera Production** in collaboration with Scottish Opera), *Heart of Steel* (**Aim for the Tangent Theatre**), **Golden Ages Productions' One Night Only: The Greatest Musical Never Written** (which earns a total of **4 hits** with Outstanding Production, Outstanding Musical Direction and Outstanding Performance - Male) and **Young People's Theatre's Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang** (which also nabs an Outstanding Performance - Ensemble nod).

Young People's Theatre weighs in with **6 taps** in this division: the previous **2** for *Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang* and **4** for *The Wizard of Oz*, including Outstanding Production, Outstanding Musical Direction, Outstanding Choreography and Outstanding Performance - Ensemble.

Soulpepper Theatre Company's Marat/Sade tallies in with **5 knocks**, including Outstanding Direction, Outstanding Choreography, Outstanding Performance - Ensemble, Outstanding Performance - Male and Outstanding Costume Design, bringing its season total to **7** as previously noted.

Volcano Theatre's Century Song gets on board with **4 nods**: Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction, Outstanding Choreography and Outstanding Performance - Female.

OPERA DIVISION:

In the **Opera Division**, **Canadian Opera Company** (COC) productions lead overall with a total of **14 nominations** as well as another **10** in categories shared with the **Musical Theatre Division**, making for a total of **24 nods**. The **COC's Siegfried** and *La Traviata* (a co-production with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Houston Grand Opera) each earn **8 taps** with both including vying for Outstanding Production, Outstanding Musical Direction, Outstanding Performance - Male, Outstanding Performance - Female, Outstanding Scenic

Design and Outstanding Lighting Design; while *La Traviata* also earns a tap for Outstanding Performance - Ensemble. Additionally, *Maometto II* garners **4** (including Outstanding Production), *The Marriage of Figaro* nabs **3** (including Outstanding Production) and *Carmen*, **1** (Outstanding Performance Male).

Opera Atelier wades in with **2 taps** for *Lucio Silla*: Outstanding Production and Outstanding Performance - Female. **Luminato Festival's** *Apocalypse* gets **1 nod** for Outstanding Performance - Ensemble as does **Against the Grain's** *AtG's Messiah*.

DANCE DIVISION:

In the **Dance Division**, **DanceWorks** hits the top spot with **8 nominations: 5** for *Woven* (**DanceWorks/Tribal Crackling Wind**) and **3** for *Re:Pairing* (**DanceWorks & Emily Gualtieri of Parts+Labour_Danse**), both up for Outstanding Choreography. The runner-up spot is taken by **princess productions** with **6 taps** for two presentations at its **dance: made in canada / fait au canada** festival (*Various Concert* - Morrison Series and *Waiting for a Sleepless Night* - Robinson Series), both also up for Outstanding Choreography. **Cinetic Creations** jumps in next with **5 hits: 4** for *The Mystery of Mr. Leftovers* (**Jillian Peever Dance Creations & Cinetic Creations**) and **1** for *The Thirst for Love and Water*. **Peggy Baker Dance Projects** and **Toronto Dance Theatre** follow with **4 each**, the former all for *Phase Space* and the latter for four different productions.

Up for Outstanding Production are *Betroffenheit* (A Kidd Pivot, Electric Company Theatre Production, **presented by Canadian Stage**), *Against Nature / À Rebours* (from **Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie**, who also earn **2** more nods for *Les Paradis Perdus / Remix* for a total of **3**), *Woven* (**DanceWorks/Tribal Crackling Wind** for **5 hits** as noted above), *The Mystery of Mr. Leftovers* (**Jillian Peever Dance Creations & Cinetic Creations** with **4** as noted above) and *Phase Space* (**Peggy Baker Dance Projects** with **4** as noted above).

THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES DIVISION:

The **Theatre for Young Audiences Division** sees **Young People's Theatre** (YPT) take the lead with **13 nods: 5** for *Scarberia* including Outstanding New Play, Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction and Outstanding Performance - Individual (x2); **4** for *One Thing Leads to Another* including Outstanding New Play, Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction and Outstanding Performance - Ensemble; **2** for *Hana's Suitcase* including Outstanding Direction and Outstanding Performance - Ensemble and **2 more taps** for Outstanding Production: *Mistatim* (**Young People's Theatre** presents Red Sky Performance) and *Goodnight Moon* (**Young People's Theatre** presents Seattle Children's Theatre). (YPT also earns **6 taps** in the Musical Theatre Division as noted above for a total haul of **19**.)

Le Théâtre français de Toronto follows with **4 knocks** for *Les Zinspirés puissance Quatre*, including Outstanding Production and Outstanding New Play. **Solar Stage Children's Theatre** is up for Outstanding Performance - Ensemble for **3** different shows. **Roseneath Theatre** is up for **2 nods** for *The Incredible Speediness of Jamie Cavanaugh* (including Outstanding Direction) as is **Ten Foot Pole Theatre** for *First Day Back* (including Outstanding New Play).

TOURING PRODUCTION:

Harbourfront Centre's World Stage leads in the Outstanding Touring Production award race with **2 nominations: *Germinal* and *Looking for Paul: Inez van Dam vs. the Buttplug Gnome. Cold Blood*** (presented by **Canadian Stage**), *Le long voyage de Pierre-Guy B.* (presented by **le Théâtre français de Toronto**) and *Nirbhaya* (presented by **Nightwood Theatre**) round out the competition.

Of note, designer **Patrick Lavender** is up for **4 awards**, making him the most nominated individual in the 2015-16 season. His nominations are Outstanding Lighting Design and Outstanding Scenic Design for Videofag's *CrawlSpace*. He competes against himself in these same two categories with **Coal Mine Theatre's *Killer Joe*** for Outstanding Scenic Design and for Outstanding Lighting Design for *It Comes In Waves*, produced by **Necessary Angel with bluemouth inc.**

See the accompanying complete list of nominees. The full list is also available online www.tapa.ca

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SPECIAL PRIZES:

As well, it was announced that the **Bluma Appel Community Trust** will continue its special gift: a **\$5,000** prize to be awarded at the Dora Awards ceremony on June 27 to the winning playwright of **Outstanding New Play** in the **General Theatre Division** for the tenth year in a row, in addition to the continuation of **Bluma's Indies** comprised of a cash prize of **\$1,000 per winning category in the Independent Theatre Division**.

For the second year in a row, the **Pat and Tony Adams Freedom Fund for the Arts** will provide a cash prize of **\$1,000** each to the recipients of Outstanding Performance - Female and Outstanding Performance - Male in the General Theatre Division.

ANCILLARY AWARDS:

In addition, the recipients of the **Pauline McGibbon Award**, **Barbara Hamilton Memorial Award** and **Leonard McHardy and John Harvey Award** were announced.

Stratford Festival cutter and tailor **Jennifer Wonnacott** is the recipient of the **2016 Pauline McGibbon Award**. This year marks the 35th anniversary of the award, created in honour of former Lieutenant Governor Pauline McGibbon. It includes a \$7,000 prize and a medal designed by Dora de Pédery-Hunt and is presented to a member of Ontario's professional theatre community in the early stages of his or her career who has displayed a unique talent and a potential for excellence. The award is given each year by the Province of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism and is administered by the Ontario Arts Council. Jennifer specializes in men's tailoring, particularly Elizabethan-era design, interpreting designers by translating their sketches into actual garments. She is an impressive cutter and a creative problem solver, passionate about sharing her knowledge of costume-making, both in her capacity at Stratford and as an instructor at Fanshawe College.

