

THE MICHAEL SPENCE AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY THEATRE NOMINATION GUIDELINES

Theatre Ontario's Michael Spence Award for Contribution to Community Theatre is presented every year to an individual for their outstanding contribution to community theatre in their region over a sustained time. The award will be presented to an individual in the region that is hosting the Theatre Ontario Festival in the same year.

AWARD CRITERIA:

- Nominee shall have made a sustained contribution to community theatre;
- Nominee shall be an individual whose generosity of spirit, involvement, and commitment to community theatre is legendary within their region, and helped community theatre flourish.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Nomination shall be made by a community theatre located within the applicable region;
- The community theatre shall make only a single nomination;
- The community theatre does not need to be a member of the regional association or Theatre Ontario;
- Posthumous nominations are ineligible;
- The "individual" / "nominee" can be a pair of individuals whose sustained contribution to community theatre (and all other criteria) was made collectively as a team.

The award was established in 1997 by Theatre Ontario on the occasion of Theatre Ontario's 25th Anniversary. Multiple awards were presented on the quinquennial anniversaries of Theatre Ontario until 2012 when it became a single, annual award. This award is named in honour of Michael Spence, the founding President of Theatre Ontario. Michael was active in community theatre at Hart House Theatre, London Little Theatre, and the University Alumnae Dramatic Club (now known as Alumnae Theatre.) He was a member of the Board of Governors of the Dominion Drama Festival, a past President of Arts Etobicoke, and he continues to be an enthusiastic supporter of Theatre Ontario.

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