

MEDIA RELEASE

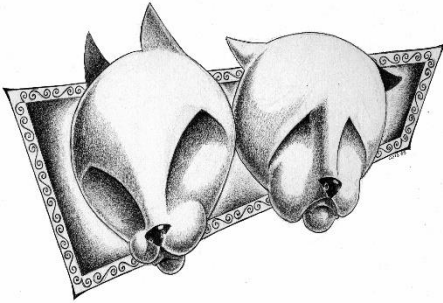
For Immediate Release
August 31, 2025



2025 CAT AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED!

Calgary, AB: Saturday, August 30, 2024, marked the 21st annual CAT Awards, a celebration of Calgary's Community Theatre at the Pumphouse Theatre, hosted by Sherry West.

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)** which focuses on promoting community theatre in Calgary and area, 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 throughout the upcoming 2025-2026 season. Please visit www.calgary-acts.com to nominate anyone, or if you have any questions about the CAT Awards or Calgary-ACTS.



This year, the CAT Awards are recognizing 42 productions from 20 different community theatre member companies, and 23 of these productions from 13 companies received nominations. Overall, there were 118 nominations spread out over 20 award categories. The Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role and Supporting Role categories were also modified to represent two recipients in each category (these results are recognized alphabetically).

Calgary-ACTS is proud to name **Colleen Bishop** as the recipient of the **Sandy Singer Award** for Outstanding Contribution to Community Theatre this year. Colleen is recognized for her years of service as a producer, director, actor, supporter, and most recently intimacy coordinator with many local theatre companies, and various roles with Calgary-ACTS.

Every year, theatre companies are given the opportunity to honour 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 2025 Volunteer Awards:

Dewdney Players – Marion Bowen, Reg Gothard
Front Row Centre Players – Haley Dorais, Jennifer Lanciault
Morpheus Theatre – Derek Wilkinson
Nose Creek Players – Amanda Frost
Take a Bow Community Theatre Society – Connie Kearns
Theatre Alberta – Karen Johnson Diamond, Ashley King
Workshop Theatre – Sharon Olsen, Chirstine Probert
Calgary-ACTS – Harmony: The Musical

Congratulations to all recipients and nominees for a wonderful 2024-25 season! See you next year!

2025 CAT Awards Committee
Email: awards@calgary-acts.com

2025 CAT Award Recipients

Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role in a Musical

Leo Blatz as Jacob in La Cage Aux Folles by Front Row Centre Players
and

Sarah Nearing as Pretty Jean in The McAdo by Morpheus Theatre

Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role in a Play

Ali Grams as Mackynzi in Porcelain Dolls by Full Circle Theatre
and

Sarah Nearing as Mercutio in Riverona: Episodes 3&4 by Full Circle Theatre

Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role in a Musical

Jared Atkin as Nanky Doug in The McAdo by Morpheus Theatre
and

Kal MacDonald as Albin in La Cage Aux Folles by Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role in a Play

Megan Baldrey as Beatrice in Much Ado About Nothing by Full Circle Theatre
and

Ray Dhaliwal as Lieutenant Columbo in Prescription: Murder by Workshop Theatre

Outstanding Performance by a Chorus/Ensemble in a Musical

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street by Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance by a Chorus/Ensemble in a Play

Steel Magnolias by Morpheus Theatre

Outstanding Stagecraft

Angela Woodard, Harlan Sterner & Margaret Harper – Steel Magnolias by Morpheus Theatre

Outstanding Costume Design

Fred Amdur, Haley Dorais & Becky Salmond – La Cage Aux Folles by Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Fight Direction

Ian Pond – Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street by Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Original Script or Adaptation &/or Composition

Megan Baldrey, Claire Bolton, Gillian Klassen & Erin Weir – Porcelain Dolls by Full Circle Theatre

Outstanding Lighting Design in a Musical

Thomas Hall & Pearl Nkomo – La Cage Aux Folles by Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Lighting Design in a Play

Richard Goth – And Then There Were None by Workshop Theatre

Outstanding Engineering/SFX in a Musical

Kyle Gould – Guys and Dolls by MisFit Theatre YYC and Morpheus Theatre

Outstanding Soundscape in a Play

Harold Squire – The Horse and His Boy by Imagine Theatre YYC

Outstanding Musical Direction

Chelsea Wellman & Mike Jarzecki – La Cage Aux Folles by Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Choreography

Katie Bernardo – La Cage Aux Folles by Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Direction of a Play

Angela Woodard – Steel Magnolias by Morpheus Theatre

Outstanding Direction of a Musical

Fred Amdur – La Cage Aux Folles by Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Production of a Musical

La Cage Aux Folles by Front Row Centre Players

Producers: Robert Seymour & Samantha Bellamy

Director: Fred Amdur

Musical Directors: Chelsea Wellman & Mike Jarzecki

Choreographer: Katie Bernardo

Stage Manager: Liv Dunow

Outstanding Production of a Play

Steel Magnolias by Morpheus Theatre

Producer: Colleen Bishop

Director: Angela Woodard

Stage Manager: Brady Hillman

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

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