

Little Mosque wins humanitarian award

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[CBC News](#)

Little Mosque on the Prairie, the CBC sitcom which is winning awards around the world for its fond depiction of a Muslim community, has won yet another honour, this one for promoting harmony.

The makers of the show will receive the Search for Common Ground award from a U.S. human rights organization that promotes collaborative problem-solving as an alternative to conflict.

The award was previously won by Nobel peace laureate Desmond Tutu, former U.S. president Jimmy Carter, newsman Ted Koppel and Muhammad Ali.

Retired Canadian Lt.-Gen. Roméo Dallaire will also be honoured by the Search for Common Ground group at an awards ceremony Nov. 6 in New York.

He'll be given a lifetime achievement award for his efforts to eradicate the use of child soldiers around the world.

Little Mosque is family-friendly comedy about the lives of people in a Muslim community in the fictional Prairie town of Mercy.

"This is a very humbling award to receive and it feels like a confirmation of our vision," Mary Darling, executive producer of *Little Mosque*, said in a statement.

"We wanted to create a show that would allow people to laugh while hopefully breaking down stereotypes. We felt that comedy would be a great way to inspire people to dialogue together and to build understanding of each other no matter what their beliefs."

At this year's Geminis, the show is to receive the Canada Award for excellence in mainstream television programming that reflects the nation's racial and cultural diversity.

With files from the Canadian Press



New Imam Amaar (Zaib Shaikh), left, and the fictional town of Mercy's original Imam, Baber (Manoj Sood), argue in *Little Mosque on the Prairie*. (CBC)