

ENTERTAINMENT

BAKER WINS CARSEN

Modern-dance icon Peggy Baker is this year's winner of the \$50,000 Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts, the Canada Council for the Arts announced Wednesday.

Toronto-based Baker, 57, is an esteemed dancer, choreographer and teacher with a string of high honours and awards already to her

Peggy Baker, winner of the 2010 Walter Carsen Prize.



credit. But the Carsen Prize, apart from its dollar value, has the distinction of being awarded on the advice of Baker's dance peers.

Previous Carsen Prize winners include composer R. Murray Schafer, playwright Judith Thompson and ballerina-turned-filmmaker Veronica Tennant.

Carsen, a major benefactor of the National Ballet of Canada and one of Canada's leading arts donors, established the prize a decade ago.

An award in dance is given every other year with theatre and music honoured in rotation in the intervening years.

Michael Crabb