

# Dora Mavor Moore Awards



***The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards Celebration Returns on Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>***

## ***TAPA Announces Calendar of Official Dora Awards Events for the 2022-2023 Season***

Toronto, ON (May 4, 2023) - The Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA) announced today the **43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards** will return to an early summer celebration on **Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. After several years of disruption, including a postponed award presentation, the Dora Awards will fully return at the regular time in all of its glory acknowledging the achievements on Toronto stages. Canada's largest and oldest awards program, the Dora Mavor Moore Awards are gender inclusive and celebrate excellence in professional theatre, dance and opera. The celebration will commence at 7:30 PM with live recipient updates from the [Dora Twitter](#) account.

"The **43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards** celebration returns to its regular schedule timing, representing one full year of undisturbed stage openings," said Jacoba Knaapen, Dora Awards Producer and TAPA Executive Director. "The Dora Awards are a cornerstone of Canada's live theatre, dance and opera and present the most prestigious and innovative productions in Toronto with the highest honour in the performing arts community. We are thrilled to once again celebrate, inspire and entertain."

One of Canada's most accomplished and versatile performers, **Craig Lauzon**, will host the **43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dora Awards**. Craig is well known to television audiences for his work on the CBC's "Royal Canadian Air Farce". Other television credits include APTN's "Guilt Free Zone", "Fool Canada", "The Ron James Show" and "The Winnipeg Comedy Festival". In addition to his work on screen, Craig is an accomplished stage actor. Mr. Lauzon previously co-hosted the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dora Awards, this is his first time hosting the Dora Awards unaccompanied.

Special entertainment for the Dora Awards will be provided by two-time Juno Awards nominee, **Jason Wilson**. The Canadian historian and reggae musician will be joined by his band, the **Jason Wilson Quartet**, and bring down the house with his unique style of jazz and Scottish influences. This will be the first time the quartet has performed at the Dora Awards.

Directing the Dora Awards for the first time will be **Herbie Barnes**. Barnes is most known for his work at Young People's Theatre, where he resides as the Artistic Director. The Dora Awards are pleased to welcome back for her seventh year Emmy, Gemini and Dora-nominated **Diane Flacks** as the script writer. Dora Award veteran, multi-award-winning lighting and production designer **Andrea Lundy** returns for her nineteenth consecutive year.

The inaugural bi-annual, **Christine Karcza Disability Leadership Award**, will be presented this year to an individual who identifies as d/Deaf, Mad or d/Disabled and demonstrates leadership and advancement of the field. The Karcza Award is administered by TAPA and the award recipient will receive a cash prize of \$5,000. The Christine Karcza Disability Leadership laureate will select a leader of their choice who is an emerging d/Disabled or non-d/Disabled leader to receive a cash prize of \$2,500.

Please find a list of 2023 Dora Mavor Moore Award events and dates, below:

### **Monday, May 29, 2023**

The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCEMENT PRESS CONFERENCE, will take place at 10:00 AM ET at Meridian Hall. A complete list of the 2023 nominations will be available at [www.tapa.ca/doras](http://www.tapa.ca/doras) immediately following the announcement. The

press conference will also announce the recipient of the Province of Ontario's Pauline McGibbon Award.

Press must register for credentials to cover this event.

*The Jon Kaplan Audience Choice Award* online voting powered by Now Playing Toronto, will be available as of 11:30 AM ET. The award welcomes all audience patrons to vote for their favourite nominated production or add their own.

Tickets to *The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards* will go on sale starting on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM ET.

### **Friday, June 9, 2023**

The exclusive DORA MAVOR MOORE AWARDS NOMINEES' RECEPTION is a chance for the nominees to celebrate each other and for invited guests to toast their outstanding contributions to the performing arts industry. This invite-only event is closed to the media.

### **Tuesday, June 27, 2023**

*The 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL DORA MAVOR MOORE AWARDS CEREMONY AND AWARD PRESENTATION* hosted by Craig Lauzon with musical guests the Jason Wilson Quartet. The celebration will commence at 7:30 PM ET where the recipients of the 46 award categories across 7 distinct divisions will be acknowledged. The Jon Kaplan Audience Choice Award and the Silver Ticket Award recipient will also be recognized. Follow the Dora Awards Twitter account for live-tweeting award announcements. The Dora Awards After-Party celebration will commence immediately after the awards ceremony.

For additional information on the *43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards*, please visit [www.tapa.ca/doras/](http://www.tapa.ca/doras/) and follow @DoraAwards on Twitter. #Doras2023

To register for media credentials, please email the press contact below.

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### **About the Dora Mavor Moore Awards**

The Doras are named for Dora Mavor Moore (1888-1979), a well-loved teacher and director who helped establish Canadian professional theatre in the 1930s and 1940s. Recognizing the outstanding achievements in Toronto's performing arts industry, the Doras honour the creators of numerous theatre, dance and opera productions annually in the following divisions: General Theatre, Independent Theatre, Musical Theatre, Dance, Opera, Theatre for Young Audiences and Touring.

The Dora Mavor Moore Awards were founded on December 13, 1978, by a committee convened by Millie Drain. On that date, Drain and the other founders (Ann Antkiw, Ronald Bryden, Bill Glassco, Graham Harley, Leon Major, Sean Mulcahy, Peter Peroff, Heinar Piller, Susan Rubes, Pat Stewart and Sylvia Tucker), decided to institute an award to recognize outstanding achievements in Toronto theatre. Today, the Doras honour the creators and artists of theatre, dance and opera productions annually in 46 categories over 7 divisions.

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: Annual Arts Day at the City, **hipTIX** (offering \$5 tickets to students between the ages of 14 and 29), **citySPECIAL**,

the Commercial Theatre Development Fund, the Travel Retreat Initiatives Program – **TRIP**, and the professional development TAPA Trade Series.

### **About Craig Lauzon**

Originally from Ottawa, of mixed settler and Anishinabe decent. A member of the sketch troupe Tonto's Nephews, former Artistic Associate at Native Earth Performing Arts. Toured Darrell Dennis' Tales of an Urban Indian across Canada and Australia.

Theatre credits: Little Red Warrior & his Lawyer (N.A.C), The Darkest Dark (Y.P.T) Detroit (The Coal Mine), Where the Blood Mixes (Soulpepper), Midsummer Night's Dream (Stratford) The Drawer Boy (Theatre Passe Muraille), Thunderstick (Persephone Theatre), King Lear (N.A.C) and Trudeau and Levesque (VideoCabaret).

Television credits: Trickster, Murdoch Mysteries, The Guilt Free Zone, Fool Canada, Air Farce, The Ron James Show, Beyblade and Beyblade: The Movie.

### **About Jason Wilson**

Jason Wilson is a two-time Juno-Awards nominee, Canadian Reggae Music Award winner and Bestselling Scottish-Canadian author from Downsview, Ontario. He is the protégé of Studio One keyboardist Jackie Mittoo and has performed and recorded with, among others, UB40, Alanis Morissette, Sly & Robbie, Ron Sexsmith, Pee Wee Ellis and Dick Gaughan. He was also one half of the Wilson & Swarbrick project with the late English folk icon Dave Swarbrick.

An Adjunct-Professor of history, Wilson has eight books to his name, including the award-winning King Alpha's Song in a Strange Land: The Roots and Routes of Canadian Reggae (UBC Press, 2020). Jason is joined by his long-time collaborators Marcus Ali (woodwinds), Vincent Reel (drums and percussion) and Michael Shapinko (bass).

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