



ORCHESTRAS
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CANADA

BETTY WEBSTER AWARD

Updated Guidelines for 2021

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THE BETTY WEBSTER AWARD

Orchestras Canada celebrates outstanding contributions to Canadian orchestras by awarding the prestigious **Betty Webster Award** each year.

Supporting and sustaining an orchestra in Canada in the 21st century is a collective, collaborative effort, involving both high-profile artistic leaders *and* a significant number of people working tirelessly on stage and behind the scenes to create the conditions in which Canadian orchestras can flourish.

Starting in 2021, OC will honour the life and legacy of Betty Webster by refining the Award to specifically honour an *individual* who has made an *under-recognized but sustained and significant contribution* to the Canadian orchestral community through their work (paid or volunteer) with one or more Canadian orchestras. Additionally, in 2021, the jury will focus on the *calibre and impact of the nominees' contributions to the **resilience** of one or more Canadian orchestras.*

The Betty Webster Award was established in 2002 to honour Betty Webster (1925-2018), Orchestras Canada's founding Executive Director. The Award is a tribute to her visionary leadership and extraordinary contributions to the health and vitality of Canada's orchestral community. Betty served as joint Executive Director of the Association of Canadian Orchestras and the Ontario Federation of Symphony Orchestras from 1975 until their merger in 1997; she served as founding Executive Director of Orchestras Canada/Orchestres Canada until her retirement in 2001. Betty envisioned a national network of Canadian orchestras that would enable unified advocacy and research, the creation of a forum for industry networking, professional development and sharing of best practices, and the development of next generation audiences and performers through the promotion of orchestral youth and education programs. She was tireless in her efforts on behalf of orchestras and took great joy in the relationships she built with orchestra people across Canada and around the world.

The Award includes a cash prize to be presented to the Canadian orchestra of the winner's choice. The deadline for submission is **Tuesday, June 1, 2021**.

AWARD GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA

1. The Award recipient is determined by the Betty Webster Award Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee).
2. The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2021.
3. Each nomination must be presented by one principal nominator. A nominator may submit a maximum of two nominations.
4. Nominators are responsible for completing the official nomination form, gathering the required documentation, and submitting it to Orchestras Canada. The official nomination form must be used to provide the required information. In addition, required documentation will include (1) a current, maximum two-page biography of the nominee, with emphasis on his or her achievements and (2) a statement or letter (maximum two pages) prepared and signed by the nominator, describing why the nominee should receive the Betty Webster Award. The statement should focus on the nominee's significant contributions to the Canadian orchestral community. Nominations will be strengthened if supplemented by up to three additional letters of support.
5. Completed nominations must be postmarked no later than the deadline date. If it falls on a weekend or statutory holiday, the deadline moves to the next business day.
6. Incomplete submissions and those that do not meet the requirements will not be presented to the Committee.
7. An individual may be awarded the Betty Webster Award only once, except under exceptional circumstances, at the discretion of the Committee, where an individual has made a significantly new or different contribution than previously recognized. All past recipients of the Orchestras Canada Awards are eligible.
8. Nominees may include, but are not limited to:
 - Musician
 - Administrator
 - Member of a Board of Directors
 - Volunteer
 - Educator
 - Donor / Patron
 - Composer
 - Presenter
 - Member of the Media
9. The jury will be applying the following criteria to their assessments:
 - The quality, duration, and impact of the nominee's contributions to one or more orchestras;

- The selfless spirit in which the nominee has undertaken their work – whether as a professional or a volunteer;
- The nominee’s commitment to community betterment;
- For 2021, the jury will specifically consider the *calibre and impact of the nominee’s contributions to the **resilience** of one or more Canadian orchestras.*

AWARD COMMITTEE

1. The OC Board shall annually appoint a chair (hereinafter referred to as the “Chair”) of the Committee from its own membership. The Chair ideally shall have served on the Committee in a previous year.
2. The Chair and the Executive Director of OC shall appoint the Committee.
3. The Committee shall be composed of five experienced professionals or volunteers who shall be representative of the Canadian orchestral community at large and shall be chosen in consideration of the two official languages and the various regions of Canada.
4. At least two members of the Committee shall be non-members of the OC Board.
5. The Executive Director of OC shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENT

1. The Committee makes the final selection of the recipients and shall select one recipient each year.
2. The Committee shall make its decision by July 30.
3. All decisions of the Committee are final.
4. The Committee reserves the right to withhold presentation of the Award based on the level of suitable candidates in any given year.
5. The Committee reserves the right to bring forward nominations from its database of nominations in previous years.
6. No nominations shall be made posthumously.

