

## CALL TO ARTISTS – Artist Designed Mayor’s Innovation Awards Trophy

The City of Barrie invites proposals from local artists who work in the digital field or graphic designers based in the Barrie area to digitally design award trophies that will then be physically made by the Georgian College Makerspace for the 8<sup>th</sup> annual [Mayor’s Innovation Awards](#).

The Mayor’s Innovation Awards cultivates stories of strength, creativity and adaptation from across Barrie. These awards recognize businesses, individuals and organizations whose innovative approaches and sheer determination contribute to a resilient foundation for our city.

Local innovators are recognized in six award categories:

- Pivot Point
- Creative Collaboration
- Youth Innovator
- Research & Innovation Contribution
- Shift Disturber
- Municipal Innovation

Each year, a new artist or graphic designer will be contracted to design the award trophies, allowing the Mayor’s Innovation Awards to integrate and celebrate the arts community.

### *Artistic Considerations*

This project will be a collaborative effort with another organization. The selected artist will be in charge of designing the trophy, within the limitations provided, and the Georgian College Makerspace will be in charge of fabricating the trophies with the finalized design provided.

We are seeking design submissions from a wide variety of artistic voices and welcome applications from all walks of life including all equity seeking groups. Artwork can be created in any medium but, if selected, must be provided as an Adobe Illustrator file or a Stl. File.

The designs should respond to the theme, ***Innovation in Barrie***, which will align with the award categories.

*\*\*Innovation thrives where art, business, and creative industry come together. In Barrie, creative industries drive economic growth, strengthen cultural identity, and inspire community connection. Through entrepreneurial spirit and creative collaboration, artists and businesses work together in our vibrant and evolving city. The trophy design should showcase the dynamic relationship between creativity, innovation and business in Barrie.\*\**

Artwork must be suitable for public display (family and community friendly).

### *About the Georgian College Makerspace*

[Georgian College’s Makerspace](#) provides an array of digital fabrication tools, electronics equipment and virtual reality technology in a communal area, where students, artists, researchers and other campus community members can freely tinker, design and prototype their ideas. This space allows for self-directed making, learning, exploring and sharing of ideas that drives continual discovery.



## Past Mayor's Innovation Awards Trophy Examples



## Makerspace Past Designs



## Event Logo

Please note that the event logo and Barrie logo will need to be incorporated into the final design.



### *Technical Considerations*

All trophy designs must be developed with the available fabrication equipment and material limitations in mind. The following technical requirements are intended to ensure that proposed designs can be successfully fabricated, assembled, and mounted to the final trophy base.

#### **1. 3D Printing – Bambu X1C**

Designs utilizing 3D-printed components must be compatible with the Bambu X1C 3D printer and Bambu Studio slicing software.

- The artist should consider the limitations of 3D printing, including material thickness, structural integrity, overhangs, supports, and assembly requirements.
- Any multi-part or assembled 3D-printed design must clearly identify how the components are intended to connect.
- The artist should communicate any required assembly, adhesive, or fastening methods prior to fabrication.

#### **2. Laser Cutting & Engraving – Epilog Mini CO<sub>2</sub> Laser System**

The Epilog Mini CO<sub>2</sub> Laser System is available for precision engraving and cutting of materials including wood, acrylic, plastics, stone, and other compatible materials.

- The maximum acrylic working area is 6 inches wide × 10 inches high × ¼ inch thick. Designs incorporating acrylic must remain within these maximum dimensions.
- The primary design should be limited to one colour. Exceptions to the one-colour requirement may be made where multiple materials or pieces are physically assembled together. For example, acrylic and wood may be combined to create a multi-material design.
- Where multiple pieces or materials are proposed, the artist must communicate the method of attachment or assembly prior to fabrication and mounting to the wooden base.
- Acrylic designs will be etched directly into the material. Artists should therefore consider how the design will translate through an etched application.
- Etching may be used to reproduce logos, words, lines, shapes, and other suitable graphic elements.
- Designs should avoid excessively fine or intricate details that may not translate effectively through the laser engraving or cutting process.
- Any logos, typography, or graphic elements should be supplied in a high-quality, vector-based format wherever possible.



