



Artist Frequently Asked Questions (2011 Performances and Exhibition)

Thank you for your interest in the Wearable Art Awards.

We have composed a list of frequently asked questions that we hope will make entering this competition as easy and fun as possible. If your question is not addressed here, please feel free to contact us through email at info@wearableartawards.com.

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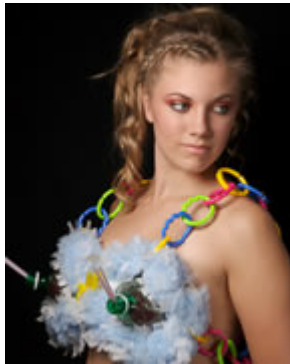
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What is the Wearable Art Awards?

Presented by the Port Moody Arts Centre Society, the Wearable Art Awards is a competition encouraging local, Canadian and international artists of all mediums to submit evocative, imaginative and thought-provoking creations for the human body. A panel of experts in the fashion and textile industry initially jury entry applications for creativity, originality, skill in construction and conceptual idea. The accepted entries are modeled live to an audience at the performances and in front of a second panel of judges who make the final award selections. The accepted entries are displayed for as part of an exhibition at the Arts Centre in Port Moody and potentially as part of an extended display throughout the Tri-Cities.

At the Wearable Art Awards we are looking for something more than just a "pretty dress". We are asking you to go deep into your imagination and create wearable art that boggles the mind - not something that you would see in a fibre arts store or something that you would ever see worn on the street.

Whether it be the story you wish to tell (such as questioning the toxicity of our breast milk in "Got Petrochemicals?"), a unique use of materials (using willow branches instead of fabric, "Untitled Willow"), your choice of technique ("Sea Shells by the Seashore") or the concept behind the garment ("From the Ashes - a Crow Costume"), wearable art to us is as much about the intention as it is the final piece.



"Got Petrochemicals?"
Cynthia van Ginkel
*Pop bottles, swiffer dusters,
baby toy links, plastic covered wire, etc*
Winner of the 2006 Golden Spike Pub Brassiere
Fantasque Category



"Untitled Willow"
Roja Aslani
Woven weeping willow branches
Winner of the 2006 BC Hydro Student Award

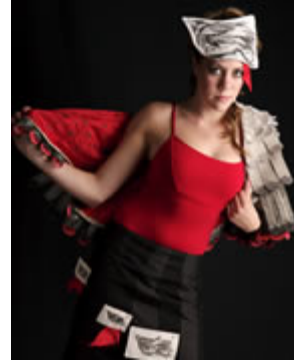


“Seashells by the Seashore IV”

Yvonne Wakabayashi

Silk and beads

Winner of the 2005 TD Canada Best In Show Award and
the 2005 Silk Category



“From the Ashes – A Crow Costume”

Eleanor Hannan

*Linen cotton blend, feathers, paint,
silk, digitally printed cloth*

Winner of the 2006 Onni Group of Companies Open
Category and the 2006 Boathouse Restaurant Best In
Show Award

Much like what separates a family snapshot from a fine art photograph, wearable art is just as much about concept as it is visual impact. Tell us why your piece is art, how you have chosen to push the envelope using the human body as your living, breathing canvas.

Who can enter this competition?

We encourage entries from all over the world. There are no requirements for residency, nationality, age, or educational background for submitting to the Wearable Art Awards.

I do not live in Port Moody (or British Columbia). Can I still enter?

We welcome entries from all over the world, as long as the work has not been previously exhibited in the Tri Cities area of suburban Vancouver.

What is the Tri-Cities area?

If you have to ask, you probably don't need to worry about it. The “Tri Cities” include Port Moody, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, and the villages of Anmore and Belcarra, located in the suburbs of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

What is the process for submitting an entry application?

To participate as an artist in the Wearable Art Awards please submit an application electronically at <http://www.wearableartawards.com/apply> prior to December 10, 2010. The application system will ask for:

1. Artist contact information;
2. Information related to each entry to be entered into the competition (an artist can submit up to three) stating the entry's title, materials/media used, garment size, and a 150 word statement; and
3. Three photos of each entry to be entered into the competition (front, back, and a "bonus" photo of the artist's choosing).

Artists will also need to submit the applicable entry fee prior to the deadline in the call for entry. This can be paid via credit card (through Pay Pal) after submitting an application or by mailing a cheque to the Port Moody Arts Centre; the payment must be received by the deadline: 5pm on December 10, 2010.

We will not consider applications that are not submitted in a timely manner or for which we have not received the appropriate entry fee.

If you are mailing a cheque our address is:

2011 Wearable Art Awards
c/o Port Moody Arts Centre
2425 St. Johns Street
Port Moody, BC
V3H 2B2 Canada

Our panel will review the entry applications received and select those that will be part of the wearable art performances and exhibition. If your entry is one of those selected, you will be notified at the email address provided. At this point you will need to deliver or mail/courier to the Port Moody Arts Centre by the deadline stated in the Call for Entry the following items:

1. Clearly labeled entries (the actual garments);
2. Completed and signed entry information form for each accepted entry;
3. CD of high res photos of each entry;
4. Appraisal for each accepted entry (if entry is valued at more than \$1,000 CDN);
5. Student award info (if applicable);
6. RSVP card for complimentary performance ticket;
7. Shipping related requirements (if applicable):
 - o Pre-paid return shipping (i.e. completed waybills and courier forms); and
 - o Return shipping labels with name and address.

All packaging used to deliver this material should be permanently labeled to include the artist's name and entry titles.

Artists whose work has been accepted will be provided a checklist of items to include.

The entry information form is available for download on our web site at www.wearableartawards.com/artists.

Who pays for shipping costs?

Artists will be responsible for all shipping (including return shipping) and in-transit insurance for their works.

Can you provide some more information and tips in relation to shipping and delivery of entries?

Delivery of Entries

Local artists may personally deliver entries during the dates specified in the call for entry. Artists unable to personally deliver entries will need to have them shipped.

Shipping Requirements

It is the sole responsibility of the artist to arrange for the shipping of their art works to us and the return shipping of their art works from us and all related costs. We assume no responsibility for any charges incurred and will not accept delivery of any items with outstanding charges.

Artists must decide how return shipping will be handled prior to mailing entries and provide the necessary paperwork for this to happen when we mail the package back to you. **All return shipping related information must be stored in an 8.5 x 11" envelope clearly marked with the artist name.** This envelope can be included in the box that contains your entries.

To ensure shipping is addressed as simply and cost effectively as possible we ask artists to follow the requirements below.

Local Artists (Residents of British Columbia only)

Port Moody Arts Centre accepts shipment from local artists (BC residents only) sent by Canada Post, Greyhound, UPS or FedEx. When sending with Canada Post artists need to include postage stamps that will be sufficient for return shipment. Please make sure you consult your local Canada Post outlet regarding the value of postage stamps required for return shipment. When sending with Greyhound please set up an account with Greyhound so we charge the return shipment to your Greyhound account. Regarding UPS or FedEx shipment please read instructions below to national and international artists.

National and International Artists

Port Moody Arts Centre accepts shipments from national and international artists sent by UPS or FedEx only, no exception. This can be done in one of two ways and must be indicated correctly on a **return waybill** which you must include with your shipping materials in your package:

1. You can set up an account with FedEx or UPS. It is important however that your return waybill is filled out properly. For example if you want your artwork to be returned to a FedEx outlet, you must indicate the postal code of that outlet on the waybill (your address with your own postal code is not enough). Please consult with FedEx and UPS about the information required to correctly complete the return waybill. Also ensure your account will be active when we ship the entries back to you.
2. You can pay with credit card. This way your credit card will automatically be charged when we return your artwork. However it is important that you fill out the return waybill correctly. The return waybill asks for the credit card information and signature of the sender. Please understand that you **must sign for the sender as well** on your return waybill when you give your credit card information. We can't sign for you and FedEx or UPS will not deliver without signature. Please make sure you complete the return waybill correctly.

Shipping over the Border

If you are an international artist shipping into Canada ensure your package includes **four copies of a commercial invoice** that clearly state the content in the package:

- Is for short term display only;
- Will return to the owner; and
- Is not for sale.

Failure to state the above on the commercial invoice **may result in duty and taxes** payable on your package when it is delivered to us. We will not pay any shipping related fees and as a result your package may be returned to you.

A commercial invoice is a form that customs requires when packages are shipped over the border. It is provided by the courier service (UPS or FedEx) used.

What is the contract artists need to sign in the event their entry is selected to be part of the wearable art performances and exhibition?

Should your entry be selected by the jury to be part of the Wearable Art Awards, we do require you to read through and provide a signed copy of the following contract. This contract is part of the entry information form to be included with your entry when it is shipped or delivered to the Port Moody Arts Centre. The entry information form is available for download on our web site at www.wearableartawards.com/artists.

I the undersigned, agree not to hold the Port Moody Arts Centre Society ("PMACS") or any of the members, staff or volunteers liable for any loss or damage to my property, sustained by reason of accident or incident occurring in or about their premises and I waive any claim I may have with respect to any loss or damage to my works submitted under this application. PMACS retains the right to photograph my entry and use any photographs submitted or taken of my work for publishing and promotions related to the Wearable Art Awards. I agree to be responsible for the cost of packaging, shipping and return shipping for my work and insurance while in transit.

PMACS reserves the rights to all film and television broadcasting, internet and any related rights which PMACS may use for publicity or any other purpose. My work will be credited if any photos are used for the above purposes.

To be covered against theft and vandalism, artists must declare the value of their entry with the entry information form. Entries valued at over \$1,000 must be accompanied by an appraisal. It is understood that an entry with a declared value over \$1,000 that is not accompanied by an appraisal will be insured only up to \$1,000. If the total value of damaged or stolen art works in the Port Moody Art Centre's care exceeds \$40,000, insurance coverage will be based on the percentage of individual declared values relative to all art works. Entries either in transit or not retrieved by the pickup time are not insured.

If I do not pick up or arrange for the return of my work by the pick up deadline, I allow PMACS the right to retain or dispose my work as determined by PMACS.

I confirm that my entry is an original concept designed and created by me.

What are the categories and their respective expectations and limitations?

The categories for the 2011 Wearable Art Awards are Headdress, Brassiere and Open. Headdress is for any element of clothing that is worn on the head, Brassiere covers articles of clothing that covers, supports, and/or elevates the breasts, while the Open category is for full outfits: garments that cover a model's upper and lower body. Starting 2011 we have modified the categories to be form-based and increased the number of awards to recognize material and concept across all categories. All entries submitted must fall into one of the above three categories.

Please also be aware that upon receipt of your submission, our team may transfer your entry to a different category if it is felt that your piece is better suited to a category than the one originally submitted for. The Port Moody Arts Centre Society reserves the right to cancel categories at any time.

What is the Headdress Category?

A quick search on the Internet will bring you a world of history and ancient culture, as the Headdress has been an important cultural icon since man established a communal society. Headdresses are used in tribal ceremonies, to crown kings, to establish the aristocracy, when we get married, when we die. Headdresses make a statement about the occasion, about who you are and what you represent.

A headdress is anything that is worn on a head. As stated before The Wearable Art Awards is not really interested in the common anything. So we are not looking for a hat or a tiara, or anything that you could see walking down the street even in the most bohemian of neighbourhoods. We are looking for the headdress that takes you beyond the ordinary.



"Stegomohawk"
Cameron and Meghan MacLean
Langley, BC
*Brushed aluminium, polished
brass, aluminium aircraft rivets*
Winner of the 2006 Coast Capital
Savings Headdress Category

Some practical things to consider: You can use any material. It must fit securely to the head and be well balanced. A chin strap is a good idea. Imagine how it will be worn by a model - if you can wear it around, climb stairs and tilt your head, you have the idea.

Many people included headdresses as part of the total outfit in other categories, those won't be included in this category, so come celebrate this ancient tradition and start building your Wearable Art headdress.

Headdresses are usually more ornate than other forms of headwear. In the 2006 performance, models in the headdresses category wore black sarongs with no footwear, jewelry or accessories. It is likely that entries to the headdresses category will be displayed in a similar fashion, but this will be determined after entries have been received.

What is the Brassiere Category?

The original idea for the bra as we know it today came in the early 1900's invented by Otto Titzling, whose girlfriend was a well endowed fledgling opera singer, Swanhilda Olafsen. Corsets however originated back in the Menoan Age about 2000 B.C. and were originally designed to be worn outside of an undergarment to accentuate the waist and bust.

