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SHELLEY YOUNGBLUT RECEIVES 2018 ROZSA AWARD

CEO and Creative Ringleader of Calgary's Wordfest celebrated for
Excellence in Arts Management

[OCT 16th, 2018] The Rozsa Foundation is pleased to announce **Shelley Youngblut**, CEO and Creative Ringleader of **Wordfest**, as the recipient of the **2018 Rozsa Award for Excellence in Arts Management**.

As the CEO and Creative Ringleader of Wordfest, Youngblut connects smart, funny people with life-changing ideas and has breathed new life into an arts organization that only a short time ago was set to close its doors. Since taking over as Creative Director in 2015, Youngblut has implemented pivotal changes and fostered powerful partnerships that have transformed Wordfest from the host of a week-long literary celebration to a purveyor of dynamic and profitable year-round programming that draws major talent and audiences from around the world.

In partnership with the **Calgary Public Library**, Youngblut is also transforming Alberta's oldest library in **Central Memorial Park** into a vibrant arts and culture hub.

Shelley Youngblut is a fierce advocate of emerging talent and has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to ensuring the literary arts in Calgary receives its due diligence.

The Rozsa Award for Excellence in Arts Management recognizes Youngblut's unwavering commitment to taking on challenges in stride, marshalling wide community support, inspiring audiences and energizing volunteers in the creation of a lively, public celebration of two decades as the region's premier international reader's and writer's festival.

ABOUT THE AWARD

Created in 2003 to honour the philanthropic efforts of Drs Ted and Lola Rozsa, the **Rozsa Award for Excellence in Arts Management** is unique in Canada, celebrating outstanding arts managers and providing additional professional development benefits to the recipient and his or her organization.

Thanks to our generous partners including Alberta School of Business at the University of Alberta, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, CKUA Radio Network, Deloitte, GOOD Company, Haskayne School of Business at the University of Calgary, Ross W Marsh Consulting, Transcend Management Advisors Inc and Vital Business Systems, as well as other valued partners over the past 15 years, the Foundation has distributed **over one million dollars in cash prizes and benefits** to our award recipients and their organizations across Alberta.

The 15th Annual Rozsa Award was held on October 15th, 2018 at the Jack Singer Concert Hall Lobby, Arts Commons.

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