

THE CALGARY AWARDS – Categories and Descriptions

The Community Achievement Awards

Nine sub-categories recognize outstanding contributions and achievements in community life and provide an opportunity to honour Calgary's exceptional citizens.

Grant MacEwan Lifetime Achievement

The award goes to an individual Calgarian who, over the past 25 years or more, has made significant contributions to the community, as a volunteer and/or professional, that improved the quality of life for citizens or brought recognition to Calgary.

Calgarian of the Year

Awarded to an outstanding individual Calgarian who, within the last five years, has made extraordinary contributions to the community, as a volunteer and/or professional, that improved the quality of life in Calgary or brought recognition to Calgary.

Arts

Awarded to an individual or group of individuals who live in Calgary whose artistic accomplishments brought recognition to Calgary or whose volunteer and/or professional involvement contributed to developing a stronger arts community.

Community Advocate – Individual

Awarded to an individual Calgarian who has made a significant contribution to the community through their volunteer activities and initiatives. Examples are involvement with community endeavours; service clubs; community improvement programs; youth programs; or community associations.

Community Advocate – Organization

Awarded to a non-government, not-for-profit Calgary organization for outstanding service to the community by implementing, improving, supporting, or assisting a local established project or program that has been operating for a minimum 12 months.

Education

Awarded to an individual Calgarian who has enhanced learning opportunities for Calgarians or brought recognition to Calgary due to outstanding academic achievement in their field.

Heritage

Awarded to an individual Calgarian, group or organization who has made an extraordinary contribution to the awareness and/or preservation of Calgary's heritage or history in the areas of built, non-built, archaeology, education or advocacy.

Social Impact – Business

Awarded to a for-profit Calgary business for demonstrating outstanding corporate social responsibility that contributes to making life better for Calgarians. Additional consideration will be given to businesses that demonstrate community social impact through social innovation and/or social entrepreneurship.

Youth

Awarded to an individual Calgarian, 18 years old or younger on December 31, 2024, whose exceptional achievements improved the quality of life in Calgary or brought recognition to Calgary. The focus is on volunteer and community contributions, not academic achievement.

The Environmental Achievement Award

Recognizes leadership, innovation, and action in environmental stewardship that advances the goals of The City of Calgary's Environment Strategy. Contributions may include application of advanced technology; climate resilience; conservation and efficiency; local volunteer-driven initiatives; and public education.

The International Achievement Award

Recognizes an exceptional individual whose volunteer and professional activities have gained international acclaim or brought significant recognition to Calgary.

The Award for Accessibility

The Award for Accessibility recognizes buildings, facilities, and spaces that address accessibility by removing barriers and improving access and inclusion for persons with disabilities.

The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize

Recognizes literary achievement by a Calgary author.