



Nominations Open for the 2015 Governor's Arts & Heritage Awards

The Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA) invites you to help recognize and honor outstanding artists, arts organizations, and cultural leaders in our state. [Nominations are due August 17th, 2015.](#)

The Arts Heritages Awards are among the most prestigious honors that the Governor confers. To be eligible for either the Arts or Heritage Awards, individuals or organizations must be current Washington residents or have resided in the state during the time the contributions were made, and not be a previous Governor's Award recipient.

A selection panel will use the criteria listed on the next page (see About the Awards) to evaluate nominations. Panel recommendations will be forwarded to the Board of the Washington State Arts Commission. The Commission will then make its recommendation to the Governor, who has the final approval authority and will announce the award recipients.

You may self-nominate more than one candidate: however, you must complete a full application for each nomination and submit all nomination materials by the deadline. Do not make multiple nominations of the same person/group. Awards are based on the significance of achievements and contributions, not the number of nomination received.

All applications must be submitted electronically. Email nomination form, nomination letter and all supporting materials to Glenda Carino, Communications Manager at glenda.carino@arts.wa.gov by 5:00 p.m., August 17th, 2015. Letters of support may be emailed separately but must also be submitted no later than the deadline. Please type GAHA Application in the subject line of the email. If you have questions, please call Glenda at (360) 586-8093.

Nominations will be accepted for the following categories:

- Individual Arts Award (Outstanding generative individual artist or individual arts leader)
- Arts Organizations or Organizations the support the arts
- Arts Educator Award
- Individual Heritage Award (Individual artist/practitioner)
- Heritage Organization Award
- Young Arts Leader Award (individual artist or art administrator between 18-35 years old)

About the Awards



The **Governor's Arts Awards** were established in 1966 to recognize individuals and artists for significant contributions to the arts and cultural development of Washington State. Arts Award nominees are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Nominee's contributions to arts and cultural development of Washington State, or to a specific community within the state.
- Nominee's impact on a Washington State community/region

over time, as demonstrated by level of community engagement and/or community recognition

- For artists and arts producing groups: the quality of the artworks produced
- For arts presenters/supporters: the quality and impact of significant projects or initiatives that advance the arts
- For the Young Arts Leader award: the nominee must be between the ages of 18 and 35
- For the Arts Educator award: the nominee may be a certified K-12 teacher, a professional teaching artist, a school or district administrator, or any other individual demonstrating excellence and dedication in arts education as a central part of K-12 education. In addition to the criteria above, the panel will consider the nominee's contributions to and impact on the education of the students in the communities they serve.

The **Governor's Heritage Awards** were established in 1989 to honor outstanding individuals and organizations whose dedication to preserving and promoting traditions and cultural heritage are worthy of state recognition. Heritage Award nominees are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Contributions to the heritage of Washington State, or to a specific community within the state
- Active participation in the artist's community as a master traditional artist, community scholar, or traditional community historian
- Nominee's work is representative of significant folk art or cultural traditions, and/or tradition bearers within the nominee's community and recognized as such by the community
- Significant record of accomplishments and excellence

[See list of past Governor's Arts & Heritage Award honorees.](#)

[Download 2015 Governor's Arts & Heritage Awards Nomination Form](#)