

## Black Canadian Music Awards 2020 Winners



The poster features a black background with a starry pattern. At the top left is the SOCAN logo. In the center is a stylized musical note with a yellow maple leaf as its stem. To the right of the note is the text 'BLACK CANADIAN MUSIC AWARDS' and 'PRIX DE LA MUSIQUE NOIRE CANADIENNE'. Below this are five circular portraits of winners: TOBi, Hunnah, Naya Ali, Dylan Sinclair, and RAAHiM. At the bottom left is the SOCAN logo again, and at the bottom right is the SiriusXM logo with the text 'Sponsored by: sponsorisé par' above it.

**BLACK**  
CANADIAN MUSIC  
AWARDS

PRIX DE LA MUSIQUE  
**NOIRE**  
CANADIENNE

TOBi

Hunnah

Naya Ali

Dylan Sinclair

RAAHiiM

FONDATION  
**SO**CAN  
FOUNDATION

Sponsored by:  
sponsorisé par  
**(((SiriusXM)))**

**[TOBi](#) // [Growth](#), [City Blues](#) // Hip-Hop // Ontario // English**

Born in Nigeria, 26 year old TOBi immigrated to Canada with his father at 8 years old. He went from rapping to writing R&B, afropop, pop music and alternative music as well. He writes almost all of the lyrics in his music and he has started producing and writing for other artists locally and internationally.

**[Naya Ali](#) // [Get It Right](#), [Godspeed](#) // Rap // Quebec // English**

Born in Ethiopia and now living in Montreal, she started creating music only 2 years ago and she's already on billboards in downtown Toronto. She's drawing a lot of attention in Canada and abroad with her unique flow, flamboyant but calm personality and high energy performances.

**[RAAHiiM](#) // [Peak \(Fet Up\)](#), [Red Light](#) // R&B // Ontario // English**

Singer, songwriter, and producer from Toronto, he grew up singing in church and talent shows across North America. At 17 he was selected to join the 2014 class of The Remix Project's recording program. His writing and production skills, along with his silky voice paved the way to some major collaborations.

**[Hunnah](#) // [Away](#), [Think About It](#) // R&B // Ontario // English**

Nineteen-year-old singer-songwriter from Toronto who started honing his voice in church at the age of 4. He began writing and recording music by the age of 15. In 2017, Dylan released his first independent project entitled "Red Like Crimson" and draw the attention of some high-profile artists in Toronto.

**[Dylan Sinclair](#) // [Home](#), [Ask Me](#) // R&B // Ontario // English**

She began her musical education with piano lessons at age 4, and by age 9 she was performing at church and writing her own original songs. Her greatest talent is her ability to reach out through the speakers and forge an emotional bond with her listeners. She's now bases in LA and she's working with major companies.

## Jury Members

**DJ Agile (Chair)** - A creative mastermind are the words that can be used to describe Toronto's Agile. A DJ, producer and songwriter; his style is as diverse as the city he represents. As a producer Agile has worked alongside power players Nas, Melanie Fiona, Dwele, Kardinal Offishall, Method Man, Jully Black, Ivana Santilli and Glenn Lewis to name a few. His success is unprecedented. He is a Stylus DJ Award winner, NXNE Rising Star Award winner, five-time Juno nominee and a five-time MuchMusic Video Award nominee. He is a member of the hip-hop super groups BrassMunk and Big Black Lincoln where he acts as DJ & producer.

**Dominique Fils-Aimé** - Her most recent work won the 2020 JUNO Award for Vocal Jazz Album of the Year as well as the Félix prize for Best Jazz Album at the 2019 ADISQ Gala and was shortlisted for the Polaris Music Prize and featured among the 19 best Canadian albums of 2019 by CBC. Dominique Fils-Aimé was recently nominated as Radio-Canada's 2019-2020 "Revelation in Jazz" and has been touring Canada's Jazz festivals. While her musical roots are grounded in early soul and jazz, her voice transcends contemporary urban soundscapes.

**Vivian Barclay** - Vivian is the General Manager of Warner Chappell Music Canada the publishing arm of Warner Music Group. She works with a diverse roster of songwriters, including Jully Black, Brad Rempel (High Valley) , Producer Lantz, Maurice Moore, Machel Montano, Barenaked Ladies, Patoranking, Begonia, The Bros Landreth and is also responsible for the administration of the over 200-year-old company's global catalogue. Vivian currently sits on the Boards of the Music Publishers Canada (MPC), SOCAN, Phemphat Entertainment, producers of the HONEY JAM showcase and the Toronto Music Advisory Committee.

**Pierre Kwenders** - Pierre Kwenders fluidly dismantles the boundaries of genre, country and culture with his inventive indie-Afro electro sound by merging Western and African styles into warm vibes and impassioned vocals. Born in Kinshasa (DRC), Kwenders sings and raps in Lingala, French, English, Tshiluba and Kikongo, mining the lyrical and aesthetic distinctions of these languages for peak emotional resonance. Alongside his accomplishments as a solo artist, he is a leading creative force in the Montreal music scene with multiple collaborations and projects like Arcade Fire's Fundraiser, the ABAKOS duo, the Méké Méké residency and Moonshine .

**Erin Lowers** - For the past decade, Erin has spent her time diving into the worlds of music journalism, digital content creation, and festival programming with the hopes of pushing the Canadian music community, specifically Black music (Hip-Hop and R&B), to the forefront of

the entertainment industry. Her written work has been featured nationally and internationally. The most recent additions to Erin's career in the music industry include her work as an interview producer and researcher for the Emmy and Peabody-award winning Netflix series Hip-Hop Evolution, and as well as putting a foot down in the digital streaming world through YouTube Music.

**[Craig Mannix](#)** - Craig Mannix has always been a leading voice in the promotion, marketing and execution of Black and Urban music and lifestyle. His career began in the early 90s working for BMG Records, Tommy Boy and Virgin Records as Canada's first Black and Urban music consultant. He was responsible for developing Canada's first fully functional Black Music department and has been a pivotal part of the careers iconic Canadian artists such as K-os, Kardinal Offishall, Choclair and Pressa. In addition to his work in music, he is a founding member of Advance, Canada's Black Music business collective and sits on the Board of Directors for the Remix Project.

**[Desirée Dawson](#)** - Desirée Dawson is a recording artist, songwriter, yoga teacher and producer from Vancouver BC. Desirée is very passionate about music's role in collective healing, by encouraging listeners to find a connection within themselves and the people and land around them. A CBC radio favorite, Desirée has been featured on numerous CBC programs, has her songs on regular rotation and won the CBC Searchlight contest in 2016. Her most recent single "All In" premiered on Billboard Pride and was featured in an episode of Wynonna Earp.

**[Stephen H. Lewis](#)** - Stephen H. Lewis is an accomplished musician, songwriter, arranger, producer and, clinician. He is Executive producer and judge of CTS-Gospel Dynamic Duets and judge and musical director for the JUNO Award winning gospel artist Sharon Riley & Faith Chorale. Most recently, Stephen is now the dean of Music Canada Christian College.

**Camille Mathews** - Hailing from Fayetteville, North Carolina, Camille's been instrumental in running the SOCAN LA office both operationally and creatively. She's always had a passion for helping people and enjoys helping SOCAN members connect the dots in LA. Prior to her time at SOCAN, Camille consulted for independent record labels and pitched music for Film & TV.

**Keziah Myers** - Currently in a cross-collective role, Keziah works with both SOCAN and Re:Sound on educating media and non-media organizations about the importance of music licensing and facilitates the initial process of getting songwriters their royalties. Keziah has also held positions in the A&R team at SOCAN, in Label Operations Management, Publicity, sat on Entertainment & Music Organization Boards, adjudicated as part of FACTOR and JUNO juries, and has been a guest presenter for Colleges and High schools in Toronto.