



2018 GOVERNOR'S Arts & Heritage Awards

Honoring