In this category we challenge you to think outside of the box. We have already received entries created with such mediums as cigarette butts ("Smokin' Bra") and live growing grass ("Breast Implants"). You will turn more heads if you construct the entire piece from scratch rather than adorning an original manufactured piece.



"Cross My Planet Bra"
Cynthia van Ginkel
Port Moody, BC
*Metal sieves, embroidery thread,
toy cars and planes, elastic, wire*
2007 Brassiere Fantasque Entry

Some practical things to consider:

- Include multiple choices for closure to give flexibility to fitting. Also we don't have many models that are size double D, so give some thought to that as well.

What is the Open Category?



“Artemis”

Vicki Bolan
Aggasiz, BC

*Basket willow, copper wire, beads
cuirass composted, dupioni silk*
Runner Up of the 2007 Boathouse
Restaurant Open Category

Entries to the open category must be a complete outfit and cover the upper and lower body of a model, there is no specific theme and entries can be made from any type of medium, from fabrics of all kinds, to glass, clay, metal and wood to suggest a few!

Traditionally the biggest category, anything goes as long as it is a complete outfit. This category in the past has had many outfits submitted in non traditional materials, from willow branches, clay and many types of metal. For this reason please provide explicit instructions on how the garment should be worn. Pull out all the stops of your imagination and come play in the Open Category. Competition is always tough in this category, so make sure your work pushes creativity to the limit and wows our judges!

Can I submit an entry to multiple categories?

You must select only one category for your creation. If you are not sure which category your piece is best suited to, contact us at info@wearableartawards.com and we will do our best to help you choose.

What are you considering when evaluating applications and ultimately selecting entries to be part of the Wearable Art Awards?

The panel evaluating applications will consider the appropriateness of each entry in terms of concept and construction in addition to ensuring each entry is wearable. The goal is to select 70 – 100 entries to be part of the performances and exhibition so the more entries there are the more difficult it will be for an application to be accepted.

What awards am I eligible to win?

There is \$5,000 CDN in prize money to award to accepted entries. The jury will select winners from each category in addition to presenting awards to entries across all categories. The public will decide the winner of the People’s Choice Award, selected through the collection of ballots during the performances and following exhibition. The jury will decide how to distribute the \$5,000 between the category and special award winners.

All entries submitted to the 2011 Wearable Art Awards will be eligible for the following awards **in addition to** the opportunity to win their respective category:

- **Second Life:** The garment that best uses recycled, reused, or discarded material to construct an exciting new piece of wearable art as decided by the jury.
- **Best in Show:** The garment with the most “wow-factor”, weighted towards its presentation on the red carpet during the performance as decided by the jury. The Best in Show winner may not necessarily be selected from the category winners.
- **Student:** The most impressive garment submitted by a student as decided by the jury. To be eligible for the Student Award an artist must either be enrolled in high school or post secondary studies in the Fall of 2010, or is a recent graduate from a post secondary program (within one year prior to the 2011 WAA application deadline of December 10, 2010).
- **Material of the Year:** The garment that best uses the “material of the year”, as announced along with the call for entry and decided by the jury. **In 2011 the material of the year will be paper.**
- **Technology:** The garment that best incorporates technological components as core elements as decided by the jury. Such components may be light, sound, and electronic elements.
- **Ethnic Expression:** The garment that best expresses an ethnic or cultural concept while highlighting a “wow” factor.
- **People’s Choice:** The most impressive garment as selected by the public through a ballot-based voting process during the performances and following exhibition.

Do I have to design my entry using the “Material of the Year”?

No. Using the material of the year is one of many routes an artist could consider when positioning an entry for the Wearable Art Awards. However, to be eligible for this award you must prominently use the material stated.

How are entries juried?

Entries are juried by a blind jury (jury does not know who the artists are) in a two step process. The jury panel first reviews each accepted entry's conceptual statement and then carefully inspects each garment scoring it in the following areas:

- Creativity and originality;
- Design and use of multiple elements and techniques;
- Quality of workmanship and construction;
- Overall presentation focused on “wow” factor and;
- Conceptual meaning and impact.

