

Dora Mavor Moore Awards

The annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards celebrate the outstanding work in theatre, dance and opera communities in the City of Toronto

About the Dora Mavor Moore Awards

The Dora Mavor Moore Awards were founded on December 13, 1978 by a committee convened by Millie Drain. On that date, Drain and the other founders (Ann Antkiw, Ronald Bryden, Bill Glassco, Graham Harley, Leon Major, Sean Mulcahy, Peter Peroff, Heinar Piller, Susan Rubes, Pat Stewart and Sylvia Tucker) decided to institute an award to recognize outstanding achievements in Toronto theatre.

Today, the Doras honour the creators of over 200 theatre, dance and opera productions annually in five major divisions: General Theatre, Independent Theatre, Theatre for Young Audience, Dance and Opera. A jury of up to ten (10) individuals votes to select the winners in each division. A total of 35 awards are given out at the annual gala.

The Doras are named for Dora Mavor Moore (1888 – 1979), a well-loved teacher and director who helped establish Canadian professional theatre in the 1930s and 1940s. Each winner receives a bronze statue cast from an original by Toronto sculptor John Romano.

Silver Ticket Award

Since 1980, the Silver Ticket Award has been presented annually at the Dora Mavor Moore Awards by TAPA to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the Toronto stage and to the development of Canadian Theatre.

Member Responsibilities

The Silver Ticket Award recipient is selected by a committee composed of previous award recipients from a slate of nominees submitted by the committee, and the performing arts community. The winner is presented with an award, and is entitled to two (2) free tickets to any production by a member company of TAPA for life. As a TAPA member, we thank you for your continued support in recognizing the achievements of these recipients.

Please take a moment to review the following guidelines:

- TAPA member companies must surrender two (2) tickets to any Silver Ticket Award recipient who so request (as outlined in the Members Responsibilities Section)
- Tickets are based on availability. TAPA Member companies reserve the right to refuse tickets to Silver Ticket recipients based solely on ticket availability (ie. the show requested is sold out)
- Silver Ticket recipients are required to reserve 48 hours in advance of performance date requested

A list of recipients are available on the Members Info CD and online at tapa.ca/doras/silverticket_award. Please review the list of recipients, post it in your box office and inform your box office staff and publicist.

Nominations

The distinguished panel of past Silver Ticket winners meet every year in May to evaluate the nominations submitted and to award the new Silver Ticket recipient. They consider those people who have not only excelled in their own careers, but have also made a significant contribution to the development of Canadian Theatre.

The performing arts community are invited to submit names for consideration by the committee.

In order to nominate an individual for the Silver Ticket Award, please e.mail the following information by **April 1** to the Dora Manager at sandral@tapa.ca:

- Name of Nominee
- Brief bio of nominee, and resume if available
- Name, title and contact information of nominator
- Why you believe the nominee is deserving of the Silver Ticket

How to Register your Show

Before you register your show with the Dora Manager, please consult the Dora eligibility rules and regulations (see page 18).

To ensure that your show is attended by the appropriate jury and considered for the Dora Mavor Moore Awards, please complete (in full) the Dora Registration Forms for your division. Forms are available in PDF format for download in the Members Only section of tapa.ca. You can fill out and submit your show information in the PDF (this requires Adobe Acrobat Reader 8.0 or higher. A free download is available from adobe.com).

This registration form must be completed and sent back to the attention of the Dora Manager a minimum of three weeks (21 days) prior to the opening date of your production.

We encourage you to register all your shows at the beginning of the membership year (September) or as early as possible to avoid any last minute mistakes or details. If you have any questions, please contact the Dora Manager (see Appendix B).

The details of your production are sent to jurors. Please double check the juror information sheets sent to you from the Dora Manager to ensure all information is correct.

Please Note: The information provided on this form will appear exactly as is in all of TAPA's printed materials. TAPA is not responsible for any inaccuracies or errors in this registration form. These forms must reflect the opening night credits in your house programme.

Registration must be completed and received by the Dora Mavor Moore Awards Manager a minimum of 21 days prior to opening. Submission of this form does not automatically qualify your production for consideration for the Dora Mavor Moore Awards. You will be advised of your eligibility status prior to opening night.

