

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Nominations now open for Barrie Arts Awards**

(Barrie, ON) The City of Barrie is now accepting nominations for the 2016 Barrie Arts Awards. Nomination forms can be found at [barrie.ca/ArtsAwards](http://barrie.ca/ArtsAwards) or at the Department of Culture office (56 Mulcaster Street). Each award winner will be invited to accept their handcrafted award, a piece of art in itself, at a gala evening held at the Southshore Centre on Wednesday, November 16th, 2016.

There are currently five awards in the following categories:

- Contribution to the Community – for individuals who have played a significant role in the development of an arts organization or program
- Emerging Artist – a talented individual who is beginning a body of work in pursuit of a career in the arts
- Business Award – for a business person who has consistently and significantly supported the arts
- Most Promising Youth – must be under 19 years of age and demonstrating superior ability in the arts
- Excellence in the Arts – for the more established artist, performer or author

Nominations must be submitted to the Department of Culture by Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm. These awards serve to acknowledge the vibrancy that the arts bring to Barrie and are an excellent opportunity to show appreciation for talented individuals and generous sponsors and supporters of the arts.

For more information, visit [barrie.ca/ArtsAwards](http://barrie.ca/ArtsAwards).

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**About Barrie** – Barrie is an exciting, caring and progressive community that 147,000 people call home. Situated 90 km north of the Greater Toronto Area on beautiful Kempenfelt Bay, Barrie offers an excellent life style and multitude of recreational opportunities. We are committed to the growth of prosperity of Central Ontario's leading City and most dynamic waterfront community.