

2015 NATIONAL FRESH VOICES ARTIVISM AWARD

A partnership of the Vancouver Foundation, the Michaëlle Jean Foundation and TELUS

ABOUT THE AWARDS

The 2015 National Fresh Voices Artivism Awards provides a \$1,000 bursary to two inspiring young immigrant, migrant or refugee individuals, aged 14–24, who has demonstrated excellence and impact in using the arts and/or cultural engagement to address issues of concern in newcomer communities in Canada. The award is part of the Vancouver Foundation’s Fresh Voices program and the Michaëlle Jean Foundation’s 4th Wall: Make the Invisible Visible program, with sponsorship support from TELUS.

The award provides support to help young newcomers enhance their skills and capacity to use various artistic and cultural engagement mediums as tools to address social, cultural and economic issues of concern in their communities such as: education and learning, immigration, family, and building bridges and working in solidarity across diverse communities.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the 2015 National Fresh Voices Artivism Award, individuals must:

- Be an immigrant, migrant or refugee young person residing in Canada
- Be nominated by a community organization or another individual (at this time we cannot accept self-nominations)
- Be aged 14–24
- Demonstrate experience using the arts in his or her newcomer community (“arts” are broadly defined to include all forms of creative and cultural expression)
- All applicants must be available to participate in a gala dinner in Vancouver on Friday, October 2, 2015 (transportation and accommodation costs will be covered).

Selection Process & Timeline

The selection committee will be comprised of representatives from the Vancouver Foundation’s Fresh Voices Youth Advisory Team, the Michaëlle Jean Foundation, TELUS and 2 additional young migrant leaders from across Canada.

Nominations which are incomplete, submitted after the deadline, or which do not meet eligibility requirements will not be considered.

Step 1 | Nominations close at 4:30 pm PST on Tuesday, September 22, 2015. Please fill out the nomination form with all information required and submit along with required documents.

Step 2 | The Selection Committee will make final decisions regarding the award recipients. The National Award recipients will be publicly announced at the Fresh Voices Awards Dinner held in Vancouver, B.C. on Friday, October 2, 2015. The successful recipient of the 2015 National Award will be notified in advance and invited to attend the awards dinner. The Vancouver Foundation, the Michaëlle Jean Foundation and TELUS will provide travel and accommodation support to the award recipients to attend on October 2, 2015.

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ABOUT THE PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS:



VANCOUVER FOUNDATION

Vancouver Foundation's mission is to build healthy, vibrant, and livable communities across British Columbia.

We accomplish our work by harnessing the gifts of energy, ideas, time, and money of caring residents to make meaningful and lasting impacts. We are Canada's largest community foundation and we've been investing in our communities since 1943.



ABOUT FRESH VOICES

The Fresh Voices Initiative engages immigrant and refugee youth from across the province in dialogue and action that would identify and remove systemic barriers to their ability to thrive. Fresh Voices works towards this goal through a set of public engagement, research and partnership objectives that address the unique needs of immigrant and refugee youth in B.C. The outcomes the Fresh Voices initiative seeks to influence are:

- improved policies and practices that affect racialized immigrant and refugee youth's sense of belonging in British Columbia and Canada as a whole;
- position newcomer youth to have more voice and influence in planning and decision-making processes that affect their lives.

Fresh Voices is led by a Youth Advisory Team (YAT): a diverse group of racialized immigrant and refugee youth age between 14 to 24, who provide feedback, recommendations and community leadership to the initiative overall, with the support and partnership from Vancouver Foundation. For more information please visit <https://www.vancouverfoundation.ca>



MICHAËLLE JEAN FOUNDATION

The Michaëlle Jean Foundation supports youth arts initiatives that transform young lives and revitalize underserved communities across Canada. Through our programs, underprivileged youth are using their creativity to build new solutions to pressing social issues, like poverty, social exclusion and mental health. In so doing, they are catalyzing innovative community renewal projects, driving crucial Aboriginal cultural resurgence initiatives and kick-starting cutting-edge business ventures, all over the country. For more info: www.fmjf.ca.

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ABOUT THE PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS CONT...

4th Wall

ABOUT THE 4TH WALL PROGRAM

In theatre, the “fourth wall” is an imaginary screen that creates a virtual separation between actor and spectator. There are many ways to cross the fourth wall and to make the invisible visible. The Michaëlle Jean Foundation chose to do so through the 4th Wall: Make the Invisible Visible program, in collaboration with several prestigious Canadian museums and art galleries. The goal is to invite young creators to break down the invisible walls that create solitudes between individuals and communities across Canada, by opening the doors of our major cultural institutions to emerging creators from marginalized backgrounds. The Foundation offers museum and art gallery space and bursaries to youth from disadvantaged backgrounds, often cut off from museums, so that they can produce original art that conveys their experiences, ideas and challenges. On display for the public to see, their work provokes debate and builds solutions. 4th Wall exhibitions have been featured at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, to mark Black History Month in collaboration with FRO Foundation, at the Art Gallery of Ontario, to celebrate World Pride 2014 and its Jean-Michel Basquiat: Now's the Time exhibition in 2015, and at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia to raise awareness about young Canadians' perspectives on justice.



TELUS
TELUS is Canada's fastest-growing national telecommunications company, with 13.9 million customer connections. TELUS provides a wide range of communications products and services, and is Canada's largest healthcare IT provider. In support of our philosophy to give where we live, TELUS, our team members and retirees have contributed more than \$396 million to charitable and not-for-profit organizations and volunteered more than 6 million hours of service to local communities since 2000. Created in 2005 by President and CEO Darren Entwistle, TELUS' 11 Canadian community boards and 4 International boards have led the Company's support of grassroots charities and will have contributed more than \$54 million in support of over 4,800 local charitable projects by the end of 2015, enriching the lives of more than 2.1 million children and youth.