



News Release

For Immediate Release

Nancy Pukirngnak Aupaluktuq awarded the 2023 Commissioner's Arts Award

Iqaluit, Nunavut (May 8, 2024) – The Honourable Eva Aariak, Commissioner of Nunavut today announced the recipient of the 2023 Nunavut Commissioner's Arts Award honouring outstanding artists in Nunavut.

"It is an honour to recognize Nancy Pukirngnak Aupaluktuq for her distinguished career in the arts," said Commissioner Aariak. "She is renowned for her sculptures, drawings, textile art and exquisite traditional clothing. Much of her art is influenced by Inuit mythology and her grandmother's stories of Inuit life long ago. She has the extraordinary ability to capture Inuit lifestyle and beliefs before colonialism and celebrate Inuit language and culture through her art and by sharing her skills with others."

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 Nancy Pukirngnak Aupaluktuq gives Inuit a sense of their unique place in the world and showcases our language, culture and traditions to a worldwide audience," said Commissioner Aariak.

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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