A list of the current jurors is provided in Appendix C of your Members Handbook, online at tapa.ca and is sent to you with your registration confirmation. From time to time, a juror may resign in which case a new juror may be selected. Please consult the juror list that is sent to you with your confirmation for the most up-to-date list.

You must forward a copy of your house programme to the Dora Manager as soon as it becomes available. Please mail to:

*Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts
Attn: Dora Manager
215 Spadina Avenue, Suite 210
Toronto, Ontario
M5T 2C7*

Rules and Regulations

- By registering your show with the Dora Mavor Moore Awards, you agree to provide two (2) complimentary tickets to each juror in your division. You may include restrictions on ticket reservations in your registration forms.
- DO NOT contact the jurors directly. If you have any questions regarding the jurors or their attendance, you may contact the Dora Manager who will discuss your concerns with the jurors.
- Please provide clear and accurate information on registration forms. Do not change or alter categories on the Division Information sheet.
- Requests for changes to information for a show that has already been registered should be made to the Dora Manager as early as possible.

Eligibility Criteria

All Divisions

Eligibility Criteria, Rules and Regulations are subject to change without notice.

1. Productions must be produced or presented by a “member in good standing” of the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts, whose membership category includes eligibility for the Dora Mavor Moore Awards. See page 2 for definition of “members in good standing”.
2. Productions must be professional and must remunerate the artists involved in the production.

Professional for the purposes of the DMMA is defined as a work by a company or organization which supports, presents and / or produces the work of professional artists. A professional artist is defined as an artist whose arts practice has assumed career significance through a combination of individual competence, reception by the community and economic return.

3. Only the opening night cast of a production is eligible.
4. Workshops, excerpts and training productions are not eligible. Currently, the Fringe of Toronto Festival (summer) and Summerworks Festival are not eligible for the DMMA.
5. No production can be eligible if it has previously been considered by a jury within a five (5) year period. This includes remounts and continuous runs.

A “remount” is defined as a production which, once closed, is remounted using the stage manager’s copy of the prompt script and either of the following elements; the original set and costume designer and / or at least fifty (50%) percent of the speaking roles (five [5] lines or more) are played by artists engaged for the previous production.

For dance productions, a “remount” is defined as a production which, once closed, is remounted by the original producer, with the work’s choreographer or the choreographer’s appointed representative (i.e. a rehearsal director) directing the work; or is remounted by the original producer with the choreography reconstructed based on archival footage and/or notation from the original production; and the original set and/or original costumes and/or original score or soundtrack are used.

6. Productions are eligible for consideration in one (1) division only.
7. Producers must file a production information sheet with the Dora Awards a minimum of three weeks (21 days) prior to the opening performance.
8. The Dora Manager shall rule on any questions regarding eligibility. It is beyond the mandate of juries to determine eligibility of any production.
9. Requests for exceptions must be in writing and sent at least one (1) month prior to the opening performance to the Dora Manager who will present the request to the Dora Eligibility Committee for consideration.

General Theatre Production Division

In addition to the eligibility criteria for all divisions:

1. A production with a budget greater than **\$100,000*** must be registered in the General Theatre Production Division unless it takes place in a venue with **149 seats or less**, in which case you may choose to register in the Independent Theatre Production Division. However, if the production is produced or co-produced by a venued company, it **must** be registered in the General Theatre Production Division regardless of seating capacity.

**this includes all creation/production expenses and funds contributed by presenters, co-producers and in-association partners, and excludes all expenses associated with touring (refer to Production Budget Worksheet document below for further details)*

2. To be eligible for all awards in this Division, the production must run a minimum of seven (7) performances excluding previews, and must be open to the general public in the City of Toronto. To be eligible for the Outstanding Touring Production award, the production must run a minimum of six (6) performances excluding previews, and must be open to the general public in the City of Toronto.
3. A production may be eligible for Outstanding New Play or Outstanding New Musical provided that it is the world premiere of the production, and provided that the production meets all other eligibility requirements for this division.

World premiere is defined for the purposes of the DMMA to be the first professional production of the play or musical in any language, anywhere in the world. This award goes to the writer or, in the case of a musical, to the writing / composing team. This is not an award for the production.

