

Photo: Tyler James Goin, 2025 Award Recipient

SAM CARTER AWARD IN APPLIED ART + DESIGN - WHY THIS AWARD MATTERS

The Sam Carter Award in Applied Art + Design (AAD) program celebrates the fusion of creativity and functionality, honouring artists whose work is both visually striking and practical. The work of these designers creates greater appreciation for functional art, elevates daily life, and helps shape the province's cultural and economic landscapes.

The award program provides a platform for artists to reflect on their work, connect with new audiences, and engage with collaborators and patrons who value the synergy of art and utility. Named in memory of its founder, Sam Carter, the award honours his legacy while highlighting the importance of applied art and design in BC's creative economy.

WHY NOMINATE / APPLY

The AAD program advances the collective conversation around functional art and design and serves as a platform to communicate an artist's work, vision and creativity. The process invites an opportunity for critical artistic reflection and exposes artists and designers to a wider audience.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Nomination Deadline:** February 15, 2027 @ 11:59 p.m.
- **Awardees Announced:** Fall 2027
- **Combined Art Exhibition & Presentation Ceremony:** Fall 2027 in Vancouver

HOW TO NOMINATE / APPLY

To submit a complete nomination, you must provide:

- **Nominator Details** (name & contact)
- **Nominee Details** (name & contact)
- **Nominee Category:** Emerging or Established
- **Number of years nominee has been practicing their craft**
- **Field / Medium of artwork**
- **Nominator Statement** (max. 3000 characters / ~500 words)
- **Nominee's CV or resumé**
- **Images of nominee's work & description**
- **Additional Materials** (optional but strongly recommended; max. 5 items)

Tip: If you need more time, use **'Save and Continue Later'** at the bottom of the online form—you'll receive a link to complete your nomination before the deadline.

CHECKLIST BEFORE YOU START

- ✔ Review this **Nomination Guide** for **tips (see below)** and requirements
- ✔ Confirm nominator and nominee meet **eligibility criteria**
- ✔ Draft your **Nominator Statement in a Word doc first**, then copy it into the form
- ✔ Have all nominator & nominee contact details ready
- ✔ Gather supporting & additional materials (i.e., images & description)
- ✔ Allow 15–20 minutes to complete the form

CATEGORIES

The nominator must select the category that **best describes the artist** (i.e., the nominee):

- **Emerging artists** have developed foundational techniques through education, mentorship and/or apprenticeship, and have begun to establish an independent artistic practice. They have created and publicly presented a body of independent work and are ready for the next step in their professional development.

- **Established artists** demonstrate advanced technical skill and a sustained commitment to their artistic practice. They are recognized within their community for their artistic contributions and leadership. Their work includes a substantial body of publicly presented, independent work, and they actively support the growth of others by serving as mentors within their artistic community.

- **Award of Distinction**: The nominator may request that the **Established Artist** nominee be considered for this award designation. The Award of Distinction is presented to an **Established Artist** in recognition of **extraordinary and sustained accomplishment** in applied art and design. It is a commemorative reflection on how these artistic leaders contribute to their communities, how they mentor the next generation, and how they transform reality. They ensure BC is a placed filled with astonishing craft, with unique and immensely expressive power, and continuous wonder.

Note: Requesting consideration for the Award of Distinction does not preclude the nominee from also being considered within the Established Artist category.

Visit the **Applied Art + Design Award webpage** to learn more about **past Award of Distinction** recipients.

NOMINATOR ELIGIBILITY

Any person, group or organization may submit nominations for the award with <u>exceptions</u> noted below:

- Members of the jury panel or their immediate family may not submit a nomination
- BC Achievement board members may not submit a nomination

NOMINEE ELIGIBILITY

An eligible nominee must:

- Practice in the field of applied art + design and produce work that has a practical or functional application to be considered for this award. This includes, but not limited to, ceramics, fashion / textiles, furniture, glass, industrial design, jewellery and public art
- Be a BC-resident for at least the past three years

An artist or designer may self-nominate (i.e., apply for the award program).

The following are ineligible to receive the award:

- Posthumous nominations
- BC Achievement board members or jury members
- Past Applied Art + Design recipients (check **past awardees**)
- Those who work in the fields of architecture, fine art, graphic or interior design, web or mobile design

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EVALUATION CRITERIA

Award recipients are selected based on the following **four criteria:**

- Artistic Excellence
- Creativity & Originality
- Innovative Approach & Sustainability
- Aesthetics

Up to four artists will be awarded including the Emerging Artist.

Judson Beaumont Emerging Artist – This designation was established in 2021. Named in honour of the late Judson Beaumont (1959- 2020), this recognition aims to embody Judson's enthusiasm, kindness and generosity, exemplify the meaning of excellence and highlight emerging applied artists and designers.

IMPORTANT TIPS FOR SUBMITTING IMAGES

- **Tip 1:** Submit high-resolution images (minimum 1MB; JPEGS preferred) to ensure clarify and detail.
- **Tip 2:** Include the maximum number of images allowed to fully showcase the nominee's range and body of work.
- **Tip 3.** Choose well-lit, high-quality photos that present the work clearly – avoid shadows, glare, or distractions.
- **Tip 4.** Provide a mix of overall and close-up shots that highlight both the nominee's signature style and important details.
- **Tip 5.** If the nominee's work includes sound (e.g., music, instruments, or installations), please include links to audio or video samples (i.e., YouTube or the artist's website).

NOMINATOR STATEMENT (MAX 3000 CHARACTERS INCLUDING SPACES | ~500 WORDS):

Use the full word count for the nominator statement to provide a thorough, well-rounded, and engaging description of the nominee's achievements.

✔ **Tell the nominee's story** in a way that paints **a vivid picture** for someone who doesn't know them
✔ Outline reasons for the submission and describe why the nominee should be considered for the award
✔ Explain what inspires the nominee
✔ Describe what kinds of artwork they create, which mediums they practice, and what make the nominee's artwork unique
✔ Explain how the nominee's work contributes to the cultural economy of BC

For Emerging Artists – provide a statement that describes how receiving the award would help to advance their career trajectory and support them in achieving the next level of artistic development (max. 500 characters incl. spaces | ~80 words).

NOMINEE'S CV OR RESUMÉ

✔ Provide details on the nominee's education and training
✔ Outline significant projects, exhibits and achievements / awards in their field

IMAGES & DESCRIPTION

✔ Provide **up to 10** high-resolution images of recent work
✔ Provide the **title, date, medium and a short description** for each image uploaded

Note: Please include the image number in the name of the image uploaded. For example:

- first name-last name-image-01
- first name-last name-image-02 etc.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS (OPTIONAL BUT RECOMMENDED):

- Include materials such as the nominee's biography, CV, letters of support, *links to articles, recorded testimonials, YouTube videos, photos, etc.
- A maximum of five items will be accepted
- If the total of all the 'Additional Materials' is more than ten pages OR five minutes of video OR five weblinks, the jury members will only review up to these limits, due to time constraints

Note: The nominator may upload **one word or PDF document** with **up to five links** in the 'Additional Materials' section.
***Each web link counts as one Additional Material.**

UPDATING A PREVIOUS NOMINATION

Nominations are valid for **three years**. To update:

- Use the online form and select **'Yes' to the question** "Is this an update to a previous nomination?"
- Indicate the original year of submission
- Update with new information and images

Need help? We can send you your previous submission—email **kristin@bcachievement.com**.

HOW AWARDEES ARE SELECTED & RECOGNIZED

An independent jury reviews the nominations and selects the recipients. The jury's decisions are final. Only selected nominees are contacted, and nominators are informed of the outcome of their submission.

Awardees receive a **cash prize of $5000** and are featured in professionally produced **recognition film** by BC Achievement. Each awardee is also presented with a medallion and lapel pin designed by renowned artist Robert Davidson, OC, OBC, along with a commemorative framed certificate and letter from the Premier. Recipients are granted use of the Applied Art + Design Award seal to signify their creative excellence and are celebrated at an exhibition and presentation ceremony showcasing their work.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Can information be saved on the nomination form and completed at a later date? Yes. Click **"Save and Continue Later"** at the bottom of the online form. **Enter your email to receive a link** that allows you to return and complete your nomination before the deadline.

2. Is a nomination considered for more than one year? Nominations begin a three-year program and may be reviewed by up to three selection committees. Nominators are given the opportunity to update their nomination each year.

3. When are awardees notified and where are the names of the awardees published? Awardees are notified late summer. Their names are published on BC Achievement's website and social media channels and shared via press release in the fall.

4. Can a team be nominated? Yes. Nominations for teams with a **maximum of two** applied artists and designers are accepted.

5. What is considered "recent work"? The jury prefers work completed in the past two or three years and prioritizes current work over historical pieces where possible.

6. Are part-time artists eligible? Yes. Artists who work part-time are eligible, provided they demonstrate a clear commitment to their artistic practice and ongoing contributions to their field.

7. Should a previously submitted nomination be updated? If possible, nominators should annually provide updated visuals and information reflecting the nominee's recent work.

8. Has the name of the award changed over the years? The BC Creative Achievement Awards for Applied Art and Design became the Carter Wosk Award in Applied Art + Design in 2017, then the BC Achievement Applied Art + Design Award in 2023. It was renamed the Sam Carter Award in Applied Art + Design in 2024, honouring Sam Carter's transformative contributions to applied art and design in British Columbia.

PRIVACY POLICY

BC Achievement is committed to protecting the privacy of people through responsible management of information received. Nominations are kept confidential between the nominator and BC Achievement. Photographs and information about the award recipients may be used for the promotion of the Applied Art + Design Award program and other promotional activities on BC Achievement's website, social media channels etc.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the BC Achievement website to view the **Applied Art + Design Award** program page or contact:
kristin@bcachievement.com