The winner of this year's **Barbara Hamilton Memorial Award** is visionary and arts pioneer **George Curtiss Randolph**, whose immeasurable contributions span more than 30 years in the arts and arts education. The award was established in 1996 to recognize Barbara Hamilton's illustrious theatrical career. It is presented to a Canadian artist who demonstrates excellence in the performing arts and is dedicated to advocating and being an ambassador for the arts in Canada. Devoted to nurturing the careers of budding artists, George Randolph founded the Randolph Academy for the Performing Arts in 1992. Alumni can be found on Broadway, in London's West End and on Shaw, Stratford and Mirvish stages. He twice travelled to China (2014, 2015) with Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne to explore and develop arts education curriculums in Shanghai. George Randolph's immeasurable contributions have been recognized by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television, the Ontario Black History Society and Harbourfront Centre.

The recipient of the 2016 **Leonard McHardy and John Harvey Award** (LMJH Award) is arts manager and theatre champion **Nancy J. Webster**. The award recognizes the important work of theatre, dance and opera administrators. Recipients of the LMJH Award have at least 10 years of demonstrated commitment to the performing arts, in addition to having made an impact on the industry in Toronto. Ms Webster is currently the Executive Director at Young People's Theatre, first serving there as Managing Director from 2004-2009, and returning as Executive Director in 2013 after four years as Managing Director, English Theatre at the National Arts Centre. Other key roles in Toronto's theatre community she has held include Producer of the Toronto Fringe Festival and Managing Director of Factory Theatre. During the ten years she spent as President and Past President of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT), Nancy Webster made a significant, volunteer contribution to the Canadian theatre community. She currently has roles with the Metcalf Foundation's Creative Strategic Incubator program and the Ontario Minister of Culture's Advisory Panel devising Ontario's new culture plan. She is a dearly loved and exceptional mentor whose generosity of spirit is widely acknowledged.

AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD:

TAPA's **Audience Choice Award** is co-sponsored once again this year by *NOW Magazine* and Yonge-Dundas Square. The public is invited to choose a winner and vote for their favourite show from the list of nominees for Outstanding Production – or they can choose their own! Theatre and opera fans can cast their votes online at www.nowtoronto.com/doras from June 2-22. The winner is announced at the Dora Awards show ceremony and receives a special plaque from *NOW Magazine*.

37th Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards

Toronto's Theatre, Dance and Opera Awards - **Monday June 27, 2016**

Hosted by **Bruce Dow**

Written by **Diane Flacks**, Directed by **Edward Roy**, Musical Direction by **Waylen Miki**,

Lighting and Production Design by **Andrea Lundy**, Produced by **Jacoba Knaapen**

At Harbourfront Centre, 235 Queens Quay West

5:30pm-7:00pm Pre-Show VIP Reception at Harbourfront Centre's Brigantine Room

7:30pm Dora Mavor Moore Awards Show at Harbourfront Centre's Concert Stage

10:30pm After-Party Under the Stars beside the lake at Harbourfront Centre

TICKETS ON SALE May 31, 2016

\$104.00 General Admission Tickets for Awards Show & After-Party (\$81.50 students, seniors, artswokers).

For tickets, call the Harbourfront Centre **Box Office at 416-973-4000** or visit <http://tapa.ca>

\$20 After-Party Only Tickets can be purchased only onsite at the event beginning at 10:30pm

For **\$190 VIP Tickets** (Pre-show VIP Reception, Dora Awards Show, After-Party), email Scott Dermody at scott@doras.ca

For information visit www.tapa.ca

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*The Dora Mavor Moore Awards are administered by the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA). In addition to the Doras, other programs and services provided by TAPA include: www.whatsontonight.ca, *TOnight* (an app for Toronto performing arts tickets), *Toronto Theatre Guide*, *hipTIX* (offering \$5 tickets to students between the ages of 14 and 29), *citySPECIAL* (a ticket program for newcomers and at-risk youth), the *Commercial Theatre Development Fund* and the *Travel Retreat Initiatives Program – TRIP*. For more information visit www.tapa.ca*