

OMDC: "Culture is our Business." Promoting growth and investment in Ontario's book and magazine publishing, film and television, music and interactive digital media industries

David R. Peterson Award For Cultural Entrepreneurship Launched

Ontario Media Development Corporation has created a special award to celebrate 18 years of achievement in supporting Ontario's cultural industries.

The David R. Peterson Award for Cultural Entrepreneurship will provide funding of up to \$5,000 to enable a cultural entrepreneur from Ontario's book, magazine, film, television, music or interactive digital media sectors to further their education with an accredited institution. Beginning in 2005, three recipients will receive the Award, one per year, for a total of \$15,000.

The newly minted award was announced by Board Chair Marcelle Lean on Nov. 15, 2004 at OMDC's 18th anniversary reception, attended by provincial ministers, stakeholders and industry guests. Mr. Peterson was given a glass sculpture depicting artist Gordon Webster's interpretation of the evolution of OFDC to OMDC to commemorate the occasion. The sculpture was presented by Minister of Culture Madeleine Meilleur, following remarks from Wayne Clarkson, the first CEO and Chair of Ontario Film Development Corporation.

It was during Mr. Peterson's term as Premier of Ontario that OFDC was created. In its first year of operation in 1986-87, OFDC invested \$5.4M in 40 Ontario-made film and television productions, 81 scripts in development and 27 special projects. This investment stimulated more than \$40.7M in new pro-

duction activity and approximately 425 new jobs. In 2000, OFDC became OMDC, and its mandate was expanded to include the administration of tax credit programs and cultural programming as well as services for Ontario's book and magazine publishing, film and television, music and interactive digital media industries. Today OMDC's cultural industries contribute more than \$5.3B to Ontario's economy and generate more than 60,000 highly skilled jobs in Ontario.

In accepting the award, David Peterson thanked his family, including his wife Shelley, daughter Chloë, sons Ben and Adam, and reminded his audience that: "Our cultural industries are instruments that carry a uniquely Ontario voice to the world, through the companies and the musicians, editors and writers, directors and producers they employ. And in exchange, we all get to reap the reward of the pride we all feel when "one of our own" makes it. I think that's something we, as politicians—past and present—must always treasure."

Guests at the reception were given an OMDC briefcase containing many well-known CDs, movies and books—all products that were made in Ontario and were helped to fruition through OMDC's programs and tax credits.

Details about the new award's application procedure and application forms will be available soon from OMDC.

E-mail your news and events by the third Thursday of each month to newsletter@omdc.on.ca

To add or remove yourself from this newsletter list, e-mail Hodan Waberi at hwaberi@omdc.on.ca

T 416-314-6858

F 416-314-6876

www.omdc.on.ca

The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of OMDC

OMDC Updates and News

Ontario Media Development Corporation (OMDC) is accepting submissions for the **Trillium Book Award/ Prix Trillium**, and the **Trillium Book Award for Poetry/ Prix de poésie Trillium**. Submissions for titles published between January and October 2004 should be submitted no later than Dec. 10. Titles published in November and December 2004 should be submitted by Jan. 10, 2005. The prize for the Trillium Book Award/Prix Trillium in both English and French is \$20,000 for the winning recipients, and is open to books of all genres. Anthologies, new editions, reissues, reprints and translations are not eligible. The prize for the Trillium Book Award for Poetry/Prix de poésie Trillium in both English and French is \$10,000 to the winning poets, and is open to a first, second or third work of poetry by an author. Publishers for all winners and finalists also receive a grant to promote the book. The authors must have lived in Ontario for at least three of the past five years. Details are available at www.omdc.on.ca or email jhawkins@omdc.on.ca.

Announced Nov. 10 at Toronto's Isabel Bader Theatre, OMDC held an **Al Waxman Calling Card** industry screening of four new dramatic short films by emerging Ontario filmmakers. The shorts, including *Elliot Smelliot* (Jonathan Orson, Producer, Anita Doron, Director); *Pop Song* (David Huey Hayman, Producer, Charles Officer, Director); *Safe* (Bryce Mitchell, Producer and Kris Booth, Director); and *Nigel's Fingerprint* (Kim Kuhteubl, Producer, Amy McConnell, Director) were received by an enthusiastic audience of more than 300 people drawn from all levels of the film and television industries. Prior to the screening, OMDC, in partnership with WIFT (Women in Film and Television), announced the winners of the OMDC/WIFT Financing Incubator Program.

Marcelle Lean, OMDC Chair, announced the selected individuals: Chris Nanos of Radke Films, for *Everything's Gone Green*, written by Douglas Coupland; Jennifer MacLennan of Media Brat Productions, for the project *Charming Grace*, written by Will Pascoe; Debbie Nightingale, The Nightingale Company, for the project *A Liar, a Cheat, a Shrew and a Thief*, written by Lea Dellaria and Maggie Cassella; Rob Heydon of Proteus Entertainment Inc, with *Ecstasy*, written by Benjamin Tucker and Rob Heydon.

