

CULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD
2014 COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARD
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS
KAREN MONTGOMERY-JONES

Karen Montgomery-Jones is a long term educator in the community as well as a tireless volunteer. As a volunteer she has devoted over 50 years within the performing arts community in Sault Ste. Marie. She has volunteered her time in a variety of roles for many organizations including Algoma Arts Festival, Arts Council of Sault Ste. Marie and District, Sault Theatre Workshop, Art Gallery of Algoma, Musical Comedy Guild, Sault Symphony, Kiwanis Community Theatre Centre and Family Life Theatre. Some of her major roles have included - a board member and past president of the Algoma Arts Festival, board member for the Sault Theatre Workshop costume department, and supervisor of the costume and property department at the Kiwanis Community Theatre Centre for over 15 years. As a teacher she encouraged youth to appreciate and participate in the performing arts and fostered events at school showcasing the creative efforts of both staff and students.

Perhaps her most notable contribution has been in the area of costume organization and distribution for the use of the wider performing arts community. As supervisor of the costume and properties department at the Kiwanis Community Theatre Centre she has assisted theatre groups, non-profit agencies, school groups and the film industry with the selection of wardrobe for specific productions or events. She is responsible for initiating an electronic cataloguing system for a large costume collection of over 10,000 pieces. Karen makes herself available 24/7 to provide access to this community resource. With her extensive knowledge of fashion and history she has acted as an advisor to many productions and has provided costumes for the new film industry that has developed in the City.

Many of the theatre organizations in the City have come forward to support the award nomination for Karen Montgomery-Jones. To quote one letter of support: "It is that sense of fairness and her unwavering vision of what community means, her unselfish attitude and commitment to the Arts that make her a most fitting recipient of this award."

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