

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

Item 15, Report No. 35, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on September 17, 2013.

15 2013 RAVE (RECOGNIZING ARTS VAUGHAN EXCELLENCE) AWARDS NOMINATIONS AND THE CITY OF VAUGHAN AWARD FOR HIGHER ARTS EDUCATION

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Community Services, dated September 3, 2013:

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Recreation and Culture, recommends:

1. That the individuals listed in the confidential memorandum as set out in Attachment 1 be approved to receive a 2013 *RAVE Award (Recognizing Arts Vaughan Excellence)* in each respective discipline/category and a 2013 *City of Vaughan Award for Higher Arts Education*.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council in the Green Directions, Vaughan, Community Sustainability Environmental Master Plan, Goal 4, Objective 4.1:

- To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage.

Economic Impact

The cost of the 2013 *RAVE Awards* and the affiliated *City of Vaughan Award for Higher Arts Education* programs will be covered in part through sponsorship funds raised from corporate donations. The annual cost of implementing the City of Vaughan Award for Higher Arts Education, is \$6,000; two awards of \$3,000 per year to be distributed to financially assist students pursuing post-secondary arts education.

Communications Plan

The 2013 *RAVE Awards* is promoted through the City's website, social media, Recreation Guide, City Page and arts/culture related websites. The award recipients will be recognized during a presentation at Council tentatively scheduled for October 29, 2013.

A formal public "call for submissions" for *RAVE Awards* nominations and the Award for Higher Arts Education took place between April 3 and June 28, 2013. The call for submissions was advertised on the City's website and the City Page. Submission packages were also sent to a wide range of individuals/organizations on the City's arts database and distributed to all City facilities, including libraries.

The *City of Vaughan Award for Higher Arts Education* program is promoted throughout all public, separate and private secondary schools in Vaughan; Greater Toronto Area universities, colleges, professional and commercial art schools; and is posted on the City of Vaughan and Vaughan Public Libraries websites.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to review and approve the list of nominees recommended

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by the adjudication panel to receive a 2013 *RAVE Award* and 2013 *City of Vaughan Award for Higher Arts Education*.

Background - Analysis and Options

In an effort to enhance the profile and build capacity for the arts in Vaughan, the *RAVE Awards (Recognizing Arts Vaughan Excellence)* program was developed and approved by Council in November 2008. The program, currently in its fifth year, is a vehicle to recognize the significant contributions of businesses, organizations and individuals who help develop the arts in the City. The *City of Vaughan Award for Higher Arts Education* is currently in its fourth year. This program was established to financially assist the emerging talent of Vaughan students who are pursuing post-secondary education in the arts by providing cash assistance to outstanding students who intend to follow an arts career. Both programs support the goals of the *Creative Together Cultural Plan* approved in 2010.

A formal public “call for submissions” for both programs took place between April 3 and June 28, 2013. The call for submissions was advertised on the City’s website, social media and on the City Page. Submission packages were also sent out to a wide range of individuals/organizations on the City’s arts database and distributed to all City facilities, including libraries.

As a result, 9 nominations were received for the 2013 *RAVE Awards* and 11 submissions were received for the Award for Higher Arts Education program. An adjudication panel composed of City staff and a member of Vaughan Council with expertise in the visual, performing and literary arts reviewed submissions at a meeting on July 25, 2013.

RAVE (RECOGNIZING ARTS VAUGHAN EXCELLENCE) AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Discipline Categories and Criteria

Nominations were accepted in the following three art disciplines:

- Performing Arts
- Visual Arts
- Literary Arts

Within each art discipline, nominations were submitted in any one of the following four categories:

- Patron of the Arts
Honours a person, business or organization demonstrating an on-going commitment to the arts in the City of Vaughan through innovative, community or financial support of artistic activity.
- Art Educator/Mentor
Recognizes an artist who has made an outstanding contribution to art education in the City of Vaughan.
- Practicing Artist
Awarded to an emerging or established artist who has achieved a high degree of artistic excellence, has earned significant recognition for his/her work and has had a positive impact on the artistic landscape of the City of Vaughan.

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- Rising Star
Acknowledges the talent of an emerging artist who has earned significant recognition within the academic and/or arts community and shows continued promise of achieving a high degree of artistic excellence.

Nominations in each relevant category were evaluated on the following merits:

- Dedication to the Arts
- Artistic Creativity
- Artistic Quality
- Leadership or Innovation
- Artistic Recognition/Achievement
- Community Impact

CITY OF VAUGHAN AWARD FOR HIGHER ARTS EDUCATION

Eligibility Criteria

- Secondary or post-secondary students must be residents of Vaughan, be enrolled in post-secondary education in any arts discipline in the next year, and demonstrate a committed interest in pursuing a career in the arts.
- A maximum of two cash awards valued at \$3,000 each will be distributed annually to Vaughan students enrolled in post-secondary arts education programs.
- Nominations are evaluated based on financial need, academic merit and demonstrated community leadership.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, the report will provide:

- STRATEGIC GOAL:
Service Excellence - Providing service excellence to citizens.
- STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:
Preserve our heritage and support diversity, arts and culture.

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council, and the necessary resources to implement this program have been allocated and approved.

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

The 2013 *RAVE Awards* (Recognizing Arts Vaughan Excellence) provide a formal vehicle for Council to recognize excellence in the visual, performing and literary arts in the categories of Patron of the Arts, Arts Educator/Mentor, Practicing Artist and Rising Star. The award program highlights the significant contributions of businesses, organizations and individuals who help develop the arts in the City. The 2013 *RAVE Awards* nominees being recommended this year represent some of the most talented artists in our community.

The *City of Vaughan Award for Higher Arts Education* assists the emerging talent of Vaughan students pursuing post-secondary education in the arts. This initiative profiles the artistic

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achievements of Vaughan's student sector and reinforces the integral role art education plays in the City's cultural landscape.

Attachments

1. Confidential Memorandum (Members of Council Only).

Report Prepared By

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(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)