The second stage of jurying takes place at the first performance when the garments are modeled to a live audience. The jurors will focus on the “wow” factor of each garment during the performance. After the performance the jury will retreat and deliberate, considering the scores determined in the first part of the process and the “wow” factor and overall appeal of the entries during the performance. At the end of the retreat (usually 90 minutes) the jury will make its selections and determine the amount of prize money to be allocated to each category and award winner. The winners will be announced following the second performance.

In 2011 jurying will be weighted in favour of conceptual meaning and “wow” factor. Artists should keep this in mind when designing their 2011 entries.

Decisions made by the jury are **final**.

Why does my entry need to be wearable?

The final judging of your garment will be done at the actual Wearable Art Awards performances where the entries are worn by models. This way the jury has the opportunity to see how your garment looks on the body and under the bright lights of the performance red carpet.

Can you offer some tips and guidelines to help make my entry a winner?

It is important to remember that your entry must be well made, so that it survives multiple wearings. The garments are first fitted to many models and also need to survive the quick changes of the performances. Other things to consider:

- Hot glue, tape, sticky back Velcro or staples do not hold garments together over multiple wearings. These may be timesavers while you are creating your piece, but you will certainly be deducted marks by the jury.

- Please make sure your garment is safe to wear with no sharp edges that can stab the models. Poor workmanship will be noticed by the jury!
- Any electrical wiring must be safe and easy to use.
- Entry and exit of your garment should be easy. If this isn't straight forward please include instructions about how to get in and out of your piece properly. Models will have the aid of dressers during photoshoots and the performances but during quick-changes an easy to maneuver garment will be much appreciated!
- Ensure your garment is not excessively heavy.
- Can the models navigate stairs or ramps in this garment?

As mentioned, the jury will have the opportunity to inspect garments first hand prior to the performances. They will be looking for pieces that are interesting and made with attention to detail. Marks will most certainly be deducted for unfinished edges, weak seams, or overall poor construction. No matter how amazing your piece is, make sure you take the time necessary to professionally finish your garment as that will go a long way for impressing the jury.

What is a “complete outfit?”

All categories that ask for a complete outfit should cover a model's upper and lower body. If we have to provide a skirt, pants, or shirt in order to show your outfit in the fashion show your piece will not be considered a complete outfit and will not be considered for the Open category.

One piece of wearable art combined with readymade clothing will not be considered – The whole outfit should be a piece of art. Therefore, if you are entering a shirt you must provide a skirt or pants component to the piece as well. For example, a shawl to be shown with a readymade garment that you provide is not considered a complete outfit by the organizers or jury.

In addition to the required elements of a complete outfit, think about hats, gloves and accessories to complete the overall piece. These are optional but add to the overall effect of the work. That being said, shoes are more difficult for fitting purposes (but not impossible)! If you are including shoes as part of your outfit please keep in mind that many models have longer feet.

Will garments be modeled by men and women?

The 2011 Wearable Art Awards will only utilize female models during the performances. Entries intended for male models that can be comfortably showcased by female models will be considered.

Does it matter what size my entry is?

The sizes should be standard dress sizes between sizes 5 and 10. Excessively small or large pieces make it considerably harder to find an appropriate model for your piece. If possible make your garment adjustable so that it could fit models of different sizes.

Can I base my design around a pre-made dress/bra/etc?

The Wearable Art Awards emphasizes creativity, originality, and craftsmanship in the work it showcases. Artists whose work is completely original (i.e. working from scratch from their own pattern) will in most cases receive higher marks from the jury. All designs have to be original, created and conceived by the artist.

I have made something really cool and I really want to submit it. However, it's not practical. Can I still enter it into the competition?

Of course! Nowhere in our criteria did we say entries had to be practical, they only have to be wearable. This is not ready to wear fashion, so feel free to get as crazy and creative as you wish.

How can I get tickets to the fashion show and award ceremony?

Ticket information is posted on the Wearable Art Awards website at www.wearableartawards.com/tickets.php. Artists with accepted entries will be given the opportunity to reserve one complimentary ticket provided the ticket RSVP form is completed and attached with the package containing the completed garments. The ticket RSVP form can be found on our web site.

Can I volunteer to help with the Wearable Art Awards?

We are always looking for volunteers to assist with this dynamic event. If you are interested in volunteering please send us an email at volunteer@wearableartawards.com. Certificates of hours and reference letters will be available upon request.