



ZONTA BUILD A BETTER WORLD
CLUB OF
OTTAWA, CANADA **FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS**

2026 Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada and The Paulette Memorial Theatre Arts Award

The Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada (ZCO CA) proudly announces the 2026 Paulette Memorial Theatre Arts Award. This honor celebrates exceptional individuals dedicated to theatre arts, demonstrating the club's ongoing support for cultivating artistic talent and excellence in the community.

2026 Theatre Arts Award Application & Guidelines:

Eligibility Criteria

These distinguished awards are intended for individuals who either maintain their primary residence within the National Capital Region (NCR) or are actively pursuing theatre studies in that area.

Submission Requirements

Applicants are required to submit a completed application form along with all necessary reference letters. **Please ensure that these materials are received by the Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada no later than midnight on April 30th, 2026.** Submissions received after the deadline will not be considered.

Formatting Instructions

All information provided in the application must be typewritten or generated using a computer. Applicants should respond to every section of the application form. If a section does not apply, please clearly indicate "not applicable (n/a)."

Confidentiality and CRA Requirements

Please note that information provided in this section is strictly confidential and intended solely for use by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) in relation to the T-4A form. Only applicants who are selected as winners will be required to supply their Social Insurance Number (SIN). This requirement is in accordance with CRA regulations and will be requested directly from the winner(s) to fulfill tax reporting obligations.

1. Applicant Information

- ❖ **Name of Applicant:** Please provide your surname and given name as they appear on official documents.

- ❖ **Permanent Mailing Address:** This address will be used for correspondence related to your application, so it is important to specify the most reliable contact location.

- ❖ **Telephone:** Please provide your complete telephone number, including the area code and local number.

- ❖ **E-mail address:** Ensure that the e-mail address supplied is active and checked regularly to avoid missing any communication regarding your application status.

- ❖ **Date of Birth:** Please specify your date of birth, including the month, day, and year.

- ❖ **Present address:** If your present address is different from your permanent mailing address, please provide your current address here. Clearly indicate both the street address and any relevant details, such as apartment or unit number, city, province, and postal code.

2. Field of Interest in Theatre Arts

Please **state clearly and briefly** which specific area within the Theatre Arts is of greatest interest to you. Indicate the discipline or aspect that most strongly attracts your attention, such as acting, directing, stage management, lighting design, costume design, set design, playwriting, or another related field. Your concise declaration will help clarify your primary focus and commitment within the Theatre Arts.

3. Formal Studies and Training in Theatre Arts

Please provide details on any formal studies or training you have undertaken in the Theatre Arts. Indicate whether your education or training was completed at the secondary school level, at a post-secondary institution, or through private instruction. Clearly specify the type of institution, program or courses attended, and the duration of your studies or training.

a) At secondary school level?

b) At a post-secondary institution?

c) Privately?

4. Relevant Work Experience

Please describe any work experience that is pertinent to your interest in Theatre Arts. Clearly state the specific roles or positions you have held and indicate the organizations or institutions where you gained this experience. Include details such as your responsibilities, the duration of your involvement, and any skills or insights acquired through these roles. Providing this information will help illustrate your practical background and commitment within the field.

a. Volunteer experience

b. Amateur experience

c. Professional experience

6. Career Plans, Present Status, and Future Aspirations

On a separate page, write a short essay (six hundred words or less) outlining your career plans, their present status, and your hopes for the future.

7. Personal Finances

In this section, please detail your current sources of financial support. Clearly specify any employment, scholarships, grants, family contributions, or other financial assistance you are presently receiving. Additionally, if you are awarded a ZCO CA Award, explain how you would utilize these funds to support your education and advancement in Theatre Arts. This information will provide a comprehensive understanding of your financial situation and how the bursary could benefit your academic and professional goals.

a. What are your present sources of financial support?

b. How would you use the ZCO CA Award funds if you received one?

8. References

Applicants are required to provide two references. These references must be dated and signed by two professional individuals who are familiar with your work. In addition to their signatures and dates, please ensure that each referee includes their contact information. Once completed, scan and e-mail your references together with your finished application.

Applicant Declaration and Authorization

I hereby confirm that all information provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge and understand that details about me, as known to the Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada, may be utilized in the process of evaluating my eligibility for a bursary. Furthermore, I grant permission for the release of my biographical information for use in publicity associated with the scholarship program. Should any changes occur in my educational major, place of residence, or other relevant circumstances that could affect my eligibility for this award, I agree to promptly notify the Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada.

Signature: _____

Date: _____
Month, day, year

Submission Guidelines and Selection Process

All completed applications and required documents must be received by midnight on April 30, 2026. Please submit your materials to the following address:

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada / Theatre Arts Committee
Attention: Cynthia (Cindy) O'Neil – Committee Chair
Email: cindy.m.oneil@gmail.com

Finalist Audition and Presentation

Applicants who are selected as finalists may be required to participate in a virtual audition or presentation. Alternatively, finalists may be invited to meet in person in Ottawa. The exact date for these activities will be determined and scheduled for May or June 2026.

Winner Responsibilities

Recipient(s) of the award will be asked to provide updates regarding their educational and/or career progress. These updates will be shared with the Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada and may be published in the club's newsletter or on social media platforms.

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada

Empowering Women and Girls through Service and Advocacy Since 1929

Website: <https://zontaottawa.ca/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ZontaClubofOttawa>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/zco_ca/

Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada - 2026 Theatre Arts Awards

ZCO CA Theatre Arts Awards are awarded annually to women in the National Capital Region (NCR) who are currently enrolled in a post-secondary theatre program. These awards are designed to enable talented young women to achieve their professional goals in theatre arts.

About the Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada

The Zonta Club of Ottawa was founded in 1929 and is proud to be a member of Zonta International. Our club is committed to making a meaningful difference in the community through the dedicated volunteer service of our members. Each year, our primary focus is on supporting education in a broad sense, reflecting our belief in its transformative power.

Since 1984, we have provided financial bursaries and awards to successful applicants, helping them to achieve their academic and professional goals. Through these initiatives, we strive to empower individuals and contribute to the overall well-being of our community.

Learn More About the Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada

For additional details about our club, including our mission, activities, and upcoming events, we invite you to explore our official website. You may also stay updated and connect with us through our Facebook and Instagram pages (*links found on page 7*).

Vision and Commitment

Zonta International envisions a society in which women have equal access to all resources and are represented in decision-making roles alongside men. In this envisioned world, no woman is subjected to violence or fear, and the principles of equity and safety are upheld for all.

New: Three-Year Funding (2026, 2027, & 2028) *Sponsorship Dedicated in Memory of Paulette*

Paulette Sinclair was an actor and visual artist, and occasionally an arts administrator. She began her acting career in Ottawa at The Great Canadian Theatre Company, Odyssey Theatre, Salamander Theatre, Arts Court and other companies and venues. A Chalmers grant took her to Toronto to study at Young People's Theatre. She toured nationally with Carousel Theatre. Then she moved into screen acting, both television and film, and returned to Ryerson University (now Toronto Metropolitan University) to study film editing and production. She loved the theatre, she loved learning – whether in school, performance workshops, or in rehearsals. She lived her life with passion and skill, and a boundless faith that art could make a difference.