

# THE CALGARY AWARDS 2011



The City of Calgary congratulates all recipients of the 2011 Calgary Awards. These awards recognize Calgary citizens and organizations for their contributions to make our city a dynamic, compassionate and environmentally friendly place to live.

The Calgary Awards were presented on June 13, 2012.

## The Community Achievement Awards



**Education**  
Irene Lewis



**Community Advocate**  
Gerrad Oishi



**Arts**  
Ann Davis



**Heritage**  
David L. Neill



**Youth**  
Sarena Dharshi



**Community Advocate: Organization**  
The Mustard Seed



**CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**  
Carol Jean Steiner

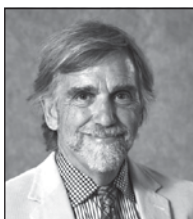


**GRANT MacEWAN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT**  
M. Ann McCaig



**Commerce**  
Forzani Group Ltd.

## The Signature Award



Jeremy Sturgess

## The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize



Suzette Mayr  
"Monoceros"

## The Environmental Achievement Awards



**CONSTRUCTION LEADERS**

**Blue Skies**  
PCL Construction Management Inc.



**Not-For-Profit**  
Calgary Horticultural Society



**Corporate**  
Lafarge Canada Inc.



**Educational Institution**  
The University of Calgary

## The 2011 Calgary Awards Sponsors

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[calgary.ca](http://calgary.ca) | call 3-1-1

**Onward!** A strong sense of community, sense of belonging, attachment and civic pride is important to Calgarians.



THE CITY OF  
**CALGARY**

## **The 2011 Calgary Awards – Media Backgrounder**

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The Calgary Awards began in 1994 as a Centennial project to commemorate Calgary's 100th year as a city and to recognize outstanding citizen achievement. Since 1994, the Calgary Awards have expanded to 17 awards in total and include the Environmental Achievement Awards, the Award for Accessibility, The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize, The Signature Award and The Community Achievement Awards.

*A total of 91 nominations along with 23 entries for The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize were received this year. The selection of award recipients is the responsibility of the Calgary Awards Juries. The juries are comprised of Award recipients from previous years, community representatives, senior city administration and retired members of Council. These juries carefully reviewed the nominations and made the selections for the Award categories. Their selections were sent to Council for final approval.*

The following is a description of the Award categories and a brief summary of the winners' accomplishments.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

#### **Blue Skies**

*Awarded to a Calgary business that demonstrates commitment, innovation and leadership in developing and implementing successful commuter trip reduction programs.*

#### **◆ Recipient – PCL Construction Management Inc.**

In an effort to reduce their carbon footprint, PCL encouraged employees to take alternative transportation, such as public transit, carpooling or cycling. Preferred parking was made available for carpools and hybrid vehicles as well as flexible work options and teleworking opportunities.

#### **Corporate**

*The Corporate Award goes to a Calgary business for innovative and/or exemplary environmental conduct. Any corporate entity with an office in Calgary, including a Crown corporation, qualifies for this award.*

#### **◆ Recipient – Lafarge Canada Inc.**

Lafarge has taken action for many years in the assessment and restoration of biodiversity at their construction sites demonstrating their leadership in environmental initiatives. During active operations, Lafarge endeavors to minimize habitat disturbance and where feasible, fosters wildlife habitat creation and contributes to conservation of endangered species.

#### **Educational Institution**

*Presented to a Calgary educational institution, school board, school or student(s) for exemplary conduct or for an innovative environmental policy, project or activity.*

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### **◆ Recipient - University of Calgary – Energy Environment Experiential Learning Project (EEEL)**

The newest addition to the U of C, the EEEL laboratory building showcases off-the-shelf cost effective technology, melded with advanced energy reduction features. Advanced energy modeling software is used to simulate energy use, daylighting effectiveness and optimize the design of energy systems. The mechanical systems at EEEL include many innovative systems to reduce energy use and improve indoor air quality.

### **The Not-for-Profit Organization Award**

*This award goes to a non-government, not-for-profit organization for outstanding environmental contribution, improved environmental quality or the development of an environmental program.*

### **◆ Recipient – Calgary Horticultural Society's Community Gardens Resource Network**

The Society's deep roots have been growing for 104 years in Calgary with a focus on educating, supporting and promoting gardening in Calgary. The Community Gardens Resource Network (CGRN) program creates a network of resources, expertise and collaborative connections to assist with the start-up of new community gardens and ongoing support for established gardens.

### **THE SIGNATURE AWARD**

*Presented to an exceptional person whose activities have brought significant recognition to the city of Calgary.*

### **◆ Recipient – Jeremy Sturgess**

An award-winning Canadian architect, Jeremy Sturgess has transformed the architectural face of Calgary as well as earned a reputation that spans international boundaries. Creating impactful designs built in Calgary and beyond, Jeremy is known locally for his work on the Water Centre, The Bow, the Bridges Master Plan, Theatre Junction Grand, 7<sup>th</sup> Ave LRT Refurbishment and numerous designs across the continent.

### **THE CITY OF CALGARY W.O. MITCHELL BOOK PRIZE**

The City of Calgary established this book prize in honour of writer W.O. Mitchell in 1994 to recognize literary achievement by Calgary authors. The \$5,000 prize is coordinated through a partnership between The City of Calgary, the Writers Guild of Alberta and a sponsorship from Uptown 17 BRZ.

### **◆ Recipient – “*Monoceros*” by Suzette Mayr**

*Monoceros* is Suzette Mayr's tragicomic novel about the after-effects of the suicide of a 17 year old high school student. A story about love, death, unicorns and Wonder Woman drag Queens, *Monoceros* is a study of grief and unexpected joy. Suzette Mayr is the author of four novels, and was born and raised in Calgary.

