



**GOVERNOR GENERAL'S
PERFORMING ARTS AWARDS FOUNDATION
FONDATION DES PRIX DU GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL
POUR LES ARTS DU SPECTACLE**

NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

Colm Feore to host Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Gala at the National Arts Centre on May 1

Ottawa (Canada) — Celebrated Canadian film, television and stage actor Colm Feore will host this year's Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Gala on May 1 at the National Arts Centre.

Colm Feore, who is currently in production filming Paramount Pictures' *Thor* with Anthony Hopkins and Natalie Portman, is a veteran talent with a distinguished catalogue of work. Mr. Feore's talent crosses many borders: an international success story, he acts in both English and French. A fine stage actor, Mr. Feore recently made a triumphant return to Canada's renowned Stratford Shakespeare Festival where he played two title roles, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, directed by his wife, Donna Feore, and *MacBeth*.

The star of the 2006 box office hit film *Bon Cop Bad Cop* will act as master of ceremonies for the star-studded gala which will pay tribute to some of Canada's best talent. Bryan Adams, Françoise Faucher, Walter Homburger, Edouard Lock, Robin Phillips and Buffy Sainte-Marie have been named recipients of the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards for Lifetime Artistic Achievement. This award is accompanied by two special awards which recognize individuals taking the performing arts in inspiring new directions. The Ramon John Hnatyshyn Award for Voluntarism in the Performing Arts is given this year to Mohammed and Yulanda Faris, and Yannick Nézet-Séguin will receive the National Arts Centre Award.

The Governor General's Performing Arts Awards also feature a unique [Mentorship Program](#), which unites past Lifetime Artistic Achievement Award recipients and talented mid-career artists. The program serves as a creative catalyst and as an investment in future Canadian artistic achievement. Distinguished actor Gordon Pinsent, who received a Governor General's Performing Arts Award in 2004 has chosen to mentor Kevin Loring, an extraordinarily talented young actor and playwright, and winner of the 2009 Governor General's Literary Award for Drama for his play *Where the Blood Mixes*.

Created in 1992, the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards are the most prominent artistic honour bestowed upon Canadians in the performing arts.

The 2010 recipients will be honoured at various events in Ottawa from April 29 to May 1. In addition to the Gala, the recipients will be introduced in the House of Commons followed by a Parliamentary Reception on April 29. On April 30 at Rideau Hall, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, will present the country's highest performing arts honour to each recipient at a special ceremony and dinner.

The National Arts Centre is proud to produce the 2010 Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Gala presented by **Enbridge** and in partnership with the **Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Foundation** and the **National Film Board of Canada**. The Awards are presented with the support of the **Department of Canadian Heritage** and the **Canada Council for the Arts**. The GGPAAF gratefully acknowledges National Partners **McDonald's Restaurants of Canada, Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation** and **Weber Shandwick Worldwide** and Regional Partners **Cisco** and **Groupe Aeroplan**. The GGPAAF also acknowledges the significant contributions of **Bell, Corus Entertainment, Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP**, technology partner **IBM, Llama Communications**, automobile sponsor **Mark Motors of Ottawa, Optima**, media partner **The Ottawa Citizen, The Royal Canadian Mint, St. Joseph's Communications and Wind Mobile**. Grateful thanks also go to the National Committee of volunteers, including Co-Chairs M. Ann McCaig, C.M., A.O.E., LL.D and James S. Kinnear.

Tickets for the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Gala on Saturday, May 1, 2010 are on sale at the NAC Box Office and through Ticketmaster, 613-755-1111 or www.ticketmaster.ca.

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