

# THEATRE AQUARIUS

RON ULRICH Artistic Director

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## *Theatre Aquarius recognized by Hamilton-Burlington Society of Architects*

**Hamilton, ON, November 16, 2018** – Theatre Aquarius and DPAI Architects have been recognized by the Hamilton-Burlington Society of Architects for reinvigorating King William Street and giving the theatre a bold new presence with the new digital canopy developed as part of the theatre’s Audience Accessibility Project. The awards, for excellence or merit in the design of buildings and projects by Hamilton and Burlington based architects, were presented on November 15<sup>th</sup> at the HBSA Celebrates event at the Royal Botanical Gardens.

“The recognition of this project is tremendously meaningful for Theatre Aquarius,” said Theatre Aquarius Executive Director Lorna Zaremba prior to the event. “This reinvention of the entrance to our theatre centre is one of the most dramatic elements of our Audience Accessibility Project, which was an undertaking many years in the making. Today, thanks to the vision and hard work of DPAI Architects and Historia Building Restoration, and the tremendous support of The Canada Cultural Spaces Fund, Department of Canadian Heritage, the Hamilton Future Fund, the Patrick J MacNally Charitable Trust and the Great-West Life Assurance Company, Theatre Aquarius is able to ensure all members of our community, regardless of physical ability, have access to our facility and the world-class theatre we create there; a legacy gift to future generations of theatre lovers in our city, and one for which we are extremely grateful.”

The Theatre Aquarius Audience Accessibility Project included a dramatic increase in the availability and quality of wheelchair accessible seating at the company’s facility on King William Street in Hamilton, as well as improvements to the hearing-assistive devices available for use by the theatre’s patrons. The new canopy was part of the first stage of this now-completed project, and included automatic doors, increased shelter and accessible curbsides for patrons arriving at the theatre and a breathtaking new digital marquee, which brings new energy and flair to King William Street in support of Theatre Aquarius’ on-stage creations.

Theatre Aquarius is Hamilton’s regional professional theatre. We produce work of the highest quality, premiere new plays, develop the skills of professional artists, invest in youth and families and contribute to the quality of life in this region. We house two performing spaces and offer 9 plays every season. Theatre Aquarius acknowledges the support of the Ontario Arts Council and Canada Council for the Arts, The City of Hamilton, the Incite Foundation for the Arts, The Hamilton Future Fund, The Hamilton Community Foundation and Ron and Donna Patterson (46<sup>th</sup> Season Sponsors).

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