



ORCHESTRAS
ORCHESTRES

CANADA

“THE BETTY”

BETTY WEBSTER AWARD
Guidelines

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2. THE BETTY WEBSTER AWARD

Orchestras Canada celebrates outstanding contributions to Canadian orchestras by annually awarding the prestigious **Betty Webster Award** (“The Betty”).

The Betty Webster Award was established in 2002 to honour Orchestras Canada's founding Executive Director. This award succeeds the Orchestras Canada Award and the previous Association of Canadian Orchestras Award.

The Award is a tribute to Betty Webster's many years of service and her extraordinary contributions to the health and vitality of Canada's orchestral community. Throughout her tenure, Betty's unwavering energy was focused on *strengthening Canadian orchestras*. Under her leadership, Orchestras Canada (formerly the Association of Canadian Orchestras) accomplished this by

- advocating and lobbying on behalf of all orchestras
- providing professional development opportunities
- creating a national network and library for sharing information, and
- promoting orchestral youth and education programs.

In Betty's honour, the Betty will be presented each year to one *individual or organization* that has made a sustained and significant contribution over a number of years to the Canadian orchestral community, with an emphasis on leadership, education and volunteerism.

3. AWARD GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA

1. The Award recipient is determined by the Betty Webster Awards Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee).
2. The deadline for nominations is May 1.
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 additional letters of support (maximum of three).

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
 - Music Director / Conductor
 - Administrator
 - Member of a Board of Directors
 - Volunteer
 - Educator
 - Donor / Patron
 - Composer
 - Presenter
 - Member of the media

4. AWARDS 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.

5. 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 June 1st.
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

I. BETTY WEBSTER AWARDS – HISTORY

2002	Betty Webster
2005	Stanley Shortt , Orchestra Toronto, retired ACO/OC Chair Evelyne Robitaille , violist OSQ / former head of OCSM Timmins Symphony Orchestra
2006	Mario Bernardi , conductor John Hobday , former head of Canada Council Simon Streatfeild , conductor Glenn Mallory , conductor/educator Beverley and James Coles , musicians/volunteers/educators
2007	Jeanne Lamon , violinist/artistic director National Youth Orchestra of Canada Norman Nelson , violinist/conductor
2008	Mina Grossman Ianni , orchestra manager Patricia Middleton , orchestra manager New Brunswick Youth Orchestra
2009	Jeff Alexander , orchestra manager Kathy Humphreys , orchestra manager Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra

In 2010, the decision was taken to reduce the number of awards presented annually to one.

Appendix 2

2. ORCHESTRAS CANADA AWARDS – HISTORY FORMERLY ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN ORCHESTRAS 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 (deceased 1999) 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 (deceased 2003)
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 (deceased)
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