

2016 AWARDS

Recognizing the amazing contribution that young immigrants and refugees make to our communities



The Fresh Voices 2016 Awards is a partnership of the Fresh Voices Initiative of Vancouver Foundation with Vancity Credit Union & Michaëlle Jean Foundation

About the Awards

WHAT ARE THE FRESH VOICES AWARDS?

The Fresh Voices Awards recognize the inspiration and leadership of immigrant and refugee youth in British Columbia and across Canada, working to advance social change based on themes and priorities including Immigration, School and English Language Learning, Family, Building Bridges and Working in Solidarity. These themes have been informed through ongoing engagement with immigrant and refugee youth and organizations and communities working in partnership with young people.

See the [Fresh Voices report](#) for more information about these themes and priorities.

Youth may apply for an award directly, or can nominate someone else to receive an award. Adults can only nominate someone else for an award.

The Fresh Voices 2016 Awards recipients will be announced at a Gala Dinner as part of the Fresh Voices 2016 Forum, on the evening of Monday, December 5th in Vancouver, B.C.

We look forward to recognizing more amazing immigrant and refugee youth in 2016!

EIGHT \$1,000 AWARDS!

Awards provide a \$1,000 bursary to an inspiring young immigrant or refugee person, aged 14-24, or to an adult-ally who has demonstrated excellence and/or impact in addressing issues of concern for newcomer youth communities.

7 Youth Awards

- Six \$1,000 awards for youth in B.C.
- One \$1,000 award for youth from across Canada

1 Adult-Ally Award

- One \$1,000 award for an adult ally in B.C.
- The successful recipient (individual or organization), will be able to select a B.C charity or non-profit to receive a donation of \$1,000 in their name

DEADLINE
5pm PST
Monday November 14, 2016

Download application form:
www.freshvoices.ca

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Award Categories

Please review these categories and apply for yourself or nominate someone else for an award. If you are unsure which category to choose do not worry, please select the one you think is closest. When nominating someone else, please tell us about how they are providing leadership in the category.

1. National Fresh Voices Artivism Award - \$1,000 (National)

- This award recognizes young immigrant or refugee individuals who have demonstrated excellence and impact in using the arts and/or cultural engagement to address issues of concern in newcomer communities in Canada
- “Arts” are broadly defined to include all forms of creative and cultural expression. This may include urban expression or a community that celebrates a different calendar year and comes together to celebrate it
- For youth from across Canada

2. Education and Learning - \$1,000 (B.C.)

- Leadership to improve the school system by addressing/recommending more inclusive policies and raising awareness about discrimination
- Working with community, schools, teachers and school system to value the diverse language skills of migrant students
- For youth in B.C.

3. Family and Intergenerational Relationships - \$1,000 (B.C.)

- Supporting meaningful and safe conversations in migrant communities and families regarding cultural dynamics of gender roles and LGBTQ issues
- Leading, developing, facilitating programs and services that enhance awareness and understanding of immigrant family issues
- For youth in B.C.

4. Immigration - \$1,000 (B.C.)

- Ensuring that immigrants and refugees have the right to organize, express their opinions and vote for things that affect them regardless of immigration status
- Supporting groups of immigrants in their process to settling and integrating to British Columbia
- For youth in B.C.

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Award Categories (cont'd)

5. Relationship with Indigenous People in Canada - \$1,000 (B.C.)

- Demonstrated commitment and leadership working to build bridges and working in solidarity with Indigenous communities in Canada
- For youth in B.C.

6. Maintaining Cultural Roots - \$1,000 (B.C.)

- Demonstrated leadership working to maintain a connection to one's cultural roots and homeland region while raising awareness through campaigns, fundraising and organizing in Canada
- For youth in B.C.

7. Leadership in Cross – Cultural Dialogue - \$1,000 (B.C.)

- Creating safe spaces to bring together immigrant and non-immigrant youth for increased understanding and empathy. Examples could include Inter-faith approaches to learn from one another that allows for healing and developing a new collective identity.
- For youth in B.C.

8. Adult-Ally Award - \$1,000 (B.C.)

- One award will be given to an adult, an organization or a grassroots movement in B.C that works to advance the rights of immigrant and refugee youth.
- Examples of mentoring/mentorship from adult allies or organizations that provide newcomer youth with practical and emotional support, help to bridge community processes, and provided critical awareness and understanding of key issues in diverse communities.
- Individuals, organizations or institutions that act as relationship brokers to help connect young people with government and key decision-makers in order to advance policy and systems change.
- For adult allies in B.C.
- The successful recipient of the adult-ally category (individual or organization), will be able to select a B.C charity or non-profit to receive a donation of \$1,000 in their name.

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How to Apply & Selection

DEADLINE & CHECKLIST

All nomination packages must be received by the Fresh Voices Initiative of Vancouver Foundation via e-mail to freshvoices@vancouverfoundation.ca on Monday, November 14, 2016 by 5pm PST. Application forms can be downloaded at: www.freshvoices.ca

Applications in all categories require the following:

- A completed application form
- One letter of support that is specific to the category in which the individual is being nominated

Optional:

- Resume highlighting education, career, and volunteer activities

SELECTION PROCESS

The Fresh Voices Initiative firmly believes in supporting immigrant and refugee youth in key decision-making processes. The selection of an award recipient in each category will be determined by a committee of immigrant and refugee youth from the Fresh Voices Youth Advisory Team at Vancouver Foundation and members of the partnering organizations: Vancity and Michaëlle Jean Foundation.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to move nominees to another award category if they deem it appropriate. In exceptional cases, where a recipient is not selected in a particular category, more than one recipient may be selected in another category. Nominations which are incomplete, submitted after the deadline, or which do not meet eligibility requirements will not be considered.

Step 1: Applications close at 5pm PST on November 14, 2016. Please fill out the nomination form with all information required as outlined on the checklist above.

Step 2: The Selection Committee will make final decisions regarding award recipients. The award recipients will be publicly announced at the Fresh Voices Awards Dinner held in Vancouver, B.C on Monday December 5, 2016. Successful recipients will be notified in advance and invited to attend the awards dinner. Vancouver Foundation and its partnering organizations will provide travel and accommodation support to awards recipients.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

For any questions regarding the Fresh Voices 2016 Awards, please contact Vancouver Foundation: freshvoices@vancouverfoundation.ca | 604-688-2204

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vancouver foundation

Partners

Vancouver Foundation's mission is to build healthy, vibrant, and livable communities across British Columbia.

We accomplish our work by harnessing the gifts of energy, ideas, time, and money of caring residents to make meaningful and lasting impacts. We are Canada's largest community foundation and we've been investing in our communities since 1943.

The Fresh Voices Initiative at Vancouver Foundation engages immigrant and refugee youth from across the province in dialogue and action that would identify and remove systemic barriers to their ability to thrive. Fresh Voices works towards this goal through a set of public engagement, research and partnership objectives that address the unique needs of immigrant and refugee youth in B.C. The outcomes the Fresh Voices initiative seeks to influence are:

- Improved policies and practices that affect racialized immigrant and refugee youth's sense of belonging in British Columbia and Canada as a whole
- Position newcomer youth to have more voice and influence in planning and decision-making processes that affect their lives

Fresh Voices is lead by a Youth Advisory Team: a diverse group of racialized immigrant and refugee youth age between 14 to 24, who provide feedback, recommendations and community leadership to the initiative overall, with the support and partnership from Vancouver Foundation.

For more information please visit www.freshvoices.ca and www.vancouverfoundation.ca.

Vancity

Vancity is a values-based financial co-operative serving the needs of its more than 509,000 member-owners and their communities through 59 branches in Metro Vancouver, the Fraser Valley, Victoria, Squamish and Alert Bay. As Canada's largest community credit union, Vancity uses its \$18.6 billion in assets to help improve the financial well-being of its members while at the same time helping to develop healthy communities that are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable. For more info: www.vancity.com.



The Michaëlle Jean Foundation supports youth arts initiatives that transform young lives and revitalize underserved communities across Canada. Through our programs, underprivileged youth are using their creativity to build new solutions to pressing social issues, like poverty, social exclusion and mental health. In so doing, they are catalyzing innovative community renewal projects, driving crucial Aboriginal cultural resurgence initiatives and kick-starting cutting-edge business ventures, all over the country. For more info: www.fmjf.ca.