4. The Outstanding Touring Production award is for theatrical productions not originating in Toronto and not co-produced with a TAPA member, and will be awarded to the presenting TAPA member company. In this category, the TAPA member company is presenting an existing piece, and does not have artistic input. Touring productions are not eligible for any other awards.

Independent Theatre Production Division

In addition to the eligibility criteria for all divisions:

1. A production with a budget of less than **\$99,999*** must be registered in the Independent Theatre Production Division unless it takes place in a venue with **150 seats or more**, in which case you may choose to register in the General Theatre Production Division. However, if the production is produced or co-produced by a venued company, it **must** be registered in the General Theatre Production Division regardless of seating capacity.

**this includes all creation/production expenses and funds contributed by presenters, co-producers and in-association partners, and excludes all expenses associated with touring (refer to Production Budget Worksheet document below for further details)*

2. A production must run a minimum of seven (7) performances excluding previews, and must be open to the general public in the City of Toronto.
3. Productions in this Division must be presented as a full evening of theatre. Two or more works presented together as a full evening of theatre will be eligible if they are presented by the same producing company or in co-production.
4. A production may be eligible for Outstanding New Play or New Musical provided that it is the world premiere of the production, and provided that the production meets all other eligibility requirements for this division.

World premiere is defined for the purposes of the DMMA to be the first professional production of the play or musical in any language, anywhere in the world. This award goes to the writer or, in the case of a musical, to the writing / composing team. This is not an award for the production.

Theatre for Young Audiences

In addition to the eligibility criteria for all divisions:

1. All productions that are described and promoted as productions for children or young audiences shall be eligible.
2. The production must run a minimum of four (4) performances in the City of Toronto, though not necessarily in one location.

Dance

In addition to the eligibility criteria for all divisions:

1. All productions that are described and promoted as Dance shall be eligible.
2. Must run a minimum of three (3) performances, and be open to the general public in the City of Toronto.

Opera

In addition to the eligibility criteria for all divisions:

1. All productions that are described and promoted as Operas shall be eligible.
2. A production must run a minimum of four (4) performances excluding previews, and must be open to the general public in the City of Toronto.

Award Categories

General Theatre Production Division (18 Awards)

- Outstanding New Play
- Outstanding New Musical / Opera
- Outstanding Production of a Play
- Outstanding Production of a Musical
- Outstanding Touring Production
- Outstanding Direction of a Play
- Outstanding Direction of a Musical
- Outstanding Performance by a Male in a Principal Role - Play
- Outstanding Performance by a Female in a Principal Role - Play
- Outstanding Performance by a Male in a Principal Role - Musical
- Outstanding Performance by a Female in a Principal Role - Musical
- Outstanding Performance in a Featured Role in a Play or Musical
- Outstanding Set Design *
- Outstanding Costume Design *
- Outstanding Lighting Design *
- Outstanding Sound Design / Composition
- Outstanding Musical Direction *
- Outstanding Choreography in a Play or Musical

Opera Division (2 Awards)

- Outstanding Production
- Outstanding Performance

Independent Theatre Production Division (9 Awards)

- Outstanding New Play or New Musical
- Outstanding Production
- Outstanding Direction
- Outstanding Performance by a Male
- Outstanding Performance by a Female
- Outstanding Set Design
- Outstanding Costume Design
- Outstanding Lighting Design
- Outstanding Sound Design/Composition

Theatre for Young Audiences Division (2 Awards)

- Outstanding Production
- Outstanding Performance

Dance Division (4 Awards)

- Outstanding New Choreography
- Outstanding Performance
- Outstanding Original Sound Design / Composition
- Outstanding Production

