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Rotary Centre for the Arts' Andrew Stauffer Named BC Live Presenter of the Year

(Kelowna, BC) - The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) is proud to announce that its Theatre Programming Director and Gallery Curator, Andrew Stauffer, has been named BC Live Performance Network's 2026 Presenter of the Year. The award was presented on October 3, 2026, at the gala celebrating Pacific Contact's 50th anniversary.

"Andrew brings curiosity, care and artistic vision to his work, connecting our community with performances that inspire, challenge and spark conversation," says Colleen Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of the Rotary Centre for the Arts. "This award is a well-deserved recognition of his dedication to artists and audiences, and his belief that exceptional arts experiences should be accessible here in the Okanagan. We are incredibly proud to see his contribution celebrated by his peers across British Columbia."

"I'm grateful to BC Live for this honour," says Andrew Stauffer. "It is a great joy to work with such amazing colleagues at the RCA and throughout B.C. I've learned so much from the presenters, artists and agents I've met, and I'm deeply grateful to work in an industry dedicated to nurturing joy, beauty, depth, hope, insight, and vibrant communities. More than anything, I love bringing great shows from across Canada and around the world to Kelowna."

The provincial award recognizes presenters who demonstrate artistic and managerial excellence, community engagement, inclusion and professionalism. It honours Stauffer's work bringing professional performing arts to Kelowna and building relationships between artists, audiences and community organizations.

Over three years at the RCA, Stauffer has developed a multidisciplinary presenting program featuring artists from British Columbia, across Canada and internationally. The 2025-2026 RCA Presents season included 18 performances spanning music, theatre, comedy, contemporary dance, film and multidisciplinary work, with three sold-out performances.

His commitment to contemporary dance has brought nationally acclaimed companies to Kelowna, giving Okanagan audiences opportunities to experience work that can be difficult to access outside larger centres. Artist talks, workshops and community partnerships extend those encounters beyond the stage.

Stauffer's work also includes developing relationships with agents, producers, fellow presenters and funders to support touring and expand the artistic experiences available locally.

In 2026, CAPACOA selected Stauffer as one of three Canadian delegates for the Canada–Ireland 180 initiative in Dublin, connecting Canadian presenters with Irish and European artists to develop touring partnerships and cultural exchange.

Audiences can explore the current RCA Presents season and purchase tickets at rotarycentreforthearts.com.

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About the Rotary Centre for the Arts

Located in the heart of Kelowna's Cultural District, the [Rotary Centre for the Arts](https://rotarycentreforthearts.com) is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA improves the economic, cultural, and social quality of life in the community by fostering participation in, and appreciation of the arts. The RCA brings together individuals of all ages and backgrounds to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan, celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the Syilx/Okanagan People.