




INFORMATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	April 17, 2020
SUBJECT:	Arts Awards (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Carrie Brooks-Joiner Director, Tourism and Culture Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

The City of Hamilton Arts Awards is one of the oldest programs of its kind in Canada and has been at the forefront of recognizing creative talent since 1976. Each year, citizens nominate artists for consideration by independent juries who choose 20 notable artists to honour for their excellence in 11 disciplines.

In light of the COVID-19 crisis, adjudication for the Arts Awards is currently underway using online tools. Given the City of Hamilton's decision to suspend all in-person City-run programming until at least May 25, 2020, an alternative format for the 2020 Arts Awards ceremony that was scheduled to take place on June 11, 2020 has been developed. To ensure the safety of all Arts Awards program participants and staff, the event will shift from an in-person award ceremony to a series of web-based performances and award presentations.

The Arts Awards event structure will be adapted to better suit an online viewing audience. Rather than presenting the awards as a three-hour long event, the award presentations will be delivered through a series of 15 to 20 minute videos that will be released in conjunction with Hamilton Arts Week (June 11 to 20). A communications strategy has been developed to inform program stakeholders of the change and identify City of Hamilton social media and web resources needed to support the online broadcast.

Program staff will be reaching out to all members of Council in May with the opportunity to record a video message which will be included in the broadcast.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None