** Awards also open to Opera productions*

Award Descriptions

General and Independent Theatre Production Division

- Outstanding New Play (General)
- Outstanding New Musical / Opera (General & Opera)
- Outstanding New Play or Musical (Independent)
A production may be eligible for Outstanding New Play or Outstanding New Musical / Opera provided that it is the world premiere of the production and provided that the production meets all other eligibility requirements for this division. This award is presented to the playwright(s) or composer(s) or librettist(s) / composer(s) team
- Outstanding Production of a Play (General)
All non-musical productions which meet all the required criteria are eligible for this award. This award is presented to the producing company.
- Outstanding Production of a Musical (General)
All productions which are described and promoted as musical productions and which meet all the required criteria are eligible for this award. This award is presented to the producing company.
- Outstanding Production (Independent)
All productions that meet all the required criteria are eligible for this award. This award is presented to the producing company.
- Outstanding Touring Production (General)
The Outstanding Touring Production award is for theatrical productions not originating in Toronto and not co-produced with a TAPA member and will go to the presenting TAPA member company. In this category, TAPA member company is presenting an existing piece and does not have artistic input. Touring productions are not eligible for any other awards.
- Outstanding Direction of a Play (General)
- Outstanding Direction of a Musical (General)
- Outstanding Direction (Independent)
Any persons engaged for the purpose of directing a production which meets all required criteria are eligible for this award. The director is responsible for conceptualizing and/or staging the production.
- Outstanding Performance by a Male in a Principal Role - Play (General)
- Outstanding Performance by a Male in a Principal Role - Musical (General)
All principal male performers in a production which meets all required criteria are eligible. Ensembles cannot be considered in this category. The producer must decide whether the performer belongs in the Principal Role category based on their knowledge of the production. It is beyond the mandate of the jurors to decide in which category to place the performer.
- Outstanding Performance by a Female in a Principal Role - Play (General)
- Outstanding Performance by a Female in a Principal Role - Musical (General)
All principal female performers in a production which meets all required criteria are eligible. Ensembles cannot be considered in this category. The producer must decide whether the performer belongs in the Principal Role category based on their knowledge of the production. It is beyond the mandate of the jurors to decide in which category to place the performer.
- Outstanding Performance in a Featured Role in a Play or Musical (General)
All featured performers in a production which meets all required criteria are eligible. The producer may place the

Ensemble in this category. The producer must decide whether the individual performer belongs in the Featured Role category based on their knowledge of the production. It is beyond the mandate of the jurors to decide in which category to place the performer or if they should be considered individually or as an ensemble.

- **Outstanding Performance by a Male (Independent)**
All male performers in a production which meets all required criteria are eligible. The producer may place an all-male ensemble in this category. It is beyond the mandate of the jurors to decide whether the performers should be considered individually or as an ensemble.
- **Outstanding Performance by a Female (Independent)**
All female performers in a production which meets all required criteria are eligible. The producer may place an all-female ensemble in this category. It is beyond the mandate of the jurors to decide whether the performers should be considered individually or as an ensemble.
- **Outstanding Set Design (General, Independent and Opera)**
Any persons engaged as a set designer for a production that meets all required criteria are eligible for this award. A set designer is responsible for conceptualizing and co-ordinating or directing the realization of the set design.
- **Outstanding Costume Design (General, Independent and Opera)**
Any persons engaged as a costume designer for a production that meets all required criteria are eligible for this award. A costume designer is responsible for conceptualizing and co-ordinating or directing the realization of the costume design.
- **Outstanding Lighting Design (General, Independent and Opera)**
Any persons engaged as a lighting designer for a production that meets all required criteria are eligible for this award. A lighting designer is responsible for conceptualizing and co-ordinating or directing the realization of the lighting design.
- **Outstanding Sound Design / Composition (General, Independent)**
Any persons engaged as a sound designer or composer for a production that meets all required criteria are eligible for this award. This award recognizes outstanding achievement in composition of original music or original sound or the adaptation of sound elements either live or pre-recorded.
- **Outstanding Musical Direction (General and Opera)**
Any persons engaged as a musical director for a production that meets all required criteria are eligible for this award. A musical director is responsible for conceptualizing, providing musical direction and/or conducting any live music played or sung on stage in a play, musical or opera.
- **Outstanding Choreography in a Play or Musical (General)**
Any persons engaged as a choreographer for a production that meets all required criteria are eligible for this award. A choreographer is the person engaged for the purpose of creating and/or staging dance numbers and/or specialized movements.

Theatre for Young Audiences

- **Outstanding Production**
All productions which are described and promoted as productions for children or young audiences shall be eligible. This award is presented to the producing company.
- **Outstanding Performance**
All performers in a production that meet all required criteria are eligible. The producer may place the Ensemble in this category. It is beyond the mandate of the jurors to decide whether the performers should be considered individually or as an ensemble.

