

MEDIA RELEASE

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2020 CAT AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED!



Saturday, August 22, 2020, marked the **17th Annual CAT Awards**, a celebration of Calgary's Community Theatre virtually over YouTube.

The annual CAT Awards is an event that celebrates the quality of work that Calgarians can expect to see from Community Theatre in Calgary and surrounding areas. The CAT Awards are produced by Calgary-ACTS (Calgary's Alliance of Community Theatres Society) which focuses on promoting community theatre in Calgary, by informing its members and the public of events related to the arts, and providing a communication and support network for its members. Recipients of the CAT Awards are determined by a combined process of public nomination and adjudication. We encourage everyone to attend community theatre productions, and then nominate their favourites at the end of the 2020-2021 season. Please visit www.calgary-acts.com to nominate anyone (starting September 1st), or if you have any questions about the CAT Awards or Calgary-ACTS.

This season, there were a total of 19 productions from 14 different community theatre member companies, and 8 companies received nominations from 14 productions. Overall, there were 109 nominees spread out over 22 award categories.

We are proud to name Jeremy MacKenzie as the recipient of the Sandy Singer Award for Outstanding Contribution to Community Theatre this year. Born in the UK, Jeremy first appeared on the public stage in "The Mikado" at 11 years old. After several more G& S productions, theatre took a back seat while he furthered his Engineering career, married and raised a family. He emigrated to Canada in 1982, auditioned, successfully, for the Calgary Gilbert and Sullivan Society and subsequently co-founded the Cappuccino Singers. Following many Cappuccino musical productions, he made his comedy debut with Workshop Theatre in 1994. This led to appearances with several other companies and the formation of Gas & Light Productions, where he acted in and directed period and comedy productions for 20 happy years until, on its demise, rejoining Workshop Theatre.

Every year, theatre companies are given the opportunity to honour any of their exceptional volunteers. These volunteers are people who have gone above and beyond the normal to ensure that the show, project, or event they are working on is a success.

Recipients of the 2020 Volunteer Awards:

Joanna Iles – Scorpio Theatre
Jennifer Merio – Scorpio Theatre
Neil West – Front Row Centre Players
Reg Brehaut – Morpheus Theatre
Pierce Anderson – Morpheus Theatre
Dan Gibbins – Calgary-ACTS
Sean Anderson – Calgary-ACTS

Congratulations to all of the recipients and nominees for a wonderful, if shortened, 2019-2020 season!

- **Your 2020 CAT Awards Committee**

Calgary ACTS – CAT Awards 2020 Recipients:

Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actor in a Play

- Michael Brown as Dave Moss - *Glengarry Glen Ross* - Simply Theatre

Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actress in a Play

- Sandy Lucas as Eleanor Marsden - *The Burning Pestle* - Scorpio Theatre

Outstanding Soundscape (Play)

- Harold Squire - *The Woman in Black* - Imagine Performing Arts

Outstanding Engineering/SFX (Musical)

- Ross Wilson - *The Addams Family* - Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actress in a Musical

- Christie Menzo as Alice - *The Addams Family* - Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actor in a Musical

- Steven Morton as Clopin - *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* - Cappuccino Musical Theatre

Outstanding Performance by a Chorus/Ensemble in a Play

- *Glengarry Glen Ross* - Simply Theatre

Outstanding Performance by a Chorus/Ensemble in a Musical

- *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* - Cappuccino Musical Theatre

Outstanding Choreography

- Stephen Welch - *The Addams Family* - Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Fight Direction

- Ian Pond - *The Burning Pestle* - Scorpio Theatre

Outstanding Stagecraft

- Mitch Tukkimaki, Meghan Skeet (Props) - *The Addams Family* - Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Costume, Hair and Makeup Design

- Karen Walker, Jesse Beilman (Hair), Inderjit Dhanjal (Makeup) - *The Addams Family* - Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Lighting Design

- Darryl Lindenback - *The Woman in Black* - Imagine Performing Arts

Outstanding Musical Direction

- Winnifred Hume - *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* - Cappuccino Musical Theatre

Outstanding Performance by a Leading Actor in a Play

- Greg Spielman as Kipps - *The Woman in Black* - Imagine Performing Arts

Outstanding Performance by a Leading Actress in a Play

- Emma Gallaher as Barbra - *Night of the Living Dead Live* - Scorpio Theatre

Outstanding Direction of a Play

- James Noonan - *Glengarry Glen Ross* - Simply Theatre

Outstanding Direction of a Musical

- Tory Doctor - *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* - Cappuccino Musical Theatre

Outstanding Performance by a Leading Actor in a Musical

- Nicholas Chamberlain as Quasimodo - *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* - Cappuccino Musical Theatre

Outstanding Performance by a Leading Actress in a Musical

- Kayla MacKenzie as Esmerelda - *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* - Cappuccino Musical Theatre

Outstanding Production of a Play

- *Glengarry Glen Ross* – Simply Theatre

Outstanding Production of a Musical

- *The Addams Family* – Front Row Centre Players

As always, we appreciate the number of professional theatre participants contributed to a variety of productions this year. The CAT Awards Committee thank them for their participation and appreciate that their efforts help raise the bar for community theatre in Calgary and area, year over year.

For a full list of the nominees, please visit www.calgary-acts.com
