



BC Achievement Carter Wosk Award Applied Art + Design

Tips for Submitting a Compelling Nomination

The annual AAD Award recognizes the creative excellence and innovative entrepreneurship of artists working in British Columbia whose work has a practical or functional application. Selection of Awardees is based on the nomination package submitted (Artist Statement, Artist Resumé, Images of the Work, Visual List and optional Additional Materials) and the *criteria* of creativity, originality, innovative approach and aesthetics.

Artist Statement (3000 character maximum)

The Artist Statement tells the story of the nominee and their work. The artist/nominator should:

- Use concrete examples to show how the nominee is outstanding and a deserving candidate for the award (i.e., why the jury should select the nominee)
- Explain why the nominee became an artist and the type of work they create
- Demonstrate persuasively how and where the nominee has made a difference
- Discuss who or what has influenced them
- Demonstrate how they are innovative and creative (i.e., what makes their work unique/interesting)
- Explain how they earn the respect of their peers and are role models in their field
- *If not a self-nomination*, the nominator should write about the above on behalf of the artist and provide a description of how they know the nominee

NOTE: It is recommended that the artist/nominator write out the statement in a word document first and edit it before uploading it as part of the nomination package

Artist Resumé

The Artist Resumé provides biographical information about the nominee. It should:

- Address how long the nominee has been working in their field
- Include their educational and professional activities, affiliations and/or significant projects, and/or resumé
- Explain what kinds of artwork they create and why
- Include anything else the jury might find interesting

Images of the Work & Visual List

Photos should show off the artist's work in the best light possible. High quality photos make a difference to the jury. The artist/nominator should:

- Include a description of each image: title, medium, material, description, year it was completed
- Ensure all images are high resolution (if they're blurry don't submit them)
- Submit images that show the artist's signature style even if it is in different mediums
- Include close up images of the details in the work
- Include recent work, and if appropriate, images of older work if it shows growth in the artist's skill.
- Submit the maximum number of photos permitted (10 images)



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NOTE:

- If updating a previous nomination package, the photos should show how an artist's work has evolved
- Photos shot on a solid background and with good lighting are more appealing to the eye
- If the image is taken outdoors, ensure no shadows are blocking the art
- It is strongly recommended that the artist/nominator provide links via YouTube, or an artist's website, particularly if the artist/designer's work produces sound (e.g., musical instruments, installations etc.)

Supporting Documents (optional)

Additional Materials

- Jury members appreciate the opportunity to review testimonials, certificates, videos or media coverage that depict an artist's achievements as they indicate the scope of an artist's work

Challenges of COVID-19

- Including a statement about the challenges the artist has faced during the COVID-19 pandemic speaks to the artist's story of resilience during these unprecedented times

Reference Letters

Testimonial letters help to paint a complete picture of the nominee and what they have accomplished. The letters should:

- Be written by individuals who know the nominee well enough to be able to talk about the nominee from first-hand experience
- Be current and written specifically for the AAD Award

NOTE:

- Reference letters may be provided by past award recipients, or other well-known people in a similar field to the nominee
- Be sure to request letters early on so the referee has time to write a strong letter

Language

- Strong nominations often use descriptive words to describe the nominees such as: leader, innovator, mentor, commitment, dedication, recognition, determination, exemplary, admired, passionate, inspirational, resourceful, persevering
- Be concise. Stick to the word limits in the nomination form
- Check spelling. Proofread all your documents before you submit them
- Ask a friend/colleague to review documents before submitting them (they may have suggestions to make the nomination clearer or more concise)