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## **COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

### **Arts**

*Presented to an individual Calgarian whose artistic accomplishments have brought recognition to Calgary and contributed to developing a stronger arts community.*

#### **◆ Recipient – Ann Davis**

Ann Davis has been the Director of The Nickle Arts Museum at the University of Calgary for the past 20 years and teaches in the program in Museum and Heritage Studies. Her efforts have contributed to developing a stronger arts community and boosted the Nickle Arts Museum to a third place ranking among Canadian university arts museums. Programming of the museum is central, with Dr. Davis emphasizing on Calgary creators, and highlighting Calgary arts and culture.

### **Commerce Award**

*The Commerce Award is presented to an individual or business for improving business opportunities, making significant community or industry contributions.*

#### **◆ Recipient – Foranzy Group Ltd.**

From humble beginnings in 1974, the Forzani Group Ltd. has grown to be a leading sporting goods retailer in Canada, while retaining their head office in Calgary. The company has raised funds and supported many causes in Calgary with the primary focus on health and sport. Probably the most widely known fund raising campaign in Calgary is the Forzani's (now called Sport Chek) Annual Mother's Day Walk and Run which draws over 20,000 participants each spring. Other fund raising initiatives include the Forzani and McPhail Colon Cancer Screening Centre which opened its doors in 2008.

### **Community Advocate Award**

*Awarded to an individual Calgarian who has made a significant volunteer contribution to the community.*

#### **◆ Recipient – Gerrad Oishi**

Mr Oishi believes in a safe future and a great place for children in Calgary to grow up – he believes families should have homes to live and worked closely with the leadership team at Habitat for Humanity to expand from 2 homes a year to a 28 unit townhouse complex. He also serves as a Board member and past Chairman of the Brenda Strafford Foundation; a private foundation with projects that include hospitals, orphanages, hospices, affordable housing, seniors care and women's shelters.

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## **Community Advocate: Organization**

*Awarded to a non-government, not-for-profit Calgary organization for outstanding service to the community by implementing, supporting, or assisting local programs.*

### **◆ Recipient – The Mustard Seed**

From its humble roots as a coffeehouse ministry in the basement of Calgary's First Baptist Church, The Mustard Seed has served Calgary's inner-city homeless for over 27 years. Providing basic services like food, clothing and shelter, The Mustard Seed's operations have expanded considerably to better help vulnerable Calgarians escape the cycle of poverty and homelessness.

## **Education Award**

*Awarded to a Calgarian who has enhanced learning opportunities or brought recognition to Calgary due to outstanding academic achievement.*

### **◆ Recipient – Irene Lewis**

President & CEO of SAIT Polytechnic for the past 14 years, Irene Lewis has transformed SAIT from Calgary's "trade school on the hill" to an internationally known and respected polytechnic institute. Under her leadership, Ms. Lewis has not only set the management direction and strategic vision for SAIT, she has motivated 2,300 employees to translate that strategic direction in reality.

## **Heritage Award**

*Recognizes an individual Calgarian who has made a sustained and extraordinary contribution, either as a volunteer or professional, to the promotion of awareness and/or preservation of Calgary's heritage in the areas of built heritage, archaeology, culture, education or advocacy.*

### **◆ Recipient – David Neill**

In 1997, David Neill spearheaded the revitalization of Stephen Avenue. Through commitment and perseverance deteriorating streetscapes along First Street's Alberta Hotel Building, Alberta Block, Hodder (Hull) Block and Macnaghten Block, as well Clarence Block and Centre Street's Art Central have been converted into thriving, pedestrian-friendly retail and restaurant districts.

## **Youth Award**

*This award goes to an individual Calgarian, 18 years old or younger on December 31, 2009, whose exceptional achievements have brought recognition to or improved the quality of life in Calgary. The focus is on volunteer and community contributions, not academic achievement.*

### **◆ Recipient – Sarena Dharshi**

Sarena is a highly motivated 16 year-old who considers giving back to the community to be "psychologically invigorating". She began volunteering with her mosque at the age of eight and has since volunteered at four branches of the Calgary Public Library's youth volunteer

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programs. She is also an active member with Youth Central and the Junior Achievement program.

### **Grant MacEwan Lifetime Achievement Award**

*Honours an individual Calgarian who, over the past 25 years or more, has made significant contributions to the community and has improved the quality of life for citizens or whose accomplishments have brought recognition to Calgary.*

*The award is named in honour of the lifetime achievements of Calgarian Dr. Grant MacEwan — writer, environmentalist and politician. City Council created this award to commemorate Dr. MacEwan's 90th birthday in 1992.*

### **◆ Recipient – M. Ann McCaig**

For over 40 years, Ann McCaig has devoted herself to improving and strengthening the quality of life in the Calgary community by serving as an advocate in the areas of youth, education and health. She is an accomplished volunteer, extraordinary fundraiser and generous philanthropist. Her contributions have shaped the quality of life in Calgary and her commitment to preserving and celebrating Canada's western heritage is demonstrated in her involvement with Heritage Park and the Calgary Stampede Foundation.

### **Citizen of the Year**

*This award goes to an outstanding individual Calgarian who has made a recent extraordinary contribution that has improved the quality of life in Calgary or whose recent achievements have brought recognition to Calgary.*

### **Recipient – Carol Steiner**

A vision over 16 years of a meeting place where residents and groups from diverse ethnic backgrounds could come together and participate in sports, recreation, wellness and cultural activities has been the driving force behind Carol Steiner. Ms. Steiner's tireless work in many capacities, serving as current chair on the NE Centre of Communities Society (NECCS), has evolved into the Genesis Centre of Community Wellness. She has also dedicated 32 years of volunteer service to the community of Saddle Ridge where she resides.