



News Release

For Immediate Release

Zacharius Kunuk awarded the 2022 Commissioner's Arts Award

Iqaluit, Nunavut (November 1, 2022) – The Honourable Eva Ariak, Commissioner of Nunavut today announced the recipient of the 2022 Nunavut Commissioner's Arts Award honouring outstanding artists in Nunavut.

"It is an honour to recognize Mr. Kunuk for his distinguished career in the arts," said Commissioner Ariak. "Zacharius Kunuk has the extraordinary ability to capture on film, for the whole world to see, Inuit lifestyle and beliefs before colonialism and celebrate Inuit language and culture by showing Inuit traditional practices, tools and clothing through realistic narratives and breathtaking visual imagery."

The award, a cash prize of \$10,000, is presented annually to an established Nunavut artist who has made a significant contribution to the arts during a lengthy career. The artist may have distinguished themselves in visual arts, performing arts or literature.

"The artistic vision of Zacharius Kunuk gives Inuit a sense of their unique place in the world and showcases our language, culture and traditions to a worldwide audience," said Commissioner Ariak.

The Nunavut Commissioner's Arts Award was created to honour the artistic achievement of established Nunavut artists. Nominations are reviewed by a selection committee, whose members have an in-depth knowledge of arts and culture in Nunavut. Nominees are judged on their artistic achievements and the quality and impact of their work.

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