For Immediate Release



OAAG ANNOUNCES WINNERS FOR ANNUAL AWARDS RECOGNIZING PUBLIC ART GALLERIES IN ONTARIO

TORONTO, Ontario—(Immediate Release)—The Ontario Association of Art Galleries (OAAG) is pleased to announce the 38th annual OAAG Awards winners on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at the Gladstone Hotel in Toronto.

Twenty-five awards and three honourable mentions recognize 16 galleries from 12 cities across Ontario:

Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Kingston

Art Gallery of Hamilton

Art Gallery of Ontario

Art Gallery of Windsor

Art Gallery of York University, Toronto

Blackwood Gallery, Mississauga

Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa

Gallery Stratford

Idea Exchange Art + Design (formerly Cambridge Galleries)

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery/University of Toronto Art Centre, Toronto

Oakville Galleries

The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, Toronto

Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art, Toronto

The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa

Rodman Hall Art Centre / Brock University, St. Catharines

Station Gallery, Whitby

Seven out-of province galleries were cited:

Art Gallery of Greater Victoria

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Autograph ABP, London, United Kingdom

Kenderdine Art Gallery and College Art Galleries, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

MSVU Art Gallery, Halifax, Nova Scotia

SFU Galleries, Burnaby, British Columbia

Vancouver Art Gallery

One non-gallery was cited:

Black Dog Publishing

The OAAG Awards are annual, province-wide, juried art gallery awards for artistic merit and excellence. They recognize the new exhibitions, publications, programs and community partnerships that have been commissioned by and produced by Ontario's public art galleries over the previous year.

The Awards are presented in nine major categories: Exhibition, Curatorial and Art Writing, Public Program, Education, Art Publication, Design, Partnership, Colleague and Volunteer.

"The OAAG awards have consistently revealed the expanse and richness of art production on the part of Ontario's public art galleries," says Shirley Madill, President of the OAAG Board of Directors and Executive Director at Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery. "Whether one wins an award or not, everyone working in the sector has cause to celebrate excellence on the part of our sector together."

This year, the OAAG Awards categories have been expanded to recognize more work and more professionals in the public art gallery sector.

"The Public Gallery Sector is at an interesting juncture in its long historical arc. The immense talent and expertise of the sector constantly innovates and responds to the challenges of the times," says Zainub Verjee, OAAG Executive Director. "These awards recognize the significant achievement in the sector and we are dedicated to the continued development of the OAAG Awards."

The Exhibition Awards have been expanded from seven to ten categories. New categories include budget over \$50,000 and under \$10,000, as well as First Exhibition in a Public Art Gallery. The Exhibition Awards already recognize budget categories over and under \$20,000 (thematic or monographic), Innovation in Collections-Cased Exhibition, Exhibition in a Commercial Gallery, Exhibition Installation and Design.

Verjee adds, "With the expansion of the Exhibition Awards, we are excited to give out more awards for exhibition work, as this is an opportunity to recognize scales of achievement."

There was an increase in exhibition nominations to 50 nominations this year, compared to 33 last year.

The Colleague Award now recognizes professional colleagues working in and with public art galleries who have not been fully cited by the OAAG Awards to date. The OAAG Awards also acclaim individuals working in administration, fundraising, marketing, communications, security and facilities.

Through network-building, professional development and advocacy, OAAG fosters sustainable, healthy, diverse public art galleries, furthering the visual arts as a key component of the cultural life of Ontario. OAAG serves and represents 102 public art gallery and visual art organization members in 61 municipalities across the province. OAAG is a registered charitable organization.

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Find out more about OAAG at:

oaag.org twitter.com/ontartgalleries facebook.com/OntArtGalleries

2015 OAAG Award Winners

As presented November 18, 2015, 6 – 8 pm Gladstone Hotel, 1214 Queen Street West, Toronto

Exhibition Awards

Recognizing art exhibitions evidencing exceptional and original curatorial and artistic achievement supported by technical excellence in exhibition design and installation.

