

For immediate release

2022 WGC Screenwriting Awards Special Winners Announced

Anthony Q. Farrell and Michael Amo among winners of the Guild's prestigious special prizes

Toronto, April 13, 2022 — Four of Canada's brightest screenwriting stars will be celebrated at the upcoming 26th annual Writers Guild of Canada Screenwriting Awards with special honours.

Carolyn Saunders: Sondra Kelly Award (Presenters - Jinder Oujla-Chalmers and Cynthia Knight)

Sponsored by the Actra Fraternal Benefit Society (AFBS), this \$5000 award is presented to a mid-career woman screenwriter for research/development on a self-initiated project. Carolyn Saunders is the winner for *Starfighter Baby*, a drama about a woman coming to terms with her childhood on a Cold War air force base. An award-winning writer/director of dramas and documentary, Carolyn was selected for the Meryl Streep/Nicole Kidman Writers Lab, and shortlisted for the Sundance Development Track.

Matt Huether: Alex Barris Mentorship Award (Presenter - Zoe Whittall)

This award acknowledges one screenwriter who has made an outstanding commitment to mentor others. Matt Huether was recognized by his nominators as being extraordinarily generous with his time and energy, and giving new writers the confidence they need to forge their own career paths. An Emmy-nominated, Humanitas Prize-winning TV writer/producer, Matt most recently served as supervising producer on *Mary Kills People* and executive producer on *Degrassi: Next Class*.

Michael Amo: Denis McGrath Award for Service to the WGC (Presenter - Andrew Wreggitt)

This award is presented to a writer who has demonstrated a record of exceptional service to the Guild and the Canadian screenwriting community. This year's recipient is Michael Amo, who is honoured for his 12 years of service on the Guild's council representing the Atlantic region. As a writer, Michael created the dramas *The Listener* and *Pure*, and has been Gemini-nominated for the TV movies *Tagged: The Jonathan Wamback Story* and *Blessed Stranger: After Flight 111*.

Anthony Q. Farrell: Showrunner Award (Presenter - Richard Young)

With a career that has spanned *The Office*, *Little Mosque on the Prairie*, and *Secret Life of Boys*, to his role as showrunner on *Overlord and the Underwoods* and *The Parker Andersons / Amelia Parker*, Anthony Q. Farrell has used his experience and position to entertain audiences and empower other screenwriters. His nominators all agree that Anthony is an exceptional comedy writer and leader, and praised his commitment to inclusion and his mentorship of BIPOC writers.

A lively ceremony hosted by screenwriter/actor/comedian Nile Séguin, the virtual WGC Screenwriting Awards will be held on Monday, April 25, 2022, at 8pm EDT. In addition to the special awards, honours will be presented in eight categories to Canada's top screenwriters. (A list of all nominees can be found [here on wgc.ca](https://wgc.ca).) To watch the awards, please register in advance at wgcawards.ca.

For photos and more information, including quotes about the special winners, contact:

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ABOUT THE WGC

The Writers Guild of Canada represents more than 2,500 professional English-language screenwriters across Canada, the creators of Canadian entertainment enjoyed on all screens. **WGC.ca @WGCTweet**