

MEDIA RELEASE

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2018 CAT AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED!

Saturday, August 25, 2016, marked the 15th Annual CAT Awards, a celebration of Calgary's Community Theatre at the University of Calgary's Rozsa Centre.

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 2018-2019 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 35 productions from 19 different community theatre member companies, and 21 of these productions from 11 companies received nominations. Overall, there were 116 nominees spread out over 23 award categories.



We are proud to name **Carl Bishop** as the recipient of the **Sandy Singer Award** for Outstanding Contribution to Community Theatre this year. Over the past 26 years, Carl has participated in 54 different productions in Calgary Community Theatre for companies as diverse as Cappuccino Musical Theatre, Front Row Centre Players, Morpheus Theatre, Scorpio Theatre, Storybook Theatre, Bonavista Players, Broad Minds, In the Wings, and It's About Time in nearly every possible area including as an actor, writer, director, stage manager, and producer. He has also been a member of the board for a number of community theatre companies, including serving several years as co-artistic director with Front Row Centre Players, and is currently the President of Scorpio 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 2018 Volunteer Awards:

Pat Baceda – Calgary-ACTS

Charlene Brydges – Front Row Centre Players

Carolyn Byers – Calgary-ACTS

Charlie Lenz – Scorpio Theatre
Margaret Harper – Morpheus Theatre
Harlan Sterner – Front Row Centre Players
The Platt Family – Dewdney Players
The Payton Family – Dewdney Players

Congratulations to all recipients and nominees for a wonderful 2017-2018 season! See you next year!

2018 CAT Awards Committee

2018 CAT Award Nominees List – Notes

Musical productions:

Priscilla Queen of the Desert led the way with 13 total nominations followed closely by *HMS Pinafore* with 12 and *The Pajama Game* with 10 each.

Plays:

The Old Sad Songs led the way with 10 total nominations followed closely by *1984*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, and *A Little Murder Never Hurt Anybody*, all with 7 each.

Overall:

There were a total of 35 productions from 19 different community theatre member companies this 2017-2018 season, and 21 of these productions from 11 companies received nominations. Overall, there were 116 nominees spread out over 23 award categories.

Total nominations by company:

- Front Row Centre Players – 35
- Morpheus Theatre – 32
- Scorpio Theatre – 19
- Simply Theatre – 10
- Dewdney Players Theatre Group – 7
- Cappuccino Musical Theatre – 4
- The St. Peter's Players – 4
- Torchlight Theatre – 2
- Liffey Players Drama Society – 1
- Nose Creek Players – 1
- Workshop Theatre – 1

2018 CAT Award Recipients (Listed alphabetically)

Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actor in a Play

- Michael Armstrong as Barnett Lloyd in *Crimes of the Heart* – Simply Theatre

Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actress in a Play

- Sandy Lucas as Ethel in *Moon Over Buffalo* – Morpheus Theatre

Outstanding Soundscape (Play)

- Patrick Murray – *1984* – Scorpio Theatre

Outstanding Engineering/SFX (Musical)

- Steven Eastgaard-Ross – *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actress in a Musical

- Ginette Simonot as Gladys Hotchkiss in *The Pajama Game* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actor in a Musical

- Janos Zeller as Vernon Hines in *The Pajama Game* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance by a Chorus/Ensemble in a Play

- *1984* – Scorpio Theatre
 - Carl Bishop
 - Tanis Laatsch
 - Ted Lach
 - Dorin McIntosh
 - Gino Savoia
 - Darcy Wilson

Outstanding Performance by a Chorus/Ensemble in a Musical

- *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Lighting Design

- Jody Low – *Dogfight* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Choreography

- Stephen Welch & Christine Mooney – *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Fight Direction

- Ian Pond & Anastasia St. Amand – *1984* – Scorpio Theatre

Outstanding Stagecraft

- Aaron Conrad, Matt Pickering, James Ravenhill, & Ian Pond – *1984* – Scorpio Theatre

Outstanding Costume Design

- Magz Ross (costumes), Kristina Burt (makeup), Lindsay Kurtze (hair) – *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Original Script of Adaptation &/or Composition

- Steve Ford (Composition) – *The Old Sad Songs* – Scorpio Theatre

Outstanding Musical Direction

- Andrea Timmons – *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance by a Leading Actor in a Play

- Darcy Wilson as Winston in *1984* – Scorpio Theatre

Outstanding Performance by a Leading Actress in a Play

- Jen LeClaire as Bebe Botrelle in *Crimes of the Heart* – Simply Theatre

Outstanding Direction of a Play

- Matt Pickering – *1984* – Scorpio Theatre

Outstanding Direction of a Musical

- Mike Sornberger – *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance by a Leading Actress in a Musical

- Tanis Laatsch as Catherine 'Babe' Williams in *The Pajama Game* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Performance by a Leading Actor in a Musical

- Jeffrey Follis as Adam "Felicia" Whitely in *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* – Front Row Centre Players

Outstanding Production of a Play

- *1984* – Scorpio Theatre
 - Producer: Daisy Pond
 - Director: Matt Pickering
 - Stage Manager: Claire Bolton

Outstanding Production of a Musical

- *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* – Front Row Centre Players
 - Producers: Jenn Lanciault & Jamie Eastgaard-Ross
 - Director: Mike Sornberger
 - Musical Director: Andrea Timmons
 - Choreographers: Stephen Welch & Christine Mooney
 - Stage Manager: Samantha Bellamy-Smith

As always we appreciate the number of professional theatre participants contributed to a variety of productions this year. The CAT Award Committee thank them for their participation and appreciate that 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.
