

Peel museum and archives recognized for excellence and innovation

The Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) was recognized Nov. 7 by the Ontario Museum Association (OMA) for outstanding contributions to the Ontario museum community.

PAMA received the Award of Excellence for Innovation and an Honourable Mention for Excellence in Exhibitions at the 2013 Awards of Excellence ceremony in Markham.

"We are honoured to be recognized for PAMA's commitment to creating valuable and innovative displays and exhibitions," said PAMA's Acting Manager Marty Brent. "We have aspired to create a space where visitors can learn about our community's rich culture and heritage."

PAMA received the Award of Excellence for Innovation for the Interactive Map of Peel, a 55-inch multi-touch screen built into a table that provides an interactive source of heritage and cultural history for Peel residents. This engaging technology bridges the gap between the Region's past and present, and provides an interactive source of heritage and cultural history for all residents.

An Honourable Mention for the Excellence in Exhibitions category was presented to PAMA for We Are Here, the Story of Aboriginal People in Peel Region. This permanent exhibition gives voice to the Aboriginal community in Peel and beyond. Through innovative presentation and authentic voice, this exhibition provides visitors with an understanding of the Aboriginal experience over the last two centuries.

The Interactive Map of Peel was funded in part by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture and Sport, and was created in partnership with Albion-Bolton Historical Society, Brampton Heritage Board, Brampton Historical Society, Caledon Heritage Committee, Heritage Mississauga, Historic Bovaird House, Mississauga Library System, Museums of Mississauga, Streetsville Historical Society and Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. PAMA acknowledges the Peel Aboriginal Network, Mississauga of the New Credit First Nation, Métis Nation of Ontario, Credit River Métis Council, and distinguished advisors from the community in the development of We Are Here, the Story of Aboriginal People in Peel Region.

The Ontario Museum Association's awards are designed to recognize outstanding contributions to the Ontario museum community with an emphasis on innovation, to advance the museum profession in Ontario and to encourage high standards of excellence in the museum field. Operated by the Region of Peel, PAMA is at 9 Wellington St. E. in Brampton. Visit pama.peelregion.ca to learn more.