



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Wednesday, October 4, 2017**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**New category announced for Barrie Arts Awards**

(Barrie, ON) The City of Barrie is now accepting nominations for the 2017 Barrie Arts Awards. New this year is the Artist Without Barriers category, which recognizes individuals who have demonstrated creative originality through a body of work despite living with a disability. The new award category is sponsored by Barrie's Accessibility Advisory Committee.

There are currently six awards in the following categories:

- Artist Without Barriers
- Business Champion
- Contribution to the Community
- Emerging Artist
- Excellence in the Arts
- Most Promising Youth

Nominations must be submitted to the Creative Economy Department (56 Mulcaster Street) by Monday, October 23 at 4:30 p.m. Each award winner will be invited to accept their handcrafted award, a piece of art in itself, at a gala evening held at the Southshore Centre on Wednesday, November 15th, 2017. Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses or organizations interested in participating in this year's gala.

These awards serve to acknowledge the vibrancy that the arts bring to Barrie and are an opportunity to show appreciation for talented individuals and supporters of the arts.

Additional information, including nomination forms and sponsorship details, is available at [www.barrie.ca/ArtsAwards](http://www.barrie.ca/ArtsAwards).

- 30 -

**Media Contact:**

Emma Sharpe  
Communications Advisor  
705-739-4220 x4436  
[Emma.Sharpe@barrie.ca](mailto:Emma.Sharpe@barrie.ca)