



CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE

CULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARD 2004

RICHARD HOWARD

The Pull Chain Theatre group submitted the nomination of Richard Howard. Richard Howard is the creator, founder and artistic director of Pull-Chain Theatre who has produced over 400 plays, both professionally and non-professionally. The Members of the Cultural Advisory Board unanimously supported the nomination, which recently received the support of City Council.

“Mr. Howard has worked as a Production Consultant, Director, Play Polisher and Workshop Leader with over 60 community groups across the province. He has adjudicated several Theatre Ontario Festivals and in 1997 was awarded Theatre Ontario’s Maggie Bassett Award for his contribution to theatre in the Province.” Throughout his career he has been recognized with more than 200 awards.

Mr. Howard’s life is devoted to presenting the best community theatre in the City. All of the actors who have had the privilege of working with him, not only learned from him, but brought back to other theatre groups the knowledge they gained. Mr. Howard has adjudicated Quonta’s One-Act Festival for the past three years. His training has helped all groups in the region – Timmins, Elliot Lake, and Espanola have participated and brought back their new knowledge to the North.

Mr. Howard also takes time to visit schools to coach the drama teachers. He has worked with countless young people, training and coaching them in their craft. Mr. Howard’s tireless and carefully considered efforts to heighten awareness of the importance of the arts in general and theatre in particular, in the Sault, was most recently noted in the major role he played in convincing the Sault Star to resume writing drama reviews of local community productions. For the past 11 years, he has sponsored a scholarship for a deserving person from the community theatre sector to attend summer courses offered through Theatre Ontario.

It is with pleasure that I introduce to you, Mr. Richard Howard the recipient of the 2004 Community Recognition Award for Performing Arts.