



ART IN THE COUNTY
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For Immediate Release

Bruce Dowdell Receives 6th Annual Community Arts Builder Award

June 22, 2023 (Picton, ON:) The Prince Edward County Arts Council and Art in the County are pleased to present the 6th annual Community Arts Builder Award to Bruce Dowdell, volunteer and youth mentor.

Sponsored by Laurie Gruer, Monica Klingenberg and Alysa Hawkins of Chestnut Park Real Estate Limited Brokerage, the award celebrates individuals who have enriched community life through the arts as nominated by local residents; it includes a \$250 monetary gift.

Bruce Dowdell is affectionately known as the Mayor of Milford, not because of his political leanings, but because of his love for his community. Bruce has been actively supporting the arts as a member of the Marysburgh Mummers since 1998. For over 25 years, Bruce has volunteered his time behind the scenes designing sets, installing lighting, and engineering the sound for over 60 performances at Mt Tabor Community Playhouse.

As one nominator said, "Bruce is always keen to share his knowledge with others, especially youth."

"His selfless dedication, work ethic, and love of the arts makes Bruce a perfect recipient of the Community Arts Builder Award," stated the 2023 selection committee of Laurie Gruer, Monica Klingenberg and Alysa Hawkins.

"The Community Arts Builder Award is a great award," says 2022 Award recipient Sarah Moran. "It reminds us of how essential the arts are to giving meaning to our lives and how essential community is to our sense of belonging."

Previous winners include Sarah Moran, Arts Champion and Volunteer (2022); Kato Wake, Visual Artist & Instructor (2021); Hri Neil, Carbon Art and Design (2020); Krista Dalby, Department of Illumination (2019); and Alice and Peter Mennacher, Blizzmax Gallery (2018).

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