OMDC received 27 new applications for the **Al Waxman Calling Card** for drama on Nov. 5th. Stay tuned: winners will be announced Dec.10th.

OMDC's **Market Access Program** will enable 11 Ontario-based participants from the music industry to travel to **Midem** Jan. 23 to 27, 2005 to Cannes, France. First-time Stream One attendees will receive paid Canada Stand registration fees, \$1,500 for travel and accommodation expenses and the opportunity to work with program advisor Steve Propas. They are: RJ Guha of Kindling Music; Trevor Laroque of Paper Bag Records; Farley Fridal of Plasma Corporation; Sander Shalinsky of Coalition Entertainment; and Anne Marie Smith of Capital Hill Music. The program is also supporting returning participants in Stream Two and Stream Three, who will each receive advisory assistance and \$750 toward travel and accommodation expenses. They are: Shauna de Cartier of Six Shooter Records; Steve Jordan of True North Records; Robert Tremills of Opening Day Entertainment; Henri Brisard of Profound Management; Mark Di Pietro of Teenage USA Recordings; and Jeffrey Remedios of Arts & Crafts Productions.

OMDC Hosts Second-Annual Regional Location Forum for Film Industry

"You Ought To Be In Pictures" was the theme of the second-annual OMDC Locations Forum, which took place Nov. 18 at the historic Ontario Heritage Centre in Toronto. OMDC's Industry Development group, under the direction of Manager of Film Donna Zuchlinski, brought together film liaison officers from more than 50 of Ontario's most popular filming sites. The day-long event featured industry panelists who discussed the benefits of filming, insurance, contracts and a demonstration of Locations Ontario, OMDC's online digital locations database. The day wrapped up with a session entitled "How Would You Handle It?", an interactive discussion on issues that

all location representatives might face. The more seasoned film shoot hosts offered advice to those seeking to expand their appeal to production companies. Networking opportunities also abounded, as many participants met for the first time.

Organizers hope to repeat this success on a larger scale next year, expanding the guest list to include regional film commissioners, location managers and location representatives. With attracting filming opportunities becoming more challenging over the past two years, making their facilities more attractive to local and foreign film and television producers will benefit all of those involved.

OMDC Supported Events

Dec. 10 | Deadline to apply for the **Market Access Program** to attend **The Berlin International Film Festival**, Feb. 10 to 20 in Berlin. OMDC will assist five Ontario-based producers to attend. See www.berlinale.de. To obtain guidelines and application forms visit OMDC's website at www.omdc.on.ca under Programs/Market Access Program.

Dec. 15 | Deadline to apply to attend **Sunny Side of the Doc—Toronto Documentary Encounters**, a Canada-France Co-Production Forum, Feb. 4 to 6, Toronto. The Sunny Side Toronto Encounters is a co-production forum that will bring together the most active French and Canadian broadcasters and producers working in the documentary field. Please note that applications are being accepted by the organizers, not OMDC. Contact jjperetti@sunnysideofthedoc.com

Dec. 20 | Deadline to apply for the **Market Access Program** to attend the **IPA Convention 2005: The Year of the Independents**, Jan. 27 to 29 in San Francisco. OMDC will assist up to five magazine professionals to attend, providing paid registration to the convention (\$350 US value) and up to \$1250 Canadian for travel and accommodation assistance. For guidelines and

eligibility criteria visit OMDC's website, www.omdc.on.ca, under Programs/Market Access Program.

Dec 20 | Deadline to apply for the **Market Access Program (MAP)** to attend the **6th Annual Kidscreen Summit**, Feb. 16 to 18 in New York. OMDC is providing financial and strategic support to up to six Ontario-based companies with content suitable for the kids market. With a primary focus on screen entertainment, Kidscreen presents business opportunities for companies working in book and magazine publishing, music and interactive digital media content production. This MAP program is open to film, television and interactive digital media content producers, book and magazine publishers and music label owners. For more program details, guidelines and application forms visit www.omdc.on.ca under programs/Market Access Program.

Feb. 4-8 | OMDC is pleased to partner with The Canadian Magazine Publishers Association (CMPA) for their 10th annual **Circulation School** program, at the Pillar & Post Conference Centre in Niagara-on-the-Lake. For details and registration information visit www.cmpa.ca.