### 3. Cutting & Fabrication – Mitre Saw

A mitre saw is available for cutting wood and other appropriate materials used in the construction of the trophy.

- Designs incorporating wood components should account for the available cutting capabilities and material dimensions.
- Straight cuts, angled cuts, and other cuts achievable using a mitre saw may be incorporated into the design.
- The artist should consider how individual wood components will be joined, assembled, and secured.
- Any design requiring specific angles, joints, or assembly techniques should be clearly communicated prior to fabrication.

### 4. Trophy Base

- Shape of the trophy is up to the artist, however please incorporate a tamper that is ¼ inch deep and 3-4 inches wide at the base of your design for the trophy to be able to be inserted into a wooden or acrylic base.
- The trophy base may be fabricated in either stained wood or acrylic, at the artist's discretion. If wood is selected, the stain colour may be determined by the artist. If acrylic is selected, a single colour may be specified by the artist.
- Reference bases:



### 5. General Design Requirements

- Event logo and Barrie logo should be incorporated into your design.
- Final design will either need to be submitted via an Adobe Illustrator file or a Stl. File.

#### *Budget and Artist Fees*

The selected artist or graphic designer will be compensated \$1,000 to digitally design the award trophy for the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Mayor's Innovation Awards. This provision is inclusive of the final design and artist fees.

#### *Artist Selection Process*

The selection process will be facilitated by the City of Barrie's Senior Business Innovation & Strategic Partnership Officer and the selection panel which will include a member from the Georgian College Makerspace and the City of Barrie's Public Art Coordinator.

The artist/ graphic designer will be recommended for commission based on the following criteria:

- Artistic merit, including quality of work, originality, and artistic excellence.
- Appropriateness of design in serving as a celebratory award trophy.
- Artist's demonstrated ability to meet the artwork goals and technical requirements within the timeline and budget.

#### *Eligibility*

This Call to Artists is open to Barrie residents, businesses, organizations, not-for-profits, or emerging and professional artists and graphic designers located in Barrie.

#### *Submission Requirements*

Please submit the following materials in a single PDF document (no larger than 20 MB) using this [FORM](#) with file name:

"Mayor's Innovation Awards Trophy Design 2026 (name of respondent).pdf"

1. Up to three images of the proposed trophy artwork: this should propose a concept, not a finished product, to show the selection committee your style and intention.
2. A Letter of Intent (1 page maximum) or recorded video (via online link) that contextualizes your artistic approach to the award trophies within the context of your artistic practice and the Barrie arts community.
3. Up to 3 examples of other relevant visual work.

#### *Deadline for Submission*

Received via this [FORM](#) no later than 5:00 PM on Tuesday October 20, 2026. The City is not responsible for technical issues experienced by the artist.

#### *Timeline*

The table below sets out the milestones and dates for the Barrie Mayor's Innovation Awards. Dates are subject to change at the sole discretion of the City.

| Milestone                                                 | Date                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Competition announcement and circulation                  | Thursday, September 3, 2026 |
| Deadline for Submission of Design                         | Tuesday, October 20, 2026   |
| Review of submissions and selection of artist/artist team | Week of November 2, 2026    |

|                                                                     |                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Selected artist notified and agreement sent                         | Week of November 9, 2026        |
| Meet and greet between artist and Georgian College Makerspace staff | Week of November 16, 2026       |
| Updated trophy design submitted to City for feedback                | Week of January 11, 2027        |
| Final trophy design submitted to City                               | Week of February 1, 2027        |
| Artist payment mailed out                                           | Week of February 8, 2027        |
| Mayor's Innovation Awards                                           | Thursday April 22, 2027 6pm-9pm |

#### *Questions / Accessibility Concerns*

The City of Barrie will answer questions on the application process and provide accommodations to applicants with disabilities. Please email [invest@barrie.ca](mailto:invest@barrie.ca) with questions and the nature of any accommodation(s) that you may require to ensure your equal participation.

Please contact [invest@barrie.ca](mailto:invest@barrie.ca) by September 21, 2026, to ensure enough time can be given to appropriately accommodate your needs and to discuss alternative formats for submitting your application.