

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 26, 2022

**BC MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL AWARDS AND GENERAL MEETING:
CELEBRATING THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF MUSEUMS**

VICTORIA, BC – The Annual General Meeting of the BC Museums Association (BCMA) will take place on October 19, 2022 at 6:00 pm. The AGM will be live streamed over Zoom from the Beaty Biodiversity Museum at the University of British Columbia. BCMA members can [visit our website](#) to RSVP and learn more about this year's proceedings.

Join museum, gallery, and heritage professionals and volunteers from every corner of British Columbia for the annual BCMA Awards. The virtual Awards showcase will directly follow the AGM and will be open to the public for viewing on the BCMA's [Facebook page](#). Institutions and individuals will be recognized for their embodiment of excellence in the province's museum, gallery, and heritage sector, who dedicate their careers to making a difference in their communities, and who challenge us to never stop growing and evolving.

"There have been many public conversations about the value of museums this year," says Ryan Hunt, BCMA's Executive Director. "These award winners show the impact that cultural institutions have in our communities and demonstrate the transformative power of museums."

Please join us in congratulating this year's winners and honourable mentions.

The **Museum at Campbell River and Cecil Dawson** will receive the **Award of Merit: Social Impact**. The Museum at Campbell River and Cecil Dawson, hereditary chief and artist, joined hands to share one family's colonization experiences that enfold contemporary social issues. Co-curated by Cecil Dawson and Beth Boyce, Cecil's history was captured through an Indigenous lens and addressed timely contemporary social issues including the impact of pandemics and the burial sites of children uncovered at residential schools across the country.

The **Chinatown Storytelling Centre**, a Vancouver Chinatown Foundation initiative, will receive the **Award of Merit: Community Engagement**. The first permanent space of its kind in Canada, the CSC is preserving Chinatown's histories and boosting local revitalization through outreach, education, and public programs.

Rungh Redux, Rungh Cultural Society will receive the **Award of Merit: Innovative Practice**. Rungh Redux is an innovative archival web project that activates South Asian art histories from the 1990s and relates to present day art and artists who identify as Indigenous, Black, and People of Colour (IBPOC). Rungh Redux is a unique attempt to activate an archive and serves to inform artists, educators, cultural workers, and members of the public that racialized artists in British Columbia, and across Canada, have been creating both "community" and "professional" art for over 30 years.

Sammy Chien 簡上翔 (Chimerik 似不像) will receive the **Changemaker Award**. A large part of Chien's work centres on creative connections with the community that's unconventional and boundary pushing. With over 400 creative engagements (including mentorship, teaching and presentations) he's actively shifting the power of storytelling, empowering underrepresented voices, and raising awareness on the complex topics of intersectionality, radical inclusion, expanded technology, and spirituality.

Dr. Tzu-I Chung will receive a **Distinguished Service Award**. Dr. Chung's critically-informed practice and diverse experience with community-engaged research is trailblazing new pathways for culturally democratic spaces in the museum and cultural heritage sector.

Dr. Chung's work is focused on innovative museum practice to co-explore the heritages of the diverse peoples in the province. Dr. Chung works to convene, support, and preserve the complex histories of diverse cultural groups. Her goal is the transition of interpretive authority from museums to communities, and by doing so, "refocusing the museum as a space and facilitator for intercultural dialogues, cultural transmission, diverse forms of learning and social cohesion."

Winnie Cheung, from the Pacific Canada Heritage Centre - Museum of Migration Society (PCHC-MoM), will receive a **Distinguished Service Award**. Cheung is a community leader and a strong advocate for marginalized and racialized youth. Her work has had far-reaching impacts on equity and inclusion in the province and across Canada, and her projects continue to transform our understanding of Canada's history from past to present.

As an educator, mentor, and social justice advocate, Cheung has put her anti-racism knowledge into practice by building more inclusive organizations where IBPOC can find a home for their ideas and passion projects. Winnie is always on the lookout for ways to acknowledge the transformative potential young people can have on society. She knows that her work will continue to build a better and brighter future, and her tireless commitment to change motivates everyone around her to do the same.

Museum of Anthropology will receive an **Honourable Mention in the Award of Merit: Innovative Practice**. The Museum of Anthropology's Multimedia Guide exemplifies innovation in the area of digital engagement, using mobile technology to enrich visitors' experiences, and deepen learning about artworks and cultural belongings.



Carolyn Butler-Palmer, from the University of Victoria's Department of Art History and Visual Studies, Faculty of Fine Arts, will receive an **Honourable Mention in the Changemaker Award**. Butler-Palmer's "See-Jane-the-Artist Project" warrants recognition for contributions to the training of museum professionals and opening up opportunities for women artists.

BC Archives, Genevieve Weber will receive an **Honourable Mention in the Award of Merit: Social Impact**. In 2019 the BC Archives acquired the records of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, a religious order that operated ten residential schools in British Columbia. Using Article 31 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a guiding principle, the inclusion of community members in the processing of the records has been, and will continue to be prioritized by archivist, Genevieve Weber as the work continues.

Read more about the winners and honourable mentions [on our website](#).

About the BC Museums Association:

Founded in 1957, the British Columbia Museums Association (BCMA) creates a bright future for British Columbia's museum, gallery, and related heritage communities through networking, advocacy, innovation, and professional development. It delivers programs and services to the benefit of its members and the sector at large, acting as the cultural and heritage information hub for British Columbia while providing a unified voice for the institutions, trustees, professional staff and volunteers.

Contact:

Ryan Hunt, Executive Director, BCMA

Tel: (250) 356-5700; executivedirector@museum.bc.ca