Upcoming Markets and Festivals

Dec. 11-13	Gemini Awards, Toronto. www.academy.ca
Jan. 12-15	BETT—The Educational Technology Show. London, UK. www.bettshow.co.uk
Jan. 20-30	Sundance Film Festival, Utah. http://festival.sundance.org/2005
Jan. 25-27	NATPE 2005 National Association of Television Program Executives Conference, Las Vegas. www.natpe.org
Jan. 27	Family Literacy Day. www.abc-canada.org
Feb. 2-5	Ontario Library Association Super Conference, Toronto. www.accessola.com
Feb 4-6	Sunny Side of the Doc—Toronto Documentary Encounters. Contact jjperetti@sunnysideofthedoc.com
Feb. 4-8	CMPA School for Circulation, Niagara-on-the-Lake. www.cmpa.ca
Feb 10-20	The Berlin International Film Festival, Berlin. www.berlinale.de
Feb. 16-18	6th Annual Kidscreen Summit, New York, New York. www.kidscreensummit.com
March 2-5	Canadian Music Week 2005, Toronto. www.cmw.net
March 4	Genie Awards, Toronto. www.academy.ca
March 11-20	CMPA Professional Publishing program; Niagara-on-the Lake. www.cmpa.ca
March 11-20	South By Southwest (SXSW) Festival & Conferences, Austin, Texas. http://2005.sxsw.com
March 13-15	London Book Fair, UK. www.libf.co.uk
April 1-10	Cinefranco 8th Annual Celebration of International Francophone Cinema. www.cinefranco.com
April 11-15	MIP-TV International Television Market, Cannes, France. www.miptv.com

Congratulations!

On Nov. 11, **Alice Munro** was named the recipient of the 11th Annual 2004 Giller Prize for her short story collection *Runaway*, published by McClelland & Stewart. The largest annual prize for fiction in the country, the Giller Prize awards \$25,000 each year to the author of a Canadian novel or short story collection published in English. www.thegiller.ca

The **2004 Governor General's Literary Prizes** were awarded on Nov. 15 for works in both official languages in fiction, non-fiction, drama, poetry, translation and children's literature and illustration. Romeo Dallaire's *Shake Hands with the Devil*, an account of the brutal genocide in Rwanda in 1993-94, won the Governor General's literary award for non-fiction. Jean-Jacques Simard of Quebec City won the French-language non-fiction prize for *La Reduction: l'Autochtone invente et les Amerindiens d'aujourd'hui*. Miriam Toews won the fiction prize for her novel *A Complicated Kindness*. The French-language fiction winner was Pascale Quiviger for *Le cercle parfait*. The two poetry recipients were Roo Borson of Toronto for *Short Journey Upriver Toward Oishida* and Andre Brochu of Montreal for *Les jours a vif*. For a list of all of the recipients, go to www.canadacouncil.ca/prizes/ggla

The **15 Annual SOCAN Awards** were presented on Nov. 15. SOCAN's Lifetime Achievement Award honoured Professor John Weinzwieg for a lifetime of exceptional creativity and contribution to Canadian music. Nickelback was the recipient of the new SOCAN International Achievement Award, designed to recognize the band's global success. Kim Mitchell received the SOCAN National Achievement Award, and Frank Davies took home the SOCAN Special Achievement Award. The Pop Music Awards are for songs that achieved the greatest number of performances on domestic radio in 2003. These included Joni Mitchell's *Big Yellow Taxi* performed by Counting Crows; Avril Lavigne's *I'm With You*; and Chantal Kreviazuk's *Time*. For details see www.socan.ca.

Twelve Canadian authors made the **IMPAC Dublin Literary Award** 147-title longlist for 2005, announced on Nov. 15. The list, announced in Dublin, includes the 2003 Giller Prize winner, M.G. Vassanji's *The In-between World of Vikram Lal*, and the 2003 Governor General's Literary Award winner for fiction, Douglas Glover's *Elle*. The other 10 books are: Margaret Atwood's *Oryx and Crake*; Giles Blunt's *The Delicate Storm*; Gil Courtemanche's *A Sunday at the Pool in Kigali*; Ramabai Espinet's *The Swinging Bridge*; Jack Hodgins's *Distance*; Nalo Hopkinson's *The Salt Roads*; Nancy Huston's *An Adoration*; Frances Itani's *Deafening*; Ann-Marie MacDonald's *The Way the Crow Flies*; and David Adams Richards's *River of the Brokenhearted*.

Librarians from around the world nominate titles for the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award longlist. The shortlist and winning book are settled by an international panel of judges. One of the six members of the judging panel is Ontario-based author Nino Ricci. The others are Jonathan Buckley, Agnes Desarthe, Rita-Ann Higgins, Milan Richter, and Eugene R. Sullivan. The award, which carries a \$100,000 cash prize, will be handed out on June 15, 2005. The shortlist will be unveiled on March 8, 2005.