APPENDIX I: BETTY WEBSTER AWARDS - HISTORY

Year	Winner(s)	Associations
2002	Betty Webster	
2005	Stanley Shortt	Orchestra Toronto, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Association of Canadian Orchestras and Orchestras Canada
	Evelyne Robitaille	Orchestre symphonique de Québec, Organization of Canadian Symphony Musicians
	Timmins Symphony Orchestra	
2006	Mario Bernardi	National Arts Centre Orchestra; Calgary Philharmonic
	John Hobday	Canadian Council for the Arts, Seagram Symphonia program
	Simon Streatfeild	Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Regina Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre symphonique de Québec, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony
	Dr. Glenn Mallory	Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra
	Beverley and James Coles	Kingston Symphony Association
2007	Jeanne Lamon	Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra
	National Youth Orchestra of Canada	
	Norman Nelson	Sooke Philharmonic
2008	Mina Grossman Ianni	Windsor Symphony Orchestra
	Patricia Middleton	Regina Symphony Orchestra
	New Brunswick Youth Orchestra	
2009	Jeff Alexander	Vancouver Symphony Orchestra
	Kathy Humphreys	Kamloops Symphony
	Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra	
2011	David Leighton	National Arts Centre
	Marsha Moffitt	Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra
2012	Francine Schutzman	National Arts Centre Orchestra, Organization of Canadian Symphony Musicians
2013	Alison Mackay	Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra
2014	Annemarie Petrov	Edmonton Symphony/Frances Winspear Centre for Music
2016	John Gomez	Ottawa Youth Orchestra Academy
2017	Ardyth Brott	National Academy Orchestra, Brott Festival
2018	Bramwell Tovey	Vancouver Symphony Orchestra
2019	Claire Guimond	Arion Orchestre baroque
2020	Yannick Nézet-Séguin	Orchestre Métropolitain

APPENDIX 2: ORCHESTRAS CANADA AWARDS - HISTORY (FORMERLY ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN ORCESTRAS AWARDS)

- 1976** du Maurier Council for the Performing Arts
- 1978** Joseph E. Seagram & Sons Limited
- 1986** Walter Homburger, C.M., retired G.M. Toronto Symphony Orchestra
Russell Johnson, Artec Consultants Inc.
Franz Kraemer, O.C. retired Canada Council
Rhombus Media Inc.
Betty Webster, executive director ACO (now Orchestras Canada)
- 1988** Rosemary Bell, OSM volunteer
Mario Duschenes, conductor
Sam Levine, retired AFM
François Magnan, retired Québec S.O. & ACO board
- 1990** Alexander Brott, conductor
J. Alan Wood, retired AFM
- 1992** François Magnan – Honourary Life Membership in ACO
Jan Matejcek, retired SOCAN
Ezra Schabas, retired musicologist
Robert Sunter, retired CBC Radio 2
- 1994** Dorothy Beckel, retired ACO board, Ottawa S.O.
CBC / Radio Canada
John Hobday, Seagram Canada
Trudi Lecaine, Volunteer, Ottawa
- 1996** Hugh Hanson Davidson
Peter Gardner, Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra
Terence A. Wardrop, Board member, OFSO & ACO
Kenneth Winters, retired CBC Radio
- 1998** Crowsnest Pass Symphony Orchestra
Danny Newman, subscription sales guru, Lyric Opera Chicago
John Shaw, past president, ACO
- 2000** The Canada Council for the Arts / Les Conseil des Arts du Canada
Charles Dutoit, artistic director, Orchestre symphonique de Montréal
Nicholas Goldschmidt, artistic director, MusicCanadaMusique 2000
Ottie Lockey, managing director, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra