

2006 Citation Award Recipients

Myrna Kostash

Born and raised in Edmonton, Myrna Kostash is a fulltime writer, author of the classic “*All of Baba's Children*”, “*No Kidding: Inside the World of Teenage Girls and Bloodlines: A Journey Into Eastern Europe*”, and “*The Doomed Bridegroom: A Memoir*”. Her latest book is “*Reading the River*, an anthology of writing about the North Saskatchewan River”. In addition to writing for diverse magazines, from *Chatelaine* to *Border Crossings* Myrna has written theatre cabaret, radio drama and creative documentary, and television documentary.

Currently, Myrna is a seasonal instructor with the Department of English at the University of Alberta. She served as Chair of the Writers’ Guild of Alberta, the Writers’ Union of Canada and PEN.

Alice Major

Alice Major was the first Poet Laureate for the City of Edmonton in 2005. She was instrumental in organizing “The Edmonton Celebration of the Arts” for the City’s Centennial, the Poetry Festival, and the Stroll of Poets. Alice has fulfilled her responsibility of acting as an ambassador for the literary arts.

Her publications include: “Tales for an Urban Sky”, “Some Bones and a Story”, “The Moon of Magpies Quarrelling”, “Lattice of the Years”, and her latest, “The Occupied World”. Alice has been an effective mentor and spokesperson in her terms as President of the Writer’s Guild of Alberta, President of The League of Canadian Poets and Chair of the Edmonton Arts Council.

Margaret C. Matheson

Margaret C. (Peg) Matheson has been actively involved in the choral community of Edmonton for well over 50 years. In her youth, she sang in the Robertson Church Choir, and later joined the University of Alberta Mixed Chorus which became the Richard Eaton Singers. Margaret became immediately involved with the Board activities of Richard Eaton Singers and has been a significant contributor to its success as Edmonton's pre-eminent community classical choral organization.

Margaret has served as the editor and chief writer of the choir publication, "*The Upbeat*", and continues as a principal writer. She writes the program notes for the Richard Eaton Singers concert programs and historical booklets. Perhaps her greatest single contribution to music has been the writing, editing and publishing of "A Passion for Music: a Biography of the Life of Richard S. Eaton".

She was a founding member of the Richard Eaton Swingers, a volunteer group of the Richard Eaton Singers members who entertain at nursing homes and hospitals at Christmas and Easter, a public service dear to her.

Ambyr Lindon

Ambyr joined the Special Olympics Edmonton Alpine Skiing program in 1997, and has been an active dedicated participant every year since then. Ambyr's love of sports has grown since she was a young child and her dream was to become part of the Olympics some day. Through her effort and determination, she earned four gold medals in four events at the 2004 Special Olympics National Games. She traveled to Nagano, Japan to represent Edmonton, Alberta, Canada in Alpine Skiing competitions in the Special Olympics World Winter Games in 2005. Competing with 1900 athletes from 84 countries, she won fourth place standings in four different Alpine Ski events.

Dr. Sandra Hartley

World class athlete, seniors athlete, coach, teacher, researcher, writer, public servant, mother, activities mentor, organizer of international conferences in the field of gerontology, Sandy Hartley has been all of these things and more. As a young lady, she trained for international gymnastics competition and subsequently represented Canada at the international level and in the Olympic Games. In 1971 she was appointed the University of Alberta's Panda Gymnastics coach and an activities instructor.

Sandra founded the Bounders Gymnastics Club that operated out of the University of Alberta's gymnastics room and provided young gymnasts from Edmonton and the surrounding area an opportunity to train at a very high level. Not satisfied to limit her love of gymnastics to youth, Sandra and Art Burgess started the U of A's gymnastics program for people who, later in life, still had a zest for gymnastics. At the national level, Sandra was sought out to lead a team that would design activity programs for Canadian seniors.

Ismaili Volunteer Corps

The Ismaili Volunteer Corps was established in Canada in 1972 when the first group of Ismailies arrived as refugees from Uganda. Since then, their volunteers have been servicing events and functions organized by the Ismaili institutions. Its membership is diverse and members range in age of 6 to 80. It demonstrates its motto "Work No Words" in all its voluntary activities.

Over the last thirty years, the role of the Ismaili Volunteer Corps has expanded beyond the community and has served many organizations such as the Liver Foundation, The Alberta Cancer Foundation, The Edmonton Food Bank, The Edmonton Rotary Club, and many more. The Corps has played a key role in the organization of large scale external events such as the World Partnership Walk, the Canada Day Breakfast, the Centennial Day Breakfast, and most recently, the Cross Cancer Institute's major fundraising event in August of this year.

Dulari Prithipaul

Dulari Prithipaul has been a community volunteer in Edmonton since her arrival here in 1968. Her experience as an immigrant to Canada has instilled in her a sense of compassion and empathy towards other New Canadians who experience the challenges of settlement, barriers to inclusion and discrimination. She has worked tirelessly on issues of multiculturalism, elimination of racism, social justice, barriers facing refugee and immigrant women.

Dulari saw a role for herself within the Francophone community to pioneer an organization for supporting immigrants to integrate while retaining their cultural distinctiveness. Through public speaking, advocacy, identifying funders, campaigning in French and English, speaking to groups of diverse immigrant communities and active research, Dulari helped start and support the Association Multiculturelle Francophone de l'Alberta.

Eric Storey

Eric Storey has been a dedicated volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton and Area for over 25 years. Eric's involvement as a volunteer has been extensive from his current role as past president of the Board to his committee involvement and most significantly the difference he has made as a Big Brother and a TEAM group mentor.

Eric's most significant contribution comes from his dedication to the young people he has volunteered with. The young people that Eric mentored who are now grown men tell the story of how Eric's leadership and direction made all the difference in the world. They tell how the biggest difference he made was by opening their minds to new experiences and showing them that the world was fun. Eric's commitment as a volunteer can be summed up by one statement he made, "flying to Australia to attend my Little Brother's wedding...25 years after we were matched."

Doug Warren

Doug Warren was the volunteer project leader for the creation of the Fort Edmonton Park Carousel, the focal point of the 1920's Midway and Exhibition. With expertise in many fields, Doug was the visionary who was able to setup a timeline for completion of the carousel, and use his imaginative thinking to solve problems unique to building a carousel. An excellent teacher and mentor, Doug taught carving classes to beginners and through encouragement brought out the best in the volunteer carvers.

Doug is also a volunteer at the Motodrome at Fort Edmonton Park where he helps to keep vintage vehicles in working order and then driving them for Park visitors. Recently, he has become the driving force behind two hand-made juvenile rides for young children that will be part of the Park's Midway next year.