Six hundred of the "Who's Who" of Canada's film and television industry came together on Nov. 18 for the **Women in Film in Television—Toronto (WIFT-T) Crystal Awards Gala Luncheon** at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. Hosted by Megan Follows, six women were honoured with a prestigious WIFT-T Crystal Award for their significant contributions to the industry. These women include Kim Cattrall, actress, author and executive producer; Debbie Travis, executive producer and host; Dianne Schwalm, senior vice president, advertising and publicity, Warner Bros. Canada Inc.; and Maria Topalovich, president and CEO, Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television. The Honourable Madeleine Meilleur, Ontario's Minister of Culture, paid special tribute to the Crystal Awards alumni in attendance for their contribution to the industry.

Upcoming Events and Industry Deadlines

Dec. 10 | Deadline for emerging producers to apply to Telefilm for the **Rotterdam Lab**, held during the Rotterdam International Film Festival's annual CineMart (Jan. 30 to Feb. 3). The Rotterdam Lab aims to give young, talented, emerging producers the opportunity to develop international market experience and intelligence through privileged access to CineMart participants, including sales agents, producers, distributors, television buyers, private investors and national funds. Send applications by e-mail to Brigitte Hubmann, hubmanb@telefilm.gc.ca. The selected two Canadian producers will be announced on Friday, Dec. 17.

Dec. 13 | Early submission deadline for the **HOT DOCS Canadian International Documentary Festival 2005**, which takes place from April 22 to May 1. The early submission fee is \$35. The deadline for late submissions is Jan. 14; the late submission fee is \$100. Documentaries of all lengths and subjects will be considered in four programmes: Canadian Spectrum; International Showcase; National Spotlight on Israel; and RealKids, RealTeens. www.hotdocs.ca

Dec. 15 | Deadline for **Beyond the Sound Barrier**, an initiative of CBC Radio Arts & Entertainment, in association with the ReelWorld Film Festival. This is a radio drama training workshop for ethnically diverse writers and directors from all media who are new to CBC Radio. Six writers and six directors will be invited to participate in a radio drama workshop to take place in Toronto on selected days from January through March, 2005. The workshop will comprise initial radio training, followed by the creation of six new 10-minute plays, with the possibility of broadcast on CBC Radio. The workshop will be led by experienced producers and engineers from CBC Radio A&E. Two of the writers and two of the directors will be selected as recipients of the ReelWorld Award, to be presented at the ReelWorld Film Festival Gala in April 2005. Applicants should submit a letter explaining why they would like to participate in this unique workshop, a resumé and, where possible, a short sample of recent work: approximately 10 pages of a script or 10 minutes of a visual recording of a stage play or film excerpt. Applications must be submitted to radiodrama@cbc.ca with "Beyond the Sound Barrier" in the subject line. Please mail supporting materials (review copies, videos, etc.) to: Beyond the Sound Barrier, CBC Radio A&E Box 500, Station A, Toronto M5W 1E6.

Dec. 31 | **Female Eye Film Festival's 3rd Annual Scriptwriter Development Program** deadline. Writers with scripts in development are invited to submit their works to the "Script Reading Workshop" program for a chance to have a professional actor read it and to receive feedback from an industry audience and the public. Male writers may submit a script if it contains a female protagonist. Writers with feature scripts at an advanced stage of development, i.e., ready to go into production, are invited to submit for the "Good To Go" program, an opportunity to meet one-on-one with senior development executives, independent producers and literary agents at an exclusive invitation-only event. The Female Eye Jury will award prizes to the best scripts in both programs. www.femaleeyefilmfestival.com.

2005 Events

Jan. 12 | Submissions due for the 2005 **National Magazine Awards**. All entries must be submitted online. The gala and awards ceremony will be held on June 10, 2005 in Toronto. www.magazine-awards.com

Jan. 11 | PWAC Toronto seminar: **Investigative Journalism: Does It Still Exist?** Held at Northern District Library, 40 Orchardview Blvd. Toronto, 7 to 8:45 pm. Free for PWAC members; pay what you can (\$10 suggested) for the public. After the seminar, join the panelists, PWAC members and others for Beers with Peers in the Manchester Arms pub. www.seminars.pwactoronto.org

Jan. 14 | Deadline for submissions to the **North by NorthEast 2005 Music Festival and Conference**. The festival rocks Toronto from June 9 to 11, 2005. www.nxne.com/bandsubmission.html

Feb. 28 | Submissions due for **Canadian Film Centre's Worldwide Short Film Festival (WWSFF)**, which runs from June 14 to 19. WWSFF presents over 200 short films and videos from Canada and around the world in competition screenings and special programs. The Short Film BIG IDEAS Symposium offers seminars, panels and workshops on the art and commerce of short filmmaking. Participating films are eligible for a Festival prize package worth over \$60,000 and possible consideration for the Academy Awards. www.worldwideshortfilmfest.com