

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

Congratulations to Ontario Gemini Industry Gala Winners

On October 19 and 20, The Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television celebrated the **24th Annual Gemini Industry Awards**, recognizing the year's best in Canadian English-language television. The industry awards were given out for categories covering news and sports, documentary and lifestyle, children and youth, and drama and variety. Here are just a few highlights. For a complete list of all the industry winners please go to www.geminiawards.ca. The 2009 **Broadcast Gala** will take place on Saturday, November 14th in Calgary, Alberta and will be broadcast live on Global and Showcase.



Best Animated Program or Series - *Life's a Zoo.tv*
(Cuppa Coffee Studios, Teletoon)
Adam Shaheen



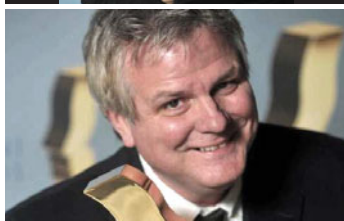
Best Children's or Youth Fiction Program or Series - *Life with Derek*
(Shaftesbury Films Inc.)
Christina Jennings, Daphne Ballon, Jeff Biederman, Suzanne French, Scott Garvie, Laurie McLarty



Best Performing Arts Program or Series or Arts Documentary Program or Series - *The Young Romantic*
(Rhombus Media Inc.)
Niv Fichman, Jessica Daniel, Barbara Willis Sweete



Best Talk Series - *The Hour*
with George Stroumboulopoulos
Jennifer Dettman, David Freeman, George Stroumboulopoulos



Best Direction in a Documentary Series - Michael McNamara
Driven By Vision Of Castles, Kings and Jesters



Best Direction in an Animated Program or Series - George Elliott, Joey So - *Rollbots* - Training Day



Best Production Design or Art Direction in a Fiction Program or Series - Tom Conroy, Colman Corish - *The Tudors*, Episode 204. Sheila Hockin, producer of *The Tudors* accepts award.



Best Original Music Score for a Program or Series - Robert Carli - *Murdoch Mysteries* - Werewolves



Best Sound in a Dramatic Series - Jane Tattersall, Daniel Birch, Yuri Gorbachow, Goro Koyama, Martin Lee, Kirk Lynds, David McCallum, Dale Sheldrake - *The Tudors* - Episode 210



Best Achievement in Main Title Design - Kim Jackson, Ron Gervais, Mike McDougall - *Flashpoint* - Flashpoint Main Title Sequence

photos courtesy of ACCT Note: Winners are listed but may not appear in the photo.

OMDC welcomes Kelly Graham-Scherer as the New Toronto/Ontario L.A. Marketing Representative



Kelly Graham-Scherer

On behalf of OMDC and our partners at the City of Toronto and FilmOntario, we are very pleased to announce that Ms. Kelly Graham-Scherer will be joining us as our new Los Angeles Marketing Consultant. She started on Monday October 19th with a series of stakeholder meetings in Toronto, followed by client meetings in Los Angeles, before assuming her post in L.A. in November.

Ms. Graham-Scherer, who most recently was Director of Communications for the Directors Guild of Canada, Ontario District Council, brings to the post many years of experience in Toronto and Ontario's film and television production industries.

Please join us in welcoming Kelly to our marketing team!

OMDC to launch an on-line library of cultural research

OMDC is pleased to announce plans to launch an online library of cultural industries research in November 2009. This online resource will be a collection of research related to the creative and entertainment industries, in the form of a searchable, publicly accessible online database. We hope that this collection of material will assist industry, entrepreneurs, researchers, and governments in Canada and around the world in their work related to the creative and entertainment industries. Stay tuned for more information on the library in next month's newsletter and on the OMDC website.

OMDC News

OMDC is pleased to advise stakeholders that the Ontario Ministry of Finance released the 2009 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review on October 22nd, which proposed additional changes to the Ontario Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit (OIDMTC) following the proposed enhancements announced in the March 2009 Budget. The announcement in the Economic Outlook further streamlines the tax credit for specialized game developers. It is proposed that certified game developers that incur a minimum of \$1 million of Ontario labour expenditures per year in the development of eligible interactive digital media games would be eligible to claim a 35% tax credit annually on Ontario salaries and wages. (Note: currently companies must wait until the product is completed before they may claim the OIDMTC.) A certified game developer

would have at least 80% of Ontario payroll or 90% of annual revenues attributable to interactive digital media game development. The proposed enhancements would be effective after March 26, 2009.

As well, OMDC is pleased that the Economic Outlook reconfirmed the Province's commitment to enhance the Ontario Production Services Tax Credit (OPSTC), as originally announced on June 29th to cover qualifying production expenditures incurred after June 30, 2009. Qualifying production expenditures include: i) eligible wage expenditures; ii) eligible service contract expenditures; and iii) eligible tangible property expenditures.

TAX TIP:

The OCASE tax credit is based on the fiscal year rather than the production. Don't forget to include all of your eligible digital animation or special effects work in the one application; there is no limit to the number of eligible productions that you can include. For details on the Ontario Computer Animation and Special Effects Tax Credit, go to:

<http://www.omdc.on.ca/Page3402.aspx>

OMDC program deadlines and supported events

Ongoing | OMDC's Industry Development Program now incorporates the previous OMDC **Trade Organization Support** and **Domestic Markets and Events** programs. The program offers financial and, where appropriate, strategic support to established trade and event organizations that are undertaking initiatives that provide business growth and business development opportunities for Ontario cultural media companies. Guidelines are now posted on our website at <http://www.omdc.on.ca/Page5564.aspx>. For further information contact: programs@omdc.on.ca

Nov. 4 & 5 | The McLuhan Festival of the Future – Vortex Competition. The Vortex Competition, now in its 5th year, is Canada's pre-eminent forum that celebrates, educates, and casts a spotlight on emerging video game entrepreneurs and companies. Each year, emerging videogame developers are invited to compete by pitching their innovative videogame projects in concept or prototype stage, to a jury of industry experts. This year's jury will include Yannis Mallat, CEO Ubisoft and Kevin O'Leary from *Dragon's Den*, and, the competition will feature **Blake Lewin, Snr VP, R & D, Turner Broadcasting and Founder of Game Tap** from Atlanta as Keynote speaker. Final winner of this year's competition will receive \$4,000 cash, the opportunity to receive **TransGaming's** assistance in bringing their games to market and **Yummy Interactive** will add the winner's finished PC Game product to its subscription service network reaching 15 million broadband subscribers worldwide. Previous winners of the Vortex Competition include: WASD Gameworks Inc. for their game 'Attrition' (2007 winner) and Vancouver's New City Entertainment for MovieSet™ its 'behind-the scenes' Internet portal (2006 winner). This year The Vortex Competition program added an extra one-day event. Aspiring video game developers honed their business and technical skills through participating in a one day **Boot Camp**, that took place on **November 3, 2009**, as a lead-in to The Vortex Competition. The Boot Camp was a series of educational seminars presented by world-renowned game industry leaders, in the areas of game design, development, business, finance, and marketing including tips on how to pitch a concept. The Boot Camp will feature **Gene T. Kim, President and CEO of Bamboo Networks**, based in New York, Tokyo, China and Thailand as Keynote speaker. For more information go to the Festival website, <http://www.vortexcompetition.com>

Nov. 16 | Deadline for OMDC Interactive Digital Media (IDM) Fund. The IDM Fund is designed to provide Ontario interactive digital media content companies with access to the final piece of funding required to move their content projects into production. Successful applicants will receive a non-refundable contribution of up to \$150,000 (to a maximum of 50% of the project budget) to create a market-ready interactive digital media content product. Complete eligibility requirements are outlined in the OMDC IDM Fund Guidelines. Go to: <http://www.omdc.on.ca/Page3215.aspx>

Dec. 11 | OMDC Research Grant application deadline – The next application deadline for OMDC Research Grants is December 11, 2009. Please be aware that this is the last deadline of the 2009-10 fiscal year. OMDC offers financial support directly to incorporated not-for-profit industry organizations undertaking research initiatives that support or complement the mandate of OMDC. Proposed projects should provide information needed by an industry to further industry development or growth; update, improve or strengthen existing data; address an existing information gap or gaps; or respond to a specific crisis in a sector. Full eligibility requirements and guidelines are outlined in the OMDC Research Grant Guidelines, which can be found on the OMDC website: <http://www.omdc.on.ca/Page5481.aspx>.

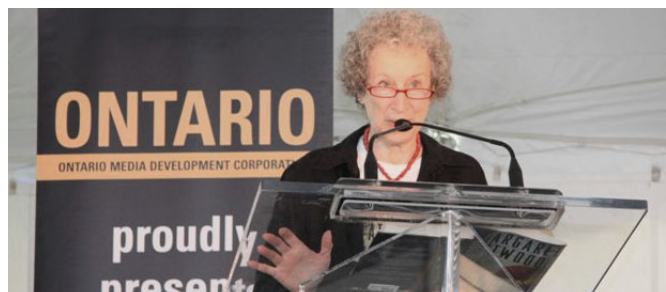


Mayor Miller looks at the iPhone version of **City Sonic** (www.citysonic.tv), as executive producer Robert Lang of Kensington Communications looks on. **City Sonic** was

one of the OMDC-supported projects recently showcased at the Artscape conference *Creative Spaces and Places 2010* held October 29th and 30th in various locations around Toronto. True to form, Mayor Miller immediately tweeted how much he liked the project to his 2000 followers on **twitter**.

OMDC participates at Word On The Street - Toronto

On September 27, OMDC supported **Word on the Street (WOTS)** by providing assistance for two specific events which virtually linked audiences from the Toronto WOTS to the ones in Vancouver and Halifax. For the first event, author Margaret Atwood officially launched her new book, *The Year of the Flood*, published by McClelland & Stewart, at the Bestsellers Stage at Toronto WOTS. Next to the stage was a LongPen signing booth set up to transmit signings to the other festivals. Halifax and Vancouver had stages set-up to receive a live broadcast from Toronto, with one screen split to show the author and views of the audience. The technical set-up also allowed for interactivity, inviting questions for the author, and LongPen equipment at the remote locations to conduct book signings. After this connected "launch", there was a panel consisting of some of our past Ontario Trillium Book Award winners including: Dionne Brand, Camilla Gibb, Nino Ricci



Margaret Atwood

and Jane Urquhart. These authors participated in "The View From Out Here" discussion which was also transmitted as a live broadcast to Vancouver and Halifax. Overall, it was a great success from coast to coast.

Congratulations

On October 24, the 2009 **Directors Guild of Canada (DGC) Awards** brought out the film and television industry's best and brightest to the Fairmont Royal York in Toronto.

- **DGC Lifetime Achievement Award** - Carol Spier, a production designer of many films including *Eastern Promises*, and *A History of Violence* was honoured with a lifetime-achievement award
- **Don Haldane Distinguished Service Award** - Avrel Fisher, assistant director of past television shows *Wonderfalls*, and *Wind at My Back*
- **Team Feature Film** Paul Gross's war drama *Passchendaele* took the prize for best team feature film
- **Team Television Movie/Mini-Series** - *The Summit*
- **Team Family Television Movie/Mini-Series** - *Anne of Green Gables: A New Beginning*
- **Team Television Series** - Drama - *Flashpoint*
- **Allan King Award For Excellence In Documentary** - *Air India 182*

Go to <http://www.dgc.ca/page.php> to see the complete DGC Awards listing.

Congratulations to all finalists for the **2009 Governor General's Literary Awards**. For a full list of all the nominees, visit www.canadacouncil.ca/prizes/ggla. The winners will be announced on November 17, 2009.

The winner of the **Toronto Book Award** this year is **Austin Clarke** for his novel **More**. Congratulations to both the author and his publisher, **Thomas Allen Publishers**.

Our congratulations to Ontario publisher **Kim McArthur**, President and Publisher of McArthur & Company Publishing Ltd., who recently received an award in the Entrepreneurship category for **The International Alliance for Women (TIAW) World of Difference 100 Awards**.

On October 8, the **21st Annual Crystal Award** recipients were announced:

- **Outstanding Achievement Award** - Christine Shipton, Senior Vice President, Drama/Factual Content, CanWest
- **Creative Excellence Award** - Tassie Cameron, Screenwriter & Producer
- **Mentorship Award** - Lisa Meeches, Executive Producer, President, Eagle Vision Inc., Meeches Video Production
- **Special Jury Award of Distinction** - Christa Singer, Independent Producer & Director (retired)

Biographies of the 2009 **Crystal Award** winners are available at www.wift.com. The 2009 **Crystal Awards** are presented by NBC Universal and CanWest Broadcasting. The awards will be presented at a gala luncheon on Monday, November 30, 2009 at The Fairmont Royal York in Toronto.