Dance

- **Outstanding New Choreography**
Any person(s) engaged as a choreographer by a TAPA member for a dance piece that has its world premiere in Toronto; or any person(s) engaged as a choreographer by a TAPA member for a dance piece originating in Toronto that has its Toronto premiere.*
- **Outstanding Performance**
Any person(s) engaged as a dancer, or an ensemble by a TAPA member for a dance piece that has its world premiere in Toronto; or any person(s) engaged as a dancer, or an ensemble by a TAPA member for a dance piece originating in Toronto that has its Toronto premiere.*
- **Outstanding Original Composition/Sound Design**
Any persons engaged as a composer/sound designer by a TAPA member for a dance piece that has its world premiere in Toronto; or any persons engaged as a composer/sound designer by a TAPA member for a dance piece originating in Toronto that has its Toronto premiere.*
- **Outstanding Production**
*Any production produced or presented by a TAPA member. No production, including remounts**, can be eligible if it has previously been considered by a jury within a five year period.*

* A dance production originating in Toronto is defined as follows: the production company responsible for the creation of the dance work has its head office in Toronto; OR the independent artist responsible for the creation of the dance work is a resident of Toronto.

** For dance productions, a remount is defined as a production which, once closed, is remounted by the original producer, with the work's choreographer or the choreographer's appointed representative (i.e. a rehearsal director) directing the work; or is remounted by the original producer with the choreography reconstructed based on archival footage and/or notation from the original production; and the original set and/or original costumes and/or original score or soundtrack are used.

Opera

- **Outstanding Production**
All productions which are described and promoted as an opera shall be eligible. This award is presented to the producing company.
- **Outstanding Performance**
All performers in a production that meet all required criteria are eligible. The producer may place the Ensemble in this category. It is beyond the mandate of the jurors to decide whether the performers should be considered individually or as an ensemble.

Opera Productions are also eligible for the following awards in the General Theatre Division:

- Outstanding Set Design
- Outstanding Lighting Design
- Outstanding Costume Design
- Outstanding New Musical / Opera
- Outstanding Musical Direction

Production Budget Worksheet

Applicable to non-venued companies only

The Production Budget, which indicates the division in which your production should be registered, represents all the expenses associated with the creation/rehearsal period that leads directly up to opening night. Whether your company or a co-producing partner is paying for these expenses, they must be included in your calculation. Expenses incurred during development periods for the production are not included in the calculation.

Costs that need to be included (if applicable) to determine your production budget:

- Performer fees and benefits
- Creative team fees and benefits
- Stage Manager, Production Manager and other technicians
- Royalties
- Production expenses - Sound, Lighting, Sets, Props, Costumes, Video etc
- Marketing expenses - Publicist, Design, Advertising, Printing, Distribution, House Program etc
- Rehearsal space rental
- Theatre costs – Theatre rental, load-in/load-out crew, transportation, Box Office/FOH Services

Jury Selection

Procedure

1. The Jury Selection Committee of the Dora Mavor Moore Awards shall be struck each December. The purpose of the Committee shall be to impanel the Juries for the following eligibility year
2. The Committee shall commence deliberations by the second week of January and conclude its deliberations by the end of the first week of March with a view to ratification of its proposed jury members at the March meeting of the TAPA Board of Directors.
3. Contemporaneous with the striking of the Committee, nominating forms may be sent to all theatre, dance and opera companies which are members of TAPA soliciting names of persons to comprise the Juries. It is suggested that the names of the previous season's nominees also be considered as potential jurors.

