

Cherry Karpyshin Arts Management Prize

OVERVIEW

The Cherry Karpyshin Arts Management Prize is awarded annually to an early-career or aspiring Manitoban arts manager. In addition to recognition and encouragement from Prairie Theatre Exchange's leadership, the recipient will receive \$2,500 to support their career development and professional growth in the arts.

The recipient will be required to submit a report one year after the announcement date. Full report requirements will be shared with the recipient.

The award is named after PTE's beloved former General Manager, Cherry Karpyshin, who led the company for more than 30 years. She was, and remains, deeply passionate about supporting artists, and it is our great honour to offer this award in her name to encourage the next generation of arts managers.

The recipient must be able to attend at least two in-person events or activities in Winnipeg, or have a stable internet connection to participate virtually.

This award is generously supported in part by True North Real Estate Development.

DEFINITIONS

Early-Career: 10 years or less of experience working specifically in arts management. Beyond this, we remain open and flexible in how we interpret the term "early-career."

Aspiring Arts Manager: any person who aspires to become a Producer, General Manager, Managing Director, or Executive Director, and who is recognized by their community or communities for their dedication, potential, and commitment to the field.

Manitoban: a current permanent resident of Manitoba.

HOW TO APPLY

- Assemble all materials into a single PDF document.
- Email the application package to katie@pte.mb.ca.
- Use the subject line: **Cherry Prize 25.26 Application – [your full name]**

APPLICATION PACKAGE

- Application letter addressing the following items (maximum 750 words):
 - Introduce yourself.
 - Describe where you are headed, or hope to go, in arts management.
 - Explain how the prize money will help you work toward those goals.
- CV

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- Friday, June 5, 2026 – 6pm CT

- Late applications will not be accepted

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be early-career or aspiring Manitoban arts managers.
- Prairie Theatre Exchange staff members (part-time, full-time, or seasonal) are not eligible to apply.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

- Cherry Karpyshin, former General Manager, Prairie Theatre Exchange
- Katie Inverarity, Managing Director, Prairie Theatre Exchange
- Two arts community members

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECIPIENT

The recipient will be announced in mid-to-late June 2026.

MORE ABOUT PTE

Prairie Theatre Exchange is a 53-year-old professional theatre company with an operating budget of more than \$2.4 million, located in downtown Winnipeg on the third floor of Portage Place Mall. Founded in 1972 with an emphasis on Canadian plays, and presenting work primarily by local artists in an intimate 323-seat thrust theatre, PTE is a nationally recognized company with deep roots in the community. PTE produces five to seven shows each season as part of its mainstage programming.