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2018 ROZSA AWARD SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED

Celebrating Excellence in Arts Management

[August 15th, 2018] The Rozsa Foundation is pleased to announce our shortlist for the 15th Annual Rozsa Award. Congratulations to **JP Thibodeau**, Artistic Director of Storybook Theatre, **Keri Mitchell**, Executive Director of Theatre Alberta, and **Shelley Youngblut**, CEO and Creative Ring Leader of Wordfest.

Selected by the Rozsa Award Jury out of several exemplary nominations from across the province, these candidates are distinct in their transformational leadership, moving their organizations forward through innovation and outstanding executive management.

JP Thibodeau, Artistic Director, Storybook Theatre

Since 2013, JP Thibodeau has worked tirelessly to produce exceptional theatre for young audiences. Under Thibodeau's enthusiastic leadership, Storybook Theatre has grown significantly from a community theatre group into semi-professional company, creating key opportunities for local artists and fostering new and emerging talent in the Calgary theatre community.

Keri Mitchell, Executive Director, Theatre Alberta

As Executive Director of Theatre Alberta, Keri Mitchell has shown herself to be a powerful ally for theatre in Alberta. Since taking on the leadership role in 2010, after a lengthy history with the company, Mitchell's impassioned dedication has been evident through her spearheading of several dynamic initiatives that have enhanced Theatre Alberta's programming and ensured the company's financial stability and future.

Shelley Youngblut, CEO and Creative Ringleader, Wordfest

Shelley Youngblut has breathed new life into an arts organization that only a short time ago was set to close its doors. Since taking over as Creative Director in 2015, Youngblut has implemented pivotal changes and fostered powerful partnerships that have transformed the organization from the host of a week-long literary celebration to a celebrated purveyor of dynamic and profitable year-round programming that draws major talent and audiences from around the world.

ABOUT THE AWARD

Created in 2002 to honour the philanthropic efforts of Drs Ted and Lola Rozsa, the **Rozsa Award for Excellence in Arts Management** is unique in Canada, celebrating outstanding arts administrators and providing additional professional development benefits to the recipient and his or her organization.

Thanks to our generous partners including Alberta School of Business at the University of Alberta, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, CKUA Radio Network, Deloitte, GOOD Company, Haskayne School of Business at the University of Calgary, Ross W Marsh Consulting, Structured Abstraction, Transcend Management Advisors Inc and Vital Business Systems, as well as other valued partners over the past 15 years, the Foundation has distributed **over one million dollars in benefits** to our award recipients and their organizations across Alberta.

The Rozsa Award Ceremony will be **October 15th, 2018**. Event details TBA.

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