Jury Composition

1. Each Jury shall be composed of up to ten (10) individuals, with the best efforts to cast the juries from at least one of each of the following:
 - Actor / Performer
 - Playwright / Creator
 - Designer / Deviser
 - Director / Dramaturg
 - Administrator / Producer
 - Educator
 - Technician / Stage Manager
2. The Committee shall create a two-tiered list in order of preference. (i.e. an "A" list "B" list). The complete two-tiered list shall be ratified by the TAPA Board of Directors. Following ratification, the Committee, with the assistance of the Dora Manager, shall contact these persons in sequence inviting them to serve on a Jury. If none of the individuals in a given division can serve, then the Committee must reconvene to select further candidates and present them for the TAPA Board ratification.
3. Each juror shall be required to attend an orientation session prior to the beginning of the season. A comprehensive package including the rules and guidelines governing service on a Jury shall be given to each juror.
4. Jurors are expected to attend all eligible productions in their division. It is beyond the mandate of juries to determine the eligibility of any production.
5. A juror who does not attend 85% of eligible productions may, at the discretion of the Dora Manager, be dismissed.
6. Juries will meet separately three times a year. The Dora Manager and TAPA Executive Director will facilitate the meetings.
7. Each Jury will select a jury chair to break any potential tie votes.

Eligibility Year

1. The Dora Mavor Moore Awards eligibility year runs from June 1st to May 31st.
2. Productions opening after May 22 will be required to register for the following eligibility year.

Year-End Procedures for Juries

Nominees

1. The Accounting Firm of the Dora Mavor Moore Awards shall email to all jurors a list of eligible candidates for nomination for each category.
2. Each juror shall short list a maximum of up to five (5) candidates in each award category and return his/her list to the Accounting Firm of the Dora Mavor Moore Awards by confidential fax or in-person.
3. The Accounting Firm shall email to each jury a first ballot containing a list of all short-listed candidates for each category.
4. Each member of the jury shall cast his/her secret ballot for the outstanding five (5) candidates of the season in all categories in the following manner; five (5) points for his/her first choice, four (4) points for the second choice, three points (3) for the third choice, two (2) points for the fourth choice and one (1) point for the fifth choice. Such ballot shall be sent to the Accounting Firm by confidential fax or in-person. No member of the jury may abstain from voting in any category nor may they vote for fewer than the prescribed number of nominees in any one category.
5. The Accounting Firm shall tabulate the votes of each jury. The actual number of votes received shall not be disclosed by the Accounting Firm to anyone, including the staff and board of the Dora Awards, the juries or to any other person or entity. The nominees shall be the first five (5) eligible candidates to receive the most votes. In the event of a tie, the last name will be dropped. However, in the event of a tie in the last position, all six names will be forwarded to the final ballot. The Accounting Firm shall provide the Dora Awards with a list of the nominees in each category of each division after the Dora Press Conference.

Winners

1. Final ballots containing a list of nominees in each category shall be emailed by the Accounting Firm to every juror in each division. All jurors shall, by secret ballot, place the nominees in the following order: first (1st) place to his/her first choice, second (2nd) place to his/her second choice, third (3rd) place to his/her third choice, fourth (4th) to his/her fourth choice, fifth (5th) to his/her fifth choice.
2. Final ballots shall be sent by jurors to the Accounting Firm by confidential fax or in-person.
3. The Accounting Firm shall tabulate the votes of each jury in each category. The winners in each category of each division shall be the nominee receiving the highest number of first (1st) place votes.

In the event of a tie, the jury will be sent a tie-breaking ballot. If this measure does not break the tie, the jury chair's vote will be used to break the tie. The jury chair will be selected by the respective juries.

The actual number of votes received by any nominee shall not be disclosed by the Accounting Firm to anyone on the Dora Mavor Moore Awards staff or the TAPA Board, the juries or any other person or entity. The Accounting Firm shall retain all ballots for a period of one year. The names of the winners shall not be made public until the presentation of the Dora Mavor Moore Awards.