On October 6, the jury for the **2009 Scotiabank Giller Prize** announced its shortlist of books in the running for this year's prize. Ontario authors on the shortlist include: Anne Michaels' **The Winter Vault (McClelland & Stewart)**, as well as Ontario author Kim Echlin's **The Disappeared** (Hamish Hamilton/Penguin Canada). For the complete shortlist go to www.scotiabankgillerprize.ca. The winner will be named at an awards ceremony on Tuesday, November 10, 2009.

Upcoming Events & Industry Deadlines

Nov. 12-13 | Registration is now open for the **TD National Reading Summit**. This Summit will bring together writers, educators, publishers, librarians, academics, researchers, business leaders, public officials, and youth interested in crafting a blueprint for a reading Canada. Speakers from across the country and around the world will share their research and experience in developing reading programs, and delegates will lay the groundwork for implementing new programs and policies. Visit www.nationalreadingsummit.ca for more information and registration.

Nov. 15 | Early bird deadline for submissions for the **Santa Cruz Film Festival**. Final deadline for submissions is February 15, 2010. Honoring today's most creative independent filmmakers, SCFF will present Audience Awards for Narrative Feature, Documentary Feature, International Film, Short Narrative, Short Documentary, Animated Work, Experimental Work, Student-Produced Work, Youth-Produced Work and Locally-Produced Work. Jury Prizes are awarded in the Narrative Feature, Documentary Feature and Emerging Filmmaker categories.
http://www.santacruzfilmfestival.org/2010_callforentries.html.

The Festival is proud to continue its partnership with the **EarthVision Environmental Film Festival**. SCFF commits a portion of its programming to raising environmental awareness and bringing key environmental issues to the forefront. The EarthVision Environmental Film section includes audience awards in a number of categories and includes the EarthVision Environmental Film Jury Prize. Visit <http://www.santacruzfilmfestival.org/earthvision.html> for more information.

Nov. 30 – Dec. 1 | nextMEDIA Toronto is an intensive two-day event of networking, learning and strategizing. It attracts top executives from advertising, broadcasting, TV production, media buying and interactive agencies. The conference offers a plethora of ways in which to both learn and build partnerships for your businesses. Hear visionary speakers from communications, production and broadcast rant lyrical, meet key executives face to face and attend interactive workshops in leadership, design, multiplatform production and more! The event concludes with a night of celebration of Canada's only national new media awards. For more information please go to:

<http://www.nextmediaevents.com/toronto/index.php>

Dec. 1 | Canadian New Media Awards (CNMA) gala ceremony at The Design Exchange, Toronto. The Canadian New Media Awards recognize Canada's digital media best, in 19 prestigious award categories. Participants include Canadian innovators, game-changers and digital maestros – both individuals and companies. Check here for the 2009 awards categories:
<http://www.nextmediaevents.com/toronto/cnma.categories.php>

Dec. 1 | Nominations deadline for **The Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts**. The award recognizes outstanding achievement and contribution to arts and culture in Ontario, over a significant period of time. The award is conferred in two categories: one for an individual artist and one for an arts organization. Anyone can nominate and the deadline is December 1, 2009. More information and application forms can be found at: <http://www.arts.on.ca/Page1682.aspx>

Upcoming Awards, Markets and Festivals

Nov. 6-10	Magazines Canada School for Advertising Sales , Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON. www.magazinescanada.ca
Nov. 10	Scotiabank Giller Prize Gala at the Four Seasons Hotel, Toronto, ON. www.scotiabankgillerprize.ca
Nov. 11-15	13th Annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival , Toronto, ON. www.reelasian.com
Nov. 12-13	TD National Reading Summit , Toronto, ON. www.nationalreadingsummit.ca
Nov. 12-15	Windsor International Film Festival , Windsor, ON. www.windsorfilmfestival.ca
Nov. 14	24th Annual Gemini Awards Broadcast Gala , Calgary, AB. www.academy.ca
Nov. 18-23	Salon du livre de Montréal , Montreal, QC. www.salondulivredemontreal.com
Nov. 19	22nd International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) , Netherlands. www.dfgdocs.com/Festivals/International_Documentary_Festival_Amsterdam_(IDFA).aspx
Nov. 28-Dec. 6	The Guadalajara International Book Fair , Guadalajara, Mexico. www.fil.com.mx/ingles/i_index.asp
Nov. 30	WIFT-T's 21st Annual Crystal Awards Gala Luncheon , The Fairmont Royal York in Toronto, ON. www.wift.com

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 Reception@omdc.on.ca

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

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