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Zach Colangelo, she/they, Shakespeare by the Sea

THE 2025 THEATRE NOVA SCOTIA

ROBERT MERRITT AWARDS



WE ARE IN MI'KMA'KI

The unceded, unsurrendered
territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

The 2025 Merritt awards are taking place in Punamu'kwati'jk,
the place of the tomcod (or salmon), which sits next to Kjipuktuk,
the great harbour.

This territory is covered by the "treaties of peace and
friendship" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik Peoples first
signed with the British crown in 1725. These treaties did not deal
with the surrender of land and resources, but instead recognized
Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik title and established the rules for
what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

Visit placenames.mapdev.ca to learn more about the name of
the place that you are on and what it means.

We are all treaty people.

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JURORS

The Robert Merritt Awards have been recognizing excellence in professional Nova Scotian theatre since 2002. All year long, a volunteer jury of 6-8 members attend theatre productions all across Nova Scotia / Mi'kma'ki. Each year an average of 40-50 productions are juried.

This creates an opportunity for our members to survey the wide landscape of our provincial theatre scene and to witness the many adventures theatre professionals embark on through their chosen type of performance.

Theatre Nova Scotia wishes to thank the 2024 Merritt Jury, whose tremendous commitment and herculean effort made this evening possible:

Coral Maloney
Diego Guerrero
Janet Larkman
Jessie Walker
Rob Wigle
Rooks Field-Green

THEATRE NOVA SCOTIA STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (outgoing)
Mark Ferraro-Hauck

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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Pamela Halstead

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*Your Voice in the
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Proud to Support the Nova Scotia Robert Merritt Awards

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"Theatre is life on a stage"



Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin, MLA

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ABOUT THEATRE NOVA SCOTIA

Theatre Nova Scotia is a registered charity dedicated to celebrating live theatre in Nova Scotia. We are a small but mighty team that provides awareness, marketing and production assistance to a vast network of members including theatre artists, professional and community theatre companies, and associate organizations.

We celebrate theatre with three major programs annually - the Robert Merritt Theatre Awards, the PERFORM! Artists in Schools program, and the Nova Scotia High School Drama Festival.



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2025 MERRITTS TEAM

PRODUCERS: Dan Bray + Kat McCormack
LAND WELCOME: Sarah Prosper
SUPPORT 4 CULTURE: Tim Walman
PERFORMANCE: Garry Williams and the Nest singers
SPECIAL GUEST: Lara Lewis
EMERGING ARTIST SHOWCASE PRODUCER: Brenda Duran
PRODUCTION MANAGER: Jessica Lewis
VIDEO EDITOR: Zach Faye
ACCESSIBILITY COORDINATOR: Sara Graham
TECHNICIANS: Thomas Rice, Brenda Duran + Mark Bachynski
ASL INTERPRETERS: Charly Kelley and Tyler Megarry
MERRITT MINDERS: Rachel Chew, Benton Elliott,
 Kanye Johnson, + Lorelei Trafford
PHOTOBOOTH: Booth Almighty
DJ: Ben McMillan (DJ Sneaky B)
SLIDESHOW GRAPHICS: Dan Bray
PROGRAM DESIGN: Colleen Arcturus MacIsaac
SPECIAL THANKS: Tracy Fanous and her team, James MacLean

EMERGING ARTIST SHOWCASE:

Shanoa Phillips, Diego Cavedon, Cassie Seaboyer,
 and Lily Falk and Franziska Glen

PRESENTERS (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE):

Matt Walker, Sam Vigneault + Abby Weisbrot, Chris George + Matt Lacas,
 Stephen Findlay + Mary Knickle, Sharleen Kalaylil + Audrey Eastwood, Ken
 Schwartz + Amy Reitsma, Kathy France + Thea Burton, Diego Guerrero +
 Richie Wilcox, Dylan Brentwood + Daniel Nwobi, April Hubbard + Sara
 Graham, Lee-Anne Poole + Stewart Legere, Jake Planinc + Colleen Arcturus
 MacIsaac, Garrett Barker, Mary Fay Coady, Dartmouth Geese, Jessie Walker,
 Katherine Norris, Logan Robins, Kih Becke + I'thandi Munro, Sharisse Lebrun
 + Patrick Jeffrey, Karen Bassett + Seb Reade, Mary Vingoe + Laura Vingoe-
 Cram, Genevieve Steele + Rooks Field-Green, FSPA 3rd Year Acting Students,
 Susan Leblanc + Keith Morrison, Zach Faye + Catherine Banks, and
 Ann-Marie Kerr + Jacob Sampson.

ACT ONE

Theatre Nova Scotia Welcome

Land Welcome

Support4Culture

Opening Routine

Outstanding Emerging Artist Award

Outstanding Emerging Production Award

Outstanding Choreography Award

Outstanding Projection Design Award

Outstanding New Nova Scotian Adaptation Award

Outstanding Lighting Design Award

Outstanding Fight Direction Award

Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role Award

Outstanding Musical Direction Award

In Memoriam

April Hubbard Creative Access Award

Theatre Nova Scotia Legacy Award

20 MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

Welcome back

Outstanding Stage Manager Award

Outstanding Technician Award

Outstanding Volunteer Award

Outstanding Sound Design Award

Outstanding Costume Design Award

Outstanding Scenic Design Award

Outstanding Original Score or Composition Award

Outstanding Direction Award

Outstanding New Nova Scotian Play Award

Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Award

Outstanding Independent Production Award

Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role Award

Outstanding Production Award

Thank You

AFTERPARTY AT THE BUS STOP THEATRE
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