Producers FAQ

1. How far in advance do I need to register my show?
Three weeks (21 days) in advance of your opening night.
2. What if I forget to register my show on time?
Contact the Dora Manager immediately. There is no guarantee that all the jurors will be able to see your production in the event that it can still be registered. This is why it is extremely important to register your show on time.
3. How many tickets should I provide for each juror?
You must provide two (2) tickets for each juror.
4. Its halfway through my run, and only two of ten jurors have seen my production. What can I do?
Please contact the Dora Manager (see Appendix B). Note that the Dora Jurors are reminded that your show is running on a weekly basis. They are doing their best to see your production, and have perhaps scheduled to see it later in the run.
5. How many performances in an individual production do I need to have in order to be eligible?
*In the General Theatre Production Division and Independent Theatre Production Division you need to present seven (7) performances, (NOT including previews).
In the Opera and TYA Division, you need four (4) performances.
In the Dance Division, you need three (3) performances.*
6. Can I request an exception to eligibility requirements based on specific circumstances?
Put your request IN WRITING and email to the Dora Manager at least 30 days before your opening night. Please be sure to include:
 - *The name of your production, venue and dates*
 - *Company or organization and a brief history*
 - *Outline of the cast and creative team*
 - *Budget overview*
 - *In detail, the reasoning why you are requesting this exception to a guideline**Your request will be reviewed and considered by the Dora Eligibility Committee if you provide this information in a timely manner.*
7. How do I decide if an actor should be a "Principle" or "Featured" role?
Consider the amount of time the performer will be on stage, and how the role that they are playing contributes to the overall story of the production. If they significantly impact the story, most likely they are a "Principle" performer. "Featured" performers typically have a limited amount of stage time, and the characters do not play significantly in the main action of the story.
8. There is video and/or multimedia in our production. How does that fit into our Dora registration?
It can be complicated for producers and jurors to determine whether video and/or multimedia elements should fit into the set or the lighting design of a production. When you register your show, decide where you would like these elements to be allocated, based on how they fit into your production's design as, usually, either set or lights.
9. Halfway through the run of my production an actor is replaced. Can the new actor be eligible for a Dora?
No matter what the circumstances are, or whether the change in performer is planned or unplanned, only the opening night performers are eligible for Dora nominations.

10. Last year, I produced my show in the SummerWorks Festival or the Fringe Festival, and now I am mounting our show as a TAPA member company. Am I eligible for “Outstanding New Play”?
Yes, your production is considered as a world premiere. Toronto Fringe Festival (Summer), SummerWorks, Rhubarb, rock.paper.sistahz, and other new play festivals where productions are not Dora eligible do not impact your Dora eligibility.
11. I am producing a play that is the English Language Premiere – we commissioned the translation of a play that premiered professionally in another language. Is the play eligible for “Outstanding New Play”?
No. If this play has premiered anywhere in the world in any language, the production is not eligible for the New Play award.
12. What if our production is both the World Premiere and has been translated?
Yes, you are eligible for “Outstanding New Play”, as long as it is a World Premiere, and you can credit both the playwright and translator (The Play, by Jane Doe, translated by Jon Singh)
13. How many years must pass before a Theatre or Opera Division production is eligible again for the Dora Awards if it is remounted.
Five (5) years must have passed. It will not be eligible for Outstanding New Play, or for categories in which it has already won a Dora.

Co-Productions / In Association Productions / Presentations

Co-Production

Generally has a credit like:

Show X, a co-production of COMPANY A and COMPANY B

or

COMPANY A and COMPANY B present Show X

In this instance, both companies are likely to have invested in the initiation and subsequent development of the work. The companies may have applied for grants or secured other financing in collaboration with each other. Decisions will likely be reached collectively by staff members or artists from each company. Artists associated with the work may have their contracts with either COMPANY A or COMPANY B.

If either COMPANY A or COMPANY B of a co-production is a venued company, the production should be registered in the General Theatre Production Division.

Examples:

- *Goodness, a Volcano/ Tarragon* co-production (General Theatre Division)
- Native Earth Performing Arts and the Turtle Gals Performance Ensemble present *The Scrubbing Project* (Independent Theatre Division)
- *Of Mice and Men*, CanStage in co-production with Theatre Calgary (General Theatre Division)

Note: If one of the co-producing parties is a venued company, your production must be registered in the General Theatre Production Division.

In Association

Generally has a credit like:

Show X, produced by COMPANY A in association with COMPANY B

or

COMPANY A in association with COMPANY B presents Show X

In this instance, COMPANY A is generally considered the lead producer. COMPANY A likely initiated the project and has secured a limited number of resources from COMPANY B in order to bring the project to fruition. Generally, COMPANY A is not being paid a fee by COMPANY B, but COMPANY B will be providing some services on the production, which may or may not include venue rental, marketing support, box office, technical support etc. All of the artists associated with the work will likely have their contracts with COMPANY A.

“In association” productions that meet the required criteria may be registered in the Independent Theatre Production Division where COMPANY A is non-venued. In this case, COMPANY B may be venued or not.