Exhibition Installation and Design Introducing Suzy Lake

Sophie Hackett, Georgiana Uhlyarik Curators

Kristina Ljubanovic, Aleksandra Grzywaczewska Exhibition Designers

Laura Comerford, Exhibition Project Manager

Malene Hjorngaard *Production Coordinator*

Charles Kettle, Gregory Baszun, Patric Colosimo, Danny Winchester et al.

Gallery Installation Team

Shiralee Hudson-Hill Interpretive Planner

Suzy Lake Artist

Art Gallery of Ontario, 2014-2015

Jury Comments: This exhibition gives Suzy Lake a significant place in Canadian Art History and is relevant to the contemporary moment. The exhibition space is dynamic and situates the work well. It brought the performance aspect into the gallery space. She is an important artist and this exhibit brought attention to her practice in a comprehensive way.

Exhibition of the Year Budget over \$50,000

The Unfinished Conversation: Encoding/Decoding

Mark Sealy, MBE and Gaëtane Verna Curators

Mark Sealy MBE, Gaëtane Verna and Julia Paoli & Paul Zingrone *Exhibition Designers*

Julia Paoli Assistant Curator and Exhibition Coordinator

Paul Zingrone Head of Registration, Installations & Facilities

Garth Johnson Head Gallery Technician

Blair Claxton, Joel Cottrill, Karen Donaldson, Danielle Greer, Marina Guglielmi,

Alex Haythorne, Doug Moore, Aamna Muzaffar, Lucy Satzewich, Esther

Simmonds-MacAdam, Andrew Waite Installation Technicians

David Lawson for John Akomfrah, Sue MacDiarmid for Steve McQueen *Technical Consultants and Directions*

Terry Adkins, John Akomfrah, Sven Augustijnen, Shelagh Keeley, Steve McQueen, Zineb Sedira *Artists*

BAND Gallery and TD Then & Now Presenting Sponsors

Lonti Ebers, Yvonne & David Fleck, James & Margaret Fleck, Dr. Kenneth Montague & Ms. Sarah Aranha, Diversity Art Forum *Support Donors* The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery in partnership with Autograph ABP, 2015

Jury Comments: This was a timely exhibition and the curation was focused. It was a remarkable and compelling choice of artists and works, with relevant programming including an engaging one-day symposium. It considered historical issues and current application, and emphasized a variety of media including large-scale projection works.

Exhibition of the Year Budget over \$20,000, Monographic **KWE**

Wanda Nanibush *Curator*Rebecca Gimmi *Program Coordinator*Christopher Régimbal *Exhibition Coordinator*Dax Morrison, Michael Beynon *Gallery Installation Team*Rebecca Belmore *Artist*Justina M. Barnicke Gallery/University of Toronto Art Centre, 2014

Jury Comments: Belmore is an important artist and this was a significant solo show. The curatorial choices were astute; the "body" was present in a number of ways. Individual works spoke well to each other. It was a well-executed and dynamic installation. The opening performance was powerful. The relation between the curator and artist was evident as a working, productive partnership.

Exhibition of the Year Budget over \$20,000, Thematic Is Toronto Burning? 1977/1978/1979 Three Years in the Making (and Unmaking) of the Toronto Art Community

Philip Monk Curator and Exhibition Designer

Suzanne Carte Exhibition Coordinator

Michael Beynon, Joel Cottrill, Brian Davis, John Kennedy, Dax Morrison, Carmen Schroeder *Gallery Installation Team*

Susan Britton, David Buchan, Colin Campbell, Elizabeth Chitty, Carole Condé and Karl Beveridge, Judith Doyle, General Idea, Isobel Harry, Ross McLaren, Missing Associates (Peter Dudar & Lily Eng), Clive Robertson, Tom Sherman, Rodney Werden alongside archival documents, with a room devoted to the Centre for Experimental Art and Communication (CEAC) *Artists* Art Gallery of York University (AGYU), 2014

Jury Comments: This was an important exhibition due to its assessment of recent, archival material, presenting a historical moment while taking a strong stance viewed through a narrow lens. Exhibition layout and execution was excellent, with an evident depth of research. The publication, though not available as a public edition, presents significant potential for scholarly attention. The jury applauded the work involved in putting together this material.

