

2016 Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award recipients

The annual Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards recognize exceptional contributions to cultural and natural heritage conservation, environmental sustainability and biodiversity.

Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Youth Achievement

Individual awards and Young Heritage Leaders scholarships:

- **Justin Nicholls (St. Catharines)**

Justin Nicholls is an active volunteer and community advocate of heritage issues in St. Catharines. He spearheaded a community initiative to commemorate the city's final Cold War air raid siren. In addition, as a volunteer at the St. Catharines Museum, he has been involved with various education programs and is considered the museum's resident flag expert. In February 2016, Justin was awarded the City of St. Catharines Youth Heritage Award.

- **Marica Pinnock (Oakville)**

Since the age of 8, Marica Pinnock has been a significant contributor to engaging youth in the innovative educational, cultural and leadership training programs of the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton. Through her activities to promote the association within her school, more than 200 students have attended the programs. Her work as a Youth Outreach advisor and support of the Youth Leadership program has helped numerous students learn about their cultural identity and the importance of diversity.

Group award:

- **Harriet Tubman Public School Grade 5 students and Lockview Public School Grade 2 students (St. Catharines)**

Students from Harriet Tubman School and Lockview Public School organized an educational campaign seeking recognition of the site where Harriet Tubman guided freedom-seekers into Canada. Their efforts included letters, posters, research and a formal petition, which garnered over 500 signatures from across Canada and the United States, encouraging the commemoration of the site. The students will play a role in the development of educational panels and work collaboratively with the Niagara Parks Commission and stakeholders.

Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement

- **Linda Coutts (Grimsby)**

Linda Coutts has dedicated nearly 50 years to promoting and conserving heritage in the Town of Grimsby. As the long-standing president of the Grimsby Historical Society, Linda has been an active leader in various community heritage programs, including the War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee. She also serves on the board of directors at the Nelles Manor Museum. After devoting years to the restoration of Nelles Manor, Linda and her husband donated their home to be reopened as a museum in 2015.

- **A. Ross Wark (Oakville)**

Since the 1960s, Ross Wark has been actively involved in conserving Oakville's cultural heritage, specializing in documenting and preserving its visual history through postcards and photographs. He is the archivist, photographer and active board member of the Trafalgar Township Historical Society. In 2015, four of his historical stories were included in *Oakville Memories: Old and New*, published by the Oakville Historical Society. He is highly regarded in the community as a local historian, educator and preservationist.

Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Excellence in Conservation

- **Andrew Pruss of ERA Architects and the project team for the conservation and revitalization of the Broadview Hotel (Toronto)**

Dating from 1891-92, the Broadview Hotel is a landmark building that serves as a community hub for Toronto's Riverside neighbourhood. In 2015, the City of Toronto designated the building as a heritage property. The ERA project team developed a conservation strategy for the site that proposed the rehabilitation and restoration of the key exterior elements of its architecture, while integrating a new addition to the building. This conservation strategy included the restoration of elements of the south and east facades and the removal of alterations. The team maintained the heritage attributes of the building, while making strategic enhancements to allow for commercial and retail use. The result is the transformation of a landmark and the rejuvenation of the urban landscape in Riverside.

- **Art Gallery of Hamilton and the Art Gallery of Ontario for conservation-on-view of *Trans Am Apocalypse No. 3* by John Scott (Toronto)**

Trans Am Apocalypse No. 3 by John Scott is an important sculpture in Canadian contemporary art. As a 35-year-old car, the sculpture was facing deterioration caused by automobile aging and exposure to the Canadian climate. This deteriorating state raised concerns for the future viability of exhibiting the artwork in both galleries. Through a committed partnership between the Art Gallery of Ontario and the Art Gallery of Hamilton, the engagement of the artist and a significant investment of time, resources and staffing, a conservation plan was implemented. This incorporated fine art conservation practices alongside practical and necessary auto mechanic approaches, presenting a unique opportunity to educate museum-goers about the conservation treatment process and serving as a model for future collaborations.

- Barriefield Village Association for 200th anniversary of Barriefield interpretive and commemorative activities (Kingston)**
 Barriefield, a designated Heritage Conservation District in the City of Kingston, celebrated its 200th anniversary in 2014. Through the efforts of a volunteer committee, members of the Barriefield Village Association devoted countless hours planning and carrying out events for the anniversary. The heritage of the village was the main focal point for the interpretive and commemorative activities, which included a documentary film, guided walking tours, the publication of the book Barriefield: Two Centuries of Village Life, a museum exhibit and a successful festival that saw over 2,000 attendees.
- Thames Talbot Land Trust for conservation of Hawk Cliff Woods (Central Elgin)**
 The Thames Talbot Land Trust is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving ecological heritage. In 2016, the organization purchased Hawk Cliff Woods, 230 acres of culturally significant property. Through volunteer efforts, the Thames Talbot Land Trust has launched several initiatives to preserve and enhance the Carolinian forest which is along an international migratory route for birds and monarch butterflies. Due to these efforts, the site has been opened for public enjoyment through marked trails and interpretive signage.
- Township of Oro-Medonte for the Oro African Church Preservation Project**
 In 2014, the Oro African Episcopal Church was at risk of collapsing. In an effort to save the church and preserve its integrity as a national historic site, the Township of Oro-Medonte raised funds to preserve and restore the church. Built in 1849, the site is one of the last built remnants of a community of African-Canadians whose roots are uniquely anchored in the history of the United Empire Loyalists. The Township worked closely with Parks Canada and heritage consultants in an effort to not only restore the church, but to maintain its cultural heritage and historical character.

Lieutenant Governor’s Ontario Heritage Award for Community Leadership

- Township of Oro-Medonte, Oro African Church Preservation Project**
 In 2015, the Township of Oro-Medonte launched an innovative crowdfunding and marketing campaign to save the Oro African Methodist Episcopal Church. The campaign was successful, not only for the funds that it raised to complete the restoration, but also for the unique excitement and passion it generated throughout the community. The leadership demonstrated throughout all aspects of the campaign reached beyond Oro-Medonte, with a diversity of contributors and supporters from across Canada and the United States. The reopening event in August 2016 was symbolic of this celebration of cultural, religious and racial diversity.

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