Examples:

- Cahoots Theatre Projects and Modern Times Stage Company in association with Theatre Passe Muraille present *The Sheep and the Whale* (Independent Theatre Division)
- *The Four Horsemen Project* produced by Volcano in association with Factory Theatre, Crooked Figure Dances and Global Mechanic (Independent Theatre Division)
- *Singkil* produced by fu-GEN Asian Canadian Theatre Company in association with Factory Theatre (Independent Theatre Division)

Presenting

Generally has a credit like:

COMPANY A presents COMPANY B's Show X

In this instance, COMPANY A, the presenter, will have programmed COMPANY B's work in its venue, possibly as part of a series, and is likely to be paying COMPANY B a presentation fee. COMPANY A may be retaining all the box office revenue generated by the production, or splitting it with COMPANY B under certain circumstances. COMPANY A is likely to design and implement the marketing campaign for the season – if not, they will likely have final approval rights over any marketing materials created by COMPANY B. COMPANY A is likely to be covering the venue costs; rental and tech crew. All of the artists associated with the work will likely have their contracts with COMPANY B.

Examples:

- CanStage presents the Crow's Theatre production of *What Lies Before Us* (General Theatre Division)
- Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents da da kamera's final presentation *House* (General Theatre Division)
- Harbourfront Centre presents *Mabou Mines DollHouse* (General Theatre Division)
- The Theatre Centre and Native Earth Performing Arts present *UQUUAQ* (Independent Theatre Division)

Some questions you may want to consider when registering your show...

The ideas of **stewardship** and **commitment to the development process** of the work should be at the heart of determining which producer is listed as the "Producing/Presenting Company".

Some pertinent questions may be:

- Which TAPA member initiated the work/project?
- Did one of the TAPA members secure the bulk of the finance over the project's duration to date?
- Has one TAPA member invested a significantly longer period of time in the development of the work?
- Does one TAPA member have a significantly higher percentage of its annual budget invested in the work?

If one member is clearly the steward of the work, it is likely that that member is to be listed as the Producing/Presenting Company on the Dora nomination form – and it is that member's decision as to whether to co-name another member or not.

Ancillary Awards

Pauline McGibbon Award

Established in 1981 in honour of the former Lieutenant-Governor's support and patronage of the arts, the Pauline McGibbon Award administered by the Ontario Arts Council, consists of \$7,000 from the Ministry of Culture for the province of Ontario and a medal, designed by Dora de Pedry Hunt.

The award is intended to assist a member of Ontario's theatre community who has displayed a unique talent, a potential for excellence and who is in the early stages of his or her career. The Award rotates in a three-year cycle, honouring a director, a production craft person, or a designer. The recipient is selected by a jury through the Ontario Arts Council of theatre professionals, including actors, directors, and designers. The winner is announced at the Dora Mavor Moore Award ceremony.

Barbara Hamilton Award

Established in 1996 in recognition of the canon of work that was Barbara Hamilton's career, this award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated excellence and professionalism in the performing arts. The award is a cash prize of \$1,000.

The Award is administered by the City of Toronto with calls for nominations sent out from TAPA. The recipient is selected by the Barbara Hamilton Award Jury comprised of Martha Burns and Eric Peterson (previous winners), Jim Roe (PAIS Board President) and Jacoba Knaapen (TAPA Executive Director). The winner is announced at the press conference with the season's Dora Award nominations.

George Luscombe Award

This award recognizes an individual for "mentorship in theatre". Revolutionary theatre founder and artistic director George Luscombe founded the Toronto Workshop Productions in 1959, marking the beginning of the Canadian alternative theatre movement. His 27 years at TWP marked the longest tenure of any artistic director in Canada.

The recipient, who is chosen by a designated committee, receives a framed print by Theo Dimson. The winner is announced at the press conference with the season's Dora Award nominations.

Audience Choice Award

In 2006 TAPA inaugurated the Audience Choice Award for Outstanding Production. Facilitated and sponsored by NOW Magazine, the public is invited to vote online for a winner from the list of nominees in the General Theatre (Play and Musical), Independent Theatre, Opera and Theatre for Young Audiences Divisions; and Outstanding New Choreography in the Dance Division.