



Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia Masterworks Arts Award

Award Guidelines

Eligibility Criteria and Regulations

I. Nominated Work:

- **It is the work and/or its presentation that is being evaluated.** The Masterwork may have one or more creators, performers, disseminators.
- The **nominated work must have a strong connection to Nova Scotia**, perhaps through subject matter, and/or creator(s), and/or interpreter(s), and/or producer/disseminator(s).
- The Masterwork must have public and professional peer recognition of achievement in, but not limited to Nova Scotia. National and or/international recognition is an asset.
- The Masterwork must have been professionally, publicly presented.
- The first public presentation must have been no more than five years prior to the closing date for nominations for this 2021 competition. (Deadline for receipt of nominations is March 1, 2021). In the case of a series (for example, a song cycle, a thematically related set of poems, or a series of photographs), the entire series must have been publicly presented within the past five years. Note: for a series to be considered a single Masterwork its component parts must be significantly related.
- The Masterwork may come from any of the identified categories, or from an “other” category **with approval of the eligibility committee.**
 - **WRITING AND PUBLISHING** includes (but is not restricted to) poetry, written journalism, fiction, non-fiction, drama, editing and publishing.
 - **VISUAL ARTS** includes (but is not restricted to) crafts, painting, sculpture, drawing, printmaking and photography.
 - **PERFORMING ARTS** includes (but is not restricted to) performance, technical, production or direction achievement in one or more of theatre, dance, music, storytelling, comedy and children’s performance.
 - **MEDIA AND RECORDING ARTS** includes (but is not restricted to) performance, technical, production or direction in one or more of radio, television, film, video and audio.
 - **DESIGN ARTS** includes (but is not restricted to) architectural, urban, landscape, product, graphic, interior, new media and fashion/apparel design.

Notes on Eligibility & Identification:

- In the case of submissions of the **performing arts**, Nominators should identify whether it is the initial creation – the composition (the score), the dramatic text, or actual choreography, for example – that is being nominated as the Masterwork, or a specific production or performance of that work, or an actual recording (CD, DVD), or some specific combination of the above.
- No work can be nominated in more than two competitions.
- In the case of re-nominations of works that have previously been finalists, Nominators should provide good reasons for the re-nomination (e.g. the work has developed, or public reception of the work has changed, or it has received more national or international exposure, etc.).
- No work that has previously won the award may be nominated a second time.

II. Nominator:

a) External Nomination:

Anyone may nominate a work for the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia Masterworks Arts Award. However, the **ideal External Nominator** is someone who:

1. Is an individual, or representative of an organization, with recognized expertise in the field(s) of the nominated work, and/or who can argue cogently and credibly for the merit of the work and;
2. Is not a close relative or partner/spouse, collaborator, disseminator, or interpreter of the creator(s) of the nominated work;
3. Is not associated with the nominated work and/or the creator/producing organization of the nominated work at any point in its inception, creation, or production, or on an ongoing basis.

➤ **If you feel you are in conflict with any of the above, please review b) Internal Nomination**

- Nominators may be individuals or representatives of organizations.
- Nominators may submit only one nomination of one work per year.
- Nominators must agree that they shall not receive or accept any part of the monetary Award.
- Nominators must provide a *brief resume (250 words)* to inform jurors about their background and assist the jurors in assessing the credibility of the nomination.

b) Internal Nomination:

Creators, collaborators, producers, disseminators and interpreters may nominate their own work, provided their nomination is supplemented by **three letters of support**. Anyone may support the nomination of a work for the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia Masterworks Arts Award. However, the **ideal Supporter** is someone who:

1. Is an individual, or representative of an organization, with recognized expertise in the field(s) of the nominated work, and/or who can argue cogently and credibly for the merit of the work and;
2. Is not a close relative or partner/spouse, collaborator, disseminator, or interpreter of the creator(s) of the nominated work.

- Supporters may be individuals or representatives of organizations.
- Supporters may support more than one nomination per year.
- Supporters must agree that they shall not receive or accept any part of the monetary Award.
- Supporters must provide a *brief resume (250 words)* to inform jurors about their background and assist the jurors in assessing the credibility of the nomination.

*If you meet the criteria for an Internal Nomination, please ensure that you use the **Internal Nomination Form**.*

Nominator Ineligibilities:

- Nominators (Internal or External) may not act as Supporters for other nominations.
- Members of the Board of Directors of the Nova Scotia Masterworks Awards Foundation, and members of the jury may not nominate. They, members of their immediate families, and organizations with which they are significantly professionally involved, may not benefit from the Award during their time of service.

Support Materials

- The quality of the support documentation is vitally important to the success of the nomination. They should exemplify and build upon the merits of the work as detailed within Appendix I of the Nomination Form. Examples of strong support materials include press and/or media coverage, letters of support from the artistic community, list of other awards won by the work, etc.
- Due to the volume of nominations received, Support Materials are **limited to five (5) items** (this **excludes** those materials provided as Representation of the Work – see Appendix I for details). Nominators are encouraged to submit materials that make the strongest case for the nominated work as a Masterwork.
- Should a nomination be received **in advance of the deadline** that has insufficient support materials or any other incomplete aspects, in the discretion of the Nomination Committee, the Nominator may be notified and given a reasonable amount of time (as determined by the Nomination Committee) to rectify the nomination. In the case of nominations which are submitted and are otherwise substantially compliant with the requirements for nominations in advance of the deadline, but contain missing or incomplete information, the Nomination Committee retains the sole discretion to decide to accept materials which would complete incomplete nominations **after** the deadline.
- The Jury Selection Committee reserves the right to disqualify a nomination due to insufficient support materials and/or incompleteness.

Press Materials

- Nominators will provide the Masterworks Foundation with the following press materials, to be used in the event that their nominated work is selected as a Finalist:
 - **One** high-resolution image of the nominated work, to be used as the designated representation of the work in all Masterwork communications should it be selected as a Masterworks Finalist;
 - **A written description** (approximately 150 words) of the nominated work, which may be used to represent the work in all Masterworks communications should it be selected as a Masterworks Finalist.
 - **One** high-resolution headshot of each Creator of the nominated work, to be used to represent the Creator(s) in all Masterwork communications should their work be selected as a Masterworks Finalist;
 - **A short biography** (approximately 150 words) for each Creator of the nominated work, to be used to represent the Creator(s) in all Masterwork communications should their work be selected as a Masterworks Finalist
- Failure to provide these materials will result in the nomination being marked as **incomplete**.

Helpful Information for Nominators

The full responsibility for *'making the case'* rests with the Nominator. The Nominators need to provide expertise and an informed opinion to the jury as to why the nominated work is worthy of the title of "Masterwork".

Finalists and the Masterwork will be selected by a peer jury. Each member will have some degree of cross-disciplinary expertise as well as a close association with one or more of the eligible categories/disciplines. Should it be required in special situations, additional information may be provided to the jury through additional peer counsel sought by the Masterworks Foundation on behalf of the jury members. *However, as Nominator, your nomination is best served if you assume full responsibility for educating the jury as to the merits of the work you nominate.*

It is crucial that you make your case with the following in mind.

- ORIGINALITY
 - Does this piece display a new concept, or approach?
 - What is fresh or unique about this work and/or its presentation?
 - Does this work push a boundary and/or demonstrate a new form of articulation in either its creation or presentation?

- PROFESSIONAL MATURITY & ARTISTIC MERIT
 - Has this work been created and/or presented according to the highest level of excellence in its art form?
 - Is there a notable degree of sophistication in its creation and/or presentation?
 - Has the work contributed to the historical development of the art form?
 - Has it advanced the practice of the art form in some way?

- IMPACT AND RECOGNITION, LOCALLY, NATIONALLY AND/OR INTERNATIONALLY
 - What impact did the public presentation make? How widely was it received? What type of media coverage and/or peer review and/or audience support has it garnered? Has the work received other accolades/awards? Or perhaps the work has been the subject of vigorous debate and it has garnered notoriety as well as praise?
 - Provide examples of the best media coverage. Any comprehensive list of media coverage should indicate source and date. If referencing the comments of individuals, be sure to explain who they are and why their opinion should be highly valued.

- CONTRIBUTION TO NOVA SCOTIA CULTURE, OR NOVA SCOTIAN ARTISTS, AND/OR THE PEOPLE OF NOVA SCOTIA
 - What impact, if any, does this work have in Nova Scotia, or a part of Nova Scotia? Does it place a spotlight on some aspect of Nova Scotian culture or on one or more of its citizens? How will it impact the way others see or perceive Nova Scotia and its culture?