



CAPACOA Announces Winners of 2009 Awards Honouring Leaders in Canadian Arts Presentation & Touring

CAPACOA, Canada's only national organization serving the live performing arts presenting and touring industry, is pleased to announce the winners of three professional awards that recognize excellence in the field of live performance touring and presenting for the 2008-09 season. The awards were presented at the annual CAPACOA conference, held in Calgary, Alberta, November 6-9, 2009.

The 2009 CAPACOA Award Winners Are:

CAPACOA Presenter of the Year 2008-09: **Brenda Heatherington**, The Arden Theatre

CAPACOA Touring Artist of the Year 2008-09: **Nathaniel Dett Chorale**

CAPACOA Artist Manager/Agent of the Year 2008-09: **Barbara Scales**, Latitudes 45 Arts Promotion

Erin Benjamin, Executive Director of CAPACOA says, "the award recipients this year are extraordinary people, all leaders in presenting in Canada who embody the values that performing arts foster in all of us. They connect people, help to build communities, and they enrich the lives of all Canadians. We are thrilled to be able to recognize and celebrate these significant contributions."

CAPACOA Presenter of the Year 2008-09: **Brenda Heatherington**, The Arden Theatre

Brenda Heatherington, is the Programming Manager at The Arden Theatre. With Ms. Heatherington's programming leadership, The Arden Theatre has gained an international reputation for excellence. Located in St. Albert, Alberta, Canada, The Arden Theatre has played host to some of the world's most respected artists as well as dance schools, musicians, actors and school groups from the community. Busy over 300 days of the year, the Arden Theatre is home to over 150 events playing to more than 60,000 patrons.

The CAPACOA Presenter of the Year award recognizes excellence and achievement by a volunteer or professional organization in the presentation of touring performances, demonstrating commitment to excellence in programming and professionalism, and/or contribution to community life and/or the touring sector in Canada. This award is open to CAPACOA presenter and network members only.



CAPACOA Touring Artist of the Year 2008-09: **Nathaniel Dett Chorale**

The Nathaniel Dett Chorale is Canada's first professional choral group dedicated to Afrocentric music of all styles, including classical, spiritual, gospel, jazz, folk and blues. Under the leadership of Founder and Artistic Director Brainerd Blyden-Taylor, The Nathaniel Dett Chorale's 10th anniversary concert season in 2008-2009 was an exciting time. The season began with a tour of concerts and community and school workshops in seven of the Southern United States. In January, The Nathaniel Dett Chorale was the only Canadian performing arts ensemble invited to take part in President Barack Obama's inauguration festivities at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. In February, the Chorale celebrated Black History Month with performances at Corvette Public School in Scarborough, Ontario. The Nathaniel Dett Chorale Training Choir, a new program for high school students of African heritage, also gave its first performance at these concerts. Also in February, the ensemble embarked on a 14-day sold-out tour of Western Canada. For their Spring concert, the Chorale invited young people from The Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture, through the Woodgreen Community Centre. The Nathaniel Dett Chorale eagerly continues to build bridges of understanding and acceptance through the medium of music.

The CAPACOA Touring Artist of the Year award recognizes performers whose professionalism and cooperative spirit enhance their relationship with presenters, such as cooperation in performance promotion, technical facilitation, contract fulfillment, or service above and beyond contractual agreements. This award is open to any performing artist or company that toured in Canada during the 2008-09 season.

CAPACOA Artist Manager/Agent of the Year 2008-09: **Barbara Scales**, Latitudes 45 Arts Promotion

Barbara Scales is the Founder and Director of Latitude 45 Arts Promotion, Artist Management and Agency. Since 1982 she has been representing artists in all fields of the performing arts, including classical and contemporary music, dance, theatre and children's entertainment. Most of Barbara Scales' current work involves art on the leading edge of today's performing arts practice in music, dance, theatre and new media. Latitude 45 works globally with one-third of its activities in Canada, one-third in the United States and one third in Europe, Asia-Pacific and South America. In addition to representing artists, Barbara Scales and Latitude 45 Arts Promotion have handled the public relations for several dance companies, collaborated on organizing a dance event for Toronto-based dance companies at the Pompidou Centre in Paris, handled promotion for the Warebrook Festival in Northeastern Vermont, produced concerts in Montreal, and collaborated with other organizations to commission over 20 works from solo or chamber works to concerti.



The CAPACOA Artist Manager/Agent of the Year award recognizes exceptional achievement by business organizations who work in partnership with presenters to develop and maintain audiences, promote block booking activity, conceive innovative touring projects, and otherwise go above and beyond the basic booking of engagements. This award is open to CAPACOA business members only.

The Canadian Arts Presenting Association/l'Association canadienne des organismes artistiques (CAPACOA) is Canada's national network of performing arts professionals. CAPACOA plays a unique and valuable role in the cultural marketplace as the only membership-based pan-Canadian organization serving the live performing arts presenting and touring industry. CAPACOA is the national voice, network and professional association representing, strengthening and facilitating the sector at home and abroad. Our members are presenters, artistic directors, facilities, performing arts centres, promoters, agents, managers, companies, artists, and networks that build markets and opportunities so that Canadian artists have work. Together, we work to ensure that all Canadians enjoy and have access to a vibrant cultural life, while reinforcing Canada's identity through cultural markets.

The 23rd annual CAPACOA conference will be held in Ottawa, Ontario, November 5-8, 2010 at the Westin Ottawa.

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Media Contacts:

Heather Kelly, Marketing Consultant & Media Relations
heather.kelly@capacoa.ca
cell: 416.879.0283

Mel Roach, Communications Assistant
mel.roach@capacoa.ca
office: 613.562.3515