Exhibition of the Year Budget under \$20,000, Monographic Charles Stankievech: Monument as Ruin

Sunny Kerr *Curator*Charles Stankievech *Exhibition Designer*Jennifer Nicoll *Exhibition Coordinator*Scott Wallis, Mark Birksted *Gallery Installation Team*Charles Stankievech *Artist*Agnes Etherington Art Centre, 2015

Jury Comments: This exhibition showed an impressive dynamism and research. It was a beautiful installation.

Exhibition of the Year Budget under \$20,000, Monographic *HONOURABLE MENTION*

Roula Partheniou: House & Home & Garden
Jon Davies Curator and Exhibition Coordinator
Carmen Schroeder, Joel Cottrill, Curtis Amisich, Micah Adams Gallery
Installation Team
Roula Partheniou Artist
Oakville Galleries, 2015

Jury Comments: Beautiful conception and exhibition and a thoughtful response to a particular site.

First Exhibition in a Public Art Gallery Art on a Green Line

Johnny Alam *Curator and Exhibition Designer*Heather Anderson, Michael Davidge *Exhibition Coordinators*Patrick Lacasse, Marc Courtemanche *Gallery Installation Team*Johnny Alam, Hassan Choubassi, Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige, Merdad Hage, Lamia Joreige, Jayce Salloum, Pierre Sidaoui *Artists*Carleton University Art Gallery, 2015

Jury Comments: The exhibition was topical and presented interesting artists and works.

Exhibition of the Year Budget under \$10,000 **WE WON'T COMPETE**

Deirdre Logue and Allyson Mitchell Curators and Exhibition Designers Srimovee Mitra Exhibition Coordinator

Stephen Nilsson, Christopher Hummer, Katie Whitehead, Natalie Nadeau, Nicolas de Cosson Gallery Installation Team

Abstract Random, Sonja Ahlers, Eleanor Bond, Allyson Clay, Erika DeFreitas, Servulo Esmeraldo, Andrew Harwood, Jesi The Elder, Hannah Jickling, Margaret Lawrence, Rita Letendre, Johnson Ngo, Bodo Pfeifer, Adee Roberson, Arthur Secunda, Fiona Smyth Artists

Art Gallery of Windsor, 2014

Jury Comments: We acknowledge the number of great artists included, the difficult material presented and the fact that Windsor supports this work. Good concept and execution.

Exhibition of the Year Budget under \$10,000 HONOURABLE MENTION **Image Coming Soon #1**

Liora Belford Curator Rebecca Gimmi Program Coordinator Christopher Régimbal Exhibition Coordinator Dax Morrison Gallery Installation John Cage, Marcel Duchamp *Artists*

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery/University of Toronto Art Centre, 2015

Jury Comments: Innovative idea that was well executed. It showed a leap of faith in accepting the terms laid out by John Cage and Marcel Duchamp for mounting a chance-based installation idea.

Innovation in Collections-Based Exhibition Samuel Roy-Bois: Not a new world, just an old trick

Melanie O'Brian and Samuel Roy-Bois (with Sandra Dyck and Matthew Hyland) Curators

Samuel Roy-Bois (with Melanie O'Brian, Sandra Dyck and Matthew Hyland) Exhibition Designers

CUAG: Patrick Lacasse, Karina Bergmans, Andrew Smith, Alisdair MacRae, Sandra Dyck; Oakville Galleries: Micah Adams, Curtis Amisich, Joel Cottrill, Carmen Schroeder Gallery Installation Team

SFU Gallery: Josef Albers, David Arc, Roy Arden, Iain Baxter (N.E. Thing Company), Janet Cardiff, Emily Carr, Marc Chagall, Michael de Courcy, Allan Edwards, Jonas Faber, Fluxus, Martin Honisch, John Innes, Jasper Johns, Donald Judd. La Farge Cement, Rene Lalique, Rita Letendre, David Ostrem, A. H. Payne, Jack Shadbolt, Gordon Smith, Nicole Raufeisen and Ryan Witt, I. Stridbeck, Reece Terris, Val Saint Lambert, Tony Westman, Royal Copenhagen porcelain, Steuben glassware, 18 unknown artists, makers and designers Artists

CUAG: Phil Bergerson, Joseph Bondy, Claude Breeze, Lynne Cohen, Joe David, Gaspard Duchange, Walker Evans, Murray Favro, Alan Fleming, Ron Giii, Lorraine Gilbert, Julius Griffith, Pierre-Narcisse Guérin, Janice Hoogstraten, Kenny Hotz, Henry Kahanek, W. Langdon Kihn, Bev Koski, Pierre Thomas Leclerc, Ron Martin, Pietro-Antonio Martini, Mattoo Moonie Michael, Guido Molinari, Robert Morris, Aida Nalikak, Gunter Nolte, Josie Papialuk, Alfred Pellan, Pablo Picasso, Frank Pimentel, Henry Saxe, Michael Schreier, Pierre-Louis van Schuppen, Rosalie Sinnisiak, Markosie Sowdluapik, Douglas Stone, Gabor Szilasi, Claude Tousignant, Yves Trudeau, Underwood and Underwood, Barrie Wentzell, Irene Whittome, Justin Wannacott, 31 unknown artists, makers and designers *Artists*

Oakville Galleries: Roy Arden, Susan Dobson, FASTWÜRMS, Fred Herzog, Liz Magor, Jin-me Yoon, 1 unknown designer *Artists*Carleton University Art Gallery, Oakville Galleries, SFU Galleries, 2014, 2015

Jury Comments: This exhibition presented a new way to look at the collection that was engaging and responsive.

Curatorial Art Writing

Recognizing original texts about visual art written by Canadian gallery curators, guest curators or guest writers and commissioned and published as curatorial writing in relation to an exhibited artwork or a visual art exhibition, contemporary or historical.

Curatorial Art Writing Major Text over 5,000 words **Linda Jansma**

"Jock Macdonald, Dr. Grace W. Pailthorpe and Reuben Mednikoff: A Lesson in Automatics"

Jock Macdonald: Evolving Form

The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Vancouver Art Gallery and Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, 2014

Jury Comments: It was a strong text discussing unexpected connections between Canadian painter Jock McDonald and European surrealism. Original research that was surprising and significant. It presented new information in an engaging manner.

Curatorial Art Writing Text 2,000-5,000 words **Stuart Reid**

"Our House, Our Garden: Shifting Territories in the Work of Mary Anne

Barkhouse"

Mary Anne Barkhouse: Settlement/Regency Rodman Hall Art Centre/Brock University, 2014

Jury Comments: The text was engaging and accessible in creating a history leading to the work. A valid and valuable project with interesting subject matter.

Curatorial Art Writing Short Text under 2,000 words Jon Davies

"Tongue and Groove"

Roula Partheniou: House & Home & Garden

Oakville Galleries, 2015

Jury Comments: The text was well written and relatable and the jury appreciated the curatorial voice, the personal stories and the title. Engaging and creative writing style. Poetic and clear, but also revealing the author's and artist's depth of analysis.

Art Writing Award

Recognizing other original commissioned art writing published in relation to exhibitions, activities or programs. Nominations can include art texts by educators, artists or critical writers that may not fall naturally within the Curatorial Writing Awards. The writer does not have to be a curator or Canadian.

Christian Campbell

"J.M.B.'s Dehistories"

Jean-Michel Basquiat: Now's the Time
Art Gallery of Ontario, 2015

Jury Comments: Amazing! Unlike any other text on an important artist. Campbell's writing clearly matched Basquiat's practice.

Public Program Award

Recognizing remarkable and innovative curatorial programs for a public audience. This Award specifically acknowledges the development of the public program as it embraces a curatorial model, that is, a model based on curatorial research and development producing new artistic opportunities for critical exchange between gallery, artist and community. The nominated event, performance, screening, lecture, or other form of public engagement does not need to be directly associated with an exhibition, but illustrates excellence in audience development and artistic achievement.

Labour Intensive

Heather Cassils *Artist* Suzanne Carte *Curator*

Jordan Kawai, Alejandro J. Santiago, Jose Angeles, Gerardo Chavez, Claudia Cimini, Meghan DuCille, Luabeya Gaelle, Rayah Gugliotta, Scott Harber, Rebecca Houston, Awani Kulkarni, Kay Ljubcic, Ming Mao, Becca McGlashan, Ella Morton, Tess Eneli Reid, Anna Sarachami, Andrew Testa, Pheobe Todd-Parish, Karly Whalen, Amy Wong, Betty Zhang, Barbara Balfour, Kayleigh Allen, Victoria Bacnis, Danny Cirne, Rochelle Derlick, Susan Hadjor, Nicole Hornyak, Kelly-Ann Hutchinson, Ivona Jozinovic, Shirley Liang, Karen Luk, Brandon Kennedy, Scott Osborne, Miranda Parson, Stephanie Rees, Heather Robertson, Sha-Bano Sheikh, Rena Silver, Joanna Weselak, Meiji Wong, Sia Sarvi, Melody Felix, Emma Thompson, Latoy Trenchfield, Wonjun Lee, Melissa Hamonic, Thipika Alaguthurai, Shannon Saint, Ray Abergas, William Brerton, Wendy Lai, Ken Ogawa, Zach Blas, Michèle Pearson Clarke, William Ellis, Lee Iskander, Elliott Lee-Mook, Carmen Schroeder, Jordan Tannahill, and Miles Weafer *Contributors, Performers and Partners* Art Gallery of York University (AGYU), 2014

Jury Comments: Engagement of local community in a creative manner. Brought in interesting collaborators. Did not feel didactic. Site – specifically looking at the needs of the students. Good documentation that made it an understandable project.

Education Award

Recognizing remarkable and innovative art educational programs. Galleries carefully design and deliver unique educational programs, opportunities and experiences for broadly diverse audiences that are intended to stimulate and broaden interest, enjoyment and understanding of art.

Gallery Program: School

For The Love of Land! Native studies Arts Infused in-Gallery workshops Surrounded by pieces from our Permanent Collection students reached a depth of understanding in line with a powerful topic, developed enthusiasm for social justice and enjoyed diverse and engaging activities. They exercised very high-order thinking skills *through* art, drama, literacy and history.

Saira Knowles & Chrissie Wysotski Formal Education Program Developers & Educators
Flow and Glow Related Exhibition
2014-15
Station Gallery Permanent Collection

Jury Comments: Impressive and focused curriculum. Excellent crossover of subjects. Achieved something significant with very small resources. Ambitious. Specific target that incorporated art and history well. Impressive number of students reached. Resulting material can be used again.

Art Publication Awards

Recognizing extraordinary visual art book, video, film or website projects.

Art Publication Award

Kelly Mark: Everything is Interesting

Barbara Fischer Curator, Editor

Rebecca Gimmi Program Coordinator

Christopher Régimbal Exhibition Coordinator

Sky Goodden, Rosemary Heather, Gina Badger Coordination / Copyediting

Stella Kyriakakis *Proofreader*

Essays by Jonathan Watkins, Christina Ritchie, and Dan Adler

Introduction by Barbara Fischer

Contributions by multiple authors

The Office of Gilbert Li Designers

Kelly Mark Artist

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery / University of Toronto Art Centre with the Art Gallery of Windsor, Cambridge Galleries, Kenderdine Art Gallery and College Art Galleries, and MSVU Art Gallery *Publishers* 2014

Jury Comments: Beautifully executed layout and strong essays. The contents are comprehensive, but specific and varied. The publication contextualizes her practice well for readers.

Art Publication Award Introducing Suzy Lake

Jim Shedden Managing Editor

Georgiana Uhlyarik, Sophie Hackett Curators

Georgiana Uhlyarik, Sophie Hackett, Michelle Jacques et al. Writers

Georgiana Uhlyarik Editors

Suzy Lake Artist

Art Gallery of Ontario and Black Dog Publishing, 2014

Jury Comments: Beautifully executed layout with a variety of writers and important texts; good scholarship.

Art Publication Award
HONOURABLE MENTION

Graeme Patterson: Secret Citadel

Melissa Bennett (AGH) and Sarah Fillmore (AGNS), Project Coordinators, Curators, and Editors

Graeme Patterson Designer and Artist

Amy Batchelor (AGNS) Designer

Melissa Bennett, Ray Cronin, Louise Déry, Sarah Fillmore, Michael Landry Writers

Art Gallery of Hamilton and Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, 2014

Jury Comments: An impressive and surprising publication that was well designed; visually stunning.

Design Awards

Recognizing the highest standards of excellence and achievement in graphic design and material execution for printed or published materials. The OAAG Design Awards were the first Awards to be instituted by OAAG and are an integral component of the OAAG Awards.

Design Award *Art Book* **Lauren Wickware**

Memory Unearthed: The Lodz Ghetto Photographs of Henryk Ross Art Gallery of Ontario, 2015

Jury Comments: Inspired use of the damaged photographs. Evocative black and white layout. Really captures the spirit of the exhibition and the weight and importance of the photographs. A nice flow to the images, which creates a momentum to the material. Excellent use of solid black and white backgrounds. Inclusion of the contact sheets reminds us of the physicality of the photos, and the retrieval of the buried negatives, Typography is secondary to the exceptional images.

Design Award Exhibition Catalogue **Studio Blackwell** Introducing Suzy Lake Art Gallery of Ontario, 2014

Jury Comments: Gutsy design decisions. Exciting to look at. Captures the movement and repetition of video work and performance. The thematic elements of the artists work are well translated to the form of the book. Comprehensive and well managed content. Use of micro to macro scale keeps us engaged. Excellent printing and production values. True to the spirit of the work.

Design Award Exhibition Catalogue **The Office of Gilbert Li** *Jean-Michel Basquiat: Now's the Time*Art Gallery of Ontario, 2015

Jury Comments: Beautiful balance of white space and artwork. Perfectly chosen font for text in artwork, works well. Uncoated paper brings out imagery beautifully. Excellent production value. Typography compliments images. Design is complementary to artwork rather than overpowering.

Design Award Other Exhibition or Gallery Publication **Matthew Hoffman**

Furnishing Positions Broadsheet Series Adrian Blackwell & Christine Shaw, Editors Blackwood Gallery, 2014

Jury Comments: References newspaper in a modern and sophisticated way. Clean imagery for poster, generally untouched by text – strong and does not take away from image. Handles a large amount of text very well through 6 columns grid and 3 types, which adds to seriality. Strong branding: recognizable as a strong set, each still good on their own. Combination image/essay as great takeaway from a gallery.

Design Award Other Exhibition or Gallery Publication **Underline Studios**Urban Field Speakers Series
2015 series poster
Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art

Jury Comments: Striking and simple use of two colours on one side. So much is done with so little. Poster as well as detailed speaker series information. The typographic hierarchy is well established and combines to create a beautiful piece. Sensitive handling of type and logos. An excellent poster with a subtle but striking concept.

Design Award *Digital Project* **Bluesponge Studios**Website Redesign
Oakville Galleries, 2014

Jury Comments: Attractive layouts. Excellent navigation structure. Really clear and easy to find many kinds of information. Accomplishes a lot of purposes in a coherent way. Sensitivity to detail in a graphic presentation. Nice use of tabs and pull down menus. Does not overwhelm the user

Partnership Award

These external nominees will have provided remarkable sustained financial support through an annual donation or key sponsorship of an exhibition or innovative program, donation of key materials to your library or collection, or an extraordinary contribution significantly enhancing your organization's capacity to reach into the community or deliver new programs to new audiences.

AIMIA

AIMIA | AGO Photography Prize & Signature Partner: Photography Collection Program
Art Gallery of Ontario, 2014

Jury Comments: AIMIA has partnered with the AGO as its Photography Prize and a Signature Partner since 2007, supporting both the international prize program and other initiatives the Gallery offers related to photography. Through this partnership, Aimia has connected tens of thousands of people to contemporary photography, locally and beyond. Aimia's commitment to the AGO goes well beyond financial support, providing other resources and staff to support what has become a visionary approach to partnering with a public gallery.

Colleague Award

Recognizing extraordinary achievement by professional colleagues working in and with their gallery whose roles to date have not been fully cited by the OAAG Awards. This award is open to all those who are not directors, curators, public programmers or educators. Gallery Directors are encouraged to nominate their colleague professionals working in the areas of administration, fundraising, marketing, communications, security, and physical plant for extraordinary achievement.

Nicole McCabe

Curatorial Coordinator 23 Years of Service Art Gallery of Windsor

Jury Comments: Nicole McCabe has demonstrated incredible dedication to the Art Gallery of Windsor over her 23-year tenure. She has been a positive force during significant change for the Gallery, maintaining a passion for her work that has guided and inspired colleagues through challenging times. In particular, Nicole's mentorship of young arts administrators has contributed to ensuring that new talent is available to sustain the profession.

Volunteer Award

Recognizing a volunteer who has significantly enhanced the gallery's core activities, demonstrating an extraordinary sustained voluntary contribution that has made a concrete difference for the nominating gallery.

Matthew Rees

Complete IT Upgrade President of the Board 2013-2015 Gallery Stratford

Jury Comments: Matthew Rees's impact on Gallery Stratford has been transformational. In his role as a Trustee, he stepped up over a two year period, working almost daily, on a complete upgrade of the Gallery's technology, operating systems, point of sale and collection management software, telephone system, and servers. The impact of Matthew's contribution is an integrated, fluid and connected technology and information management system that has improved all areas of the Gallery's operations.

2015 OAAG Awards Nominated Galleries

Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Kingston

Art Gallery of Burlington

Art Gallery of Guelph

Art Gallery of Hamilton

Art Gallery of Mississauga

Art Gallery of Ontario

Art Gallery of Peterborough

Art Gallery of Windsor

Art Gallery of York University, Toronto

Blackwood Gallery, Mississauga

Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa

Gallery 44 Centre for Contemporary Photography, Toronto

Gallery Stratford

Gardiner Museum, Toronto

Grimsby Public Art Gallery

Idea Exchange Art + Design (formerly Cambridge Galleries)

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery/University of Toronto Art Centre, Toronto

Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery

MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie

Museum London

Oakville Galleries

Ottawa Art Gallery / Galerie d'art d'Ottawa

The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, Toronto

Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art, Toronto

The Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa

Rodman Hall Art Centre / Brock University, St. Catharines

Station Gallery, Whitby

Textile Museum of Canada, Toronto

Visual Arts Centre of Clarington

Ydessa Hendeles Art Foundation, Toronto

Jurors:

Cindy Ball, Gareth Bate, Ana Barajas, Laurie Carmount, Peggy Gale, Ninette Gyorody, E.A. (Zab) Hobart, Sara Nickleson, Leila Pourtavaf

2015 OAAG Awards Sponsors

Gold: Total Transportation Solutions Inc., Art Toronto, Flash Reproductions, Donderdag **Silver:** PACART, Canadian Art, CARFAC Ontario, Elgin Picture & Frame Inc., The Globe and Mail

Bronze: AXA Art Insurance Corporation, Counterpunch Inc., OCAD University, Ontario

Cultural Attractions Fund, Stephen Bulger Gallery, University of Guelph

Friend: Medcan Clinic

In Kind: Above Ground Art Supplies, Canadian Opera Company, Downward Dog Yoga Centre, Gladstone Hotel, Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament, The National Ballet of Canada, Shaw Festival Theatre, SLATE Art Guide. Steam Whistle Brewing, Toronto Flower Company Inc., Toronto Symphony Orchestra

Design: Donderdag

Photo Donna Lypchuk 2014