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David Moss
National Director, Culture Days

Kevin Walters
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Scott Durno
National Project Manager, Culture Days

Mélissa Courcelles
Communications & Events Coordinator,
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For Immediate Release

CANADA AM'S MARCI IEN TO HOST CULTURE DAYS AWARDS DINNER IN WINNIPEG *Culture Days 2013 Award Winners Announced*

Winnipeg, Manitoba / Toronto, Ontario – May 6, 2014 – Culture Days is thrilled to announce that **Marci Ien, Co-Host of CTV's Canada AM** will host the Annual Awards Dinner that will culminate the [2014 National Congress on Culture](#) taking place in at the Winnipeg Art Gallery on **May 22 and 23**. One of Canada's most accomplished and recognized news and media personalities, [Marci Ien](#) is a passionate supporter of arts and culture, having sat on the Board of DAREarts, a Canadian not-for-profit organization that uses arts education to empower children to become leaders in their communities.

The Awards Dinner will take place on **Friday, May 23 at 6:30 pm CDT** at the historic Fort Garry Hotel in downtown Winnipeg. The event will include a celebratory evening of performances featuring **Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet** and rising Winnipeg singer **Rayannah** and where the 2013 Culture Days Award winners will be honoured.

2013 Award Winners

The winners of the [2013 Culture Days National Awards](#) were selected by an independent jury. The new awards program recognizes and showcases exemplary initiatives taken to engage the public in arts and culture during the annual Culture Days event. The Award winners are:

Antoni Cimolino Leadership Award: [Crystal Kolt](#) (Flin Flon, Manitoba)

Innovative Event Award: [The Sustainable Thinking and Expression on Public Space STEPS Initiative](#) (Toronto, Ontario)

Business Visionary Award: [Maxwell Paper](#) (Belleville, Ontario)

Marketing Award: [The City of Richmond, British Columbia](#)

The Award winners will also be featured in the [National Congress program](#) where they will share their experiences.

Nominations in the four award categories from across the country were assessed by an independent jury made up of the following arts and community leaders from across Canada:

Piers Handling, Director & CEO, Toronto International Film Festival

Jeff Herd, Executive Director, Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet

Stephen Huddart, President & CEO, The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation

Penny Ritco, Executive Director, Citadel Theatre

Bob Sirman, Director & CEO, Canada Council for the Arts

For more information on the National Congress and Culture Days, please visit [culturedays.ca](#).



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About Culture Days

Culture Days is committed to reaching the goal of having all Canadians in every community declaring "I Love Culture" and making culture a daily habit.

Founded in 2009, Culture Days is a non-profit organization dedicated to building a national network of cultural connections devoted to providing Canadians with opportunities to participate in, and appreciate, all forms of arts and culture. Through an annual three-day national celebration each September, hundreds of thousands of artists and cultural organizations in hundreds of cities and towns come together and invite Canadians to participate in free interactive and behind-the-scenes activities to discover their cultural spirit and passion.

As a leading national voice for the active and engaged cultural life of all Canadians, Culture Days provides support, tools and resources to a wide variety of artists and cultural organizations to help them unite the country through engagement in culture. Culture Days was initiated by four Founding Partners: The Canadian Arts Summit, Culture pour tous (producer of Journées de la culture), Canada Council for the Arts and The Banff Centre. National partners are Sun Life Financial and The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation. National Broadcast Partner is Bell Media (CTV). Creative Partner is BT/A. Federal Government support is provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Provincial Partners are: Government of British Columbia, Government of Alberta, SaskCulture, Government of Manitoba, Manitoba Arts Council, Government of Ontario, Ontario Arts Council, Government of Québec, Government of New Brunswick, Government of Nova Scotia, Government of Prince Edward Island, Government of Newfoundland & Labrador, Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

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