“There is something more important than information. Values are far more important, and it is by understanding common values that decisions are made. We come to understand values through dialogue.”

Dr. Jack P. Blaney, President Emeritus, Simon Fraser University
ABOUT

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY’S
MORRIS J. WOSK CENTRE FOR DIALOGUE

Founded in 2000, the SFU Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue acts as a hub for dialogue and engagement initiatives. As a trusted convener, we create a space for respectful conversations between diverse stakeholders, where mutual curiosity and collaborative inquiry act as alternatives to adversarial approaches. Our Dialogue Fellows, Associates and staff lead dedicated programs in six focus areas and one undergraduate program (SFU’s Semester in Dialogue).

JACK P. BLANEY AWARD FOR DIALOGUE

The Jack P. Blaney Award for Dialogue is presented every second year to an individual who has demonstrated international excellence in the use of dialogue to increase mutual understanding and advance complex public issues. Nominations are encouraged from around the world in the fields of international diplomacy & conflict resolution, climate solutions, diversity and inclusion, democracy and civic engagement, and urban sustainability.

Recent Blaney Award programs have engaged thousands of participants through the hosting of international announcements, book launches, capacity building workshops, and participatory research.
PAST RECIPIENTS

2017/18: Alice Wairimu Nderitu, for her outstanding work as an armed conflict mediator and use of dialogue to promote women in leadership and peacebuilding, human rights and genocide prevention, and multiculturalism and education in conflict prevention. Alice is currently an armed conflict mediator and Adviser to the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue on Africa and was appointed as Commissioner of the National Cohesion and Integration Commission in Kenya, a founder and Co-Chair of Uwiano Platform for Peace.

2015/16: Tim Flannery, for using dialogue and authentic engagement to build global consensus for action around the critical issue of climate change. Prof. Flannery is a globally renowned scientist whose writing has inspired millions. His achievements include chairing the Copenhagen Climate Council and founding the Australian Climate Council.

2013/14: Chief Robert Joseph, for his tireless work to renew relationships among Canada’s Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples. Chief Joseph is a Hereditary Chief of the Gwawaenuk First Nation, Ambassador for Reconciliation Canada, and Special Advisor to Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, among other distinctions.

2011/12: Karen Armstrong, for a lifetime of outstanding achievement advancing understanding about world religions and promoting compassion as a way of life. Ms. Armstrong is the founder of the Charter for Compassion, a document that applies shared moral priorities to foster greater global understanding.

2009/10: Liz Lerman, for a lifetime of outstanding leadership, creativity, and dedication to melding dialogue with dance. A choreographer and interdisciplinary artist, Ms. Lerman’s honors include a 2002 MacArthur “Genius Grant” Fellowship. Her work has been commissioned by the Lincoln Center, Harvard Law School, and Kennedy Center, among others.

2005: Mary Robinson, for outstanding courage, leadership and commitment to dialogue. Ms. Robinson is one of the world’s leading advocates for human rights, having served as the President of Ireland, UN High Commissioner on Human Rights, and Executive Director of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative.

2002: Maurice Strong, leading international environmentalist. Mr. Strong served as Secretary General of the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and the 1992 Rio Environmental Summit, as well as the first Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
DEADLINE

DEADLINE EXTENDED
January 14, 2019 (Pacific Standard Time)

CRITERIA

• Demonstrated international excellence in the use of dialogue to increase mutual understanding
• Global significance of their work in addressing complex and profound public issues
• Related programming opportunities

AWARD PROGRAMMING

Far more than a simple ceremony, the Blaney Award includes a short programming residency in Vancouver, Canada that builds upon the recipient’s work to achieve tangible outcomes, reflecting the mandate of Simon Fraser University to be Canada’s most community-engaged research university. Recent Blaney Award programs have engaged thousands of participants through the hosting of international announcements, book launches, capacity building workshops, participatory research and more. The award endowment includes funds to cover recipient transportation and associated programming costs, as well as a CAD 10,000 cash award.
NOMINATION GUIDELINES

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Electronic format only (MS Word or PDF)
- All nominations and inquiries should be sent to:
  Grace Lee, Program Lead, Signature Events and Endowment
  Simon Fraser University’s Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue
  Email: eunhyel@sfu.ca, Phone: +01 778-782-4893

The Jack P. Blaney Award for Dialogue Selection Committee will consider public nominations for the 2019/20 recipient, in addition to internally identified nominees. Completing a full nomination form is not mandatory to suggest potential recipients, although doing so will increase the chance that the nominee will receive full consideration. We welcome nominees from all geographic locations and backgrounds, including youth.

We ask that all nominations be succinct and provide links or references to secondary resources to help the Selection Committee evaluate the suitability of the candidate. The Centre for Dialogue reserves the right to perform independent research when evaluating nominations.

More information: WWW.SFU.CA/DIALOGUE/AWARDS

PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING WITH YOUR SUBMISSION

1. Proposed recipient
2. Organization of proposed recipient (if applicable)
3. Nominator name
4. Nominator organization (if applicable)
5. Nominator address
6. Nominator phone
7. Nominator email
8. Summary: Reason the nominee would be a worthy recipient, as well as the subject area addressed by their work (100 words max).

9. Key biographical information: Major positions held and highlights of career accomplishments (100 words max, point form encouraged).

10. Excellence in dialogue: Evidence that the nominee has demonstrated, internationally, excellence in using dialogue to increase mutual understanding (150 words max).

11. Global significance of work: Information about how the nominee’s work has been globally significant in addressing complex and profound public issues (150 words max).

12. Programming opportunities (optional): Suggestions are welcome for programming during the recipient’s residency. Helpful information includes the likelihood the recipient will be available for a short residency, opportunities to achieve tangible impact during the recipient’s visit, and potential programming partnerships (150 words max).

13. Background resources for further evaluation: Please provide links or references to further information that will help the Centre for Dialogue to fully evaluate the nominee, such as videos of the nominee’s public speaking and/or facilitation, news media coverage, biographies, organization websites, etc.
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