

**For Immediate Release**



**BC Achievement  
Applied Art + Design  
Award**

**BC ACHIEVEMENT FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL APPLIED ART + DESIGN AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**Vancouver, BC (October 11, 2023):** Today, the awardees of the 19th annual [Applied Art + Design Award](#) (AAD) have been announced by the [BC Achievement Foundation](#), an independent foundation that honours excellence and inspires achievement throughout the province. The award program celebrates British Columbians who excel at creating functional art and design, while advancing the collective conversation around its importance.



“Congratulations to the recipients of the 2023 Applied Art + Design Award! Your remarkable talents and dedication to applied art and design deserve this recognition for excellence in your field,” said Walter Pela, Chair of the BC Achievement Foundation. “By highlighting your outstanding work, we shine a light on the invaluable contributions of designers blending art and function, enriching our lives with creativity and innovation that shape the aesthetics of our world while contributing to BC’s cultural economy. Your passion and skill inspire others to pursue their artistic dreams, and we applaud your commitment to elevating the realm of applied art and design. Well done!”

The Applied Art + Design Award spotlights inspiring examples of functional art that enhances day-to-day life for individuals, while strengthening the cultural and economic fabric of the province. Artists and designers are celebrated for creating exceptional work that has practical or functional applications across a variety of areas, including furniture, textiles, jewellery, ceramics, weaving, glass, fashion, and industrial design.

**The recipients of the 2023 Applied Art + Design Award are:**

[Kate Metten](#) – Vancouver, Judson  
Beaumont Emerging Artist

[Bridget Catchpole](#) – Hornby Island

[Riley McFerrin](#) – Vancouver

[Marie Khouri](#) – Vancouver, Award of  
Distinction



The board of the BC Achievement Foundation, in consultation with the community, has named **Marie Khouri** as the 2023 Award of Distinction, honouring her exceptional career and lifetime achievement in sculpture and public art.

Awardees were selected by an independent jury, whose members include **Renée Macdonald**, Westerly Handmade Shoes (2015 recipient); **Claudia Schulz**, Claudia Schulz Hats (2018 recipient); and **Henry Norris**, furniture maker (2018 recipient). **Ron Kong**, craft advocate, and **Toby Barratt**, Propellor Design (2010 recipient), both served as advisors to the jury.

This year's Applied Art + Design awardees have once again propelled BC Achievement's mission to elevate excellence, share success, and inspire change. Recipients will be recognized at an award ceremony next month and will be featured in two short films showcasing their artistic accomplishments. Awardees will also be recognized through the online campaign, #shinethelightbc.

Additionally, BC Achievement is proud to present a **combined exhibition** showcasing the 2023 award recipients for both the Applied Art + Design Award and Polygon Award in First Nations Art. The exhibition, which is free and open to the public, will take place at the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre in Vancouver from Thursday, November 16 to Wednesday, November 22. Register for the exhibition [here](#).

**Interviews with representatives of the BC Achievement Foundation and award recipients are available upon request. A media kit, including awardee bios and high-resolution images, can be found [here](#).**

**For more information about the BC Achievement Foundation or the Applied Art + Design Award program, please visit [www.bcachievement.com](http://www.bcachievement.com).**

The BC Achievement Foundation is also grateful to supporting sponsor [TELUS](#) and community partners [BC Ferries](#), [Denbigh Fine Art Services](#), and [The Roundhouse](#) each of which play a key role in elevating excellence in their support of the Applied Art + Design Award program.

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### **About BC Achievement**

BC Achievement is an independent foundation established in 2003 that celebrates the spirit of excellence in our province and serves to honour the best of British Columbia. In addition to the Applied Art + Design Award, the organization presents several established programs, including the Polygon Award in First Nations Art, the Indigenous Business Award, the Community Award and in partnership with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, the BC Reconciliation Award. By recognizing the accomplishments of our province's entrepreneurs, artists, community leaders, youth and volunteers, BC Achievement's award programs pay tribute to exceptional people, doing exceptional work, while carving a path forward for others to follow.

[www.bcachievement.com](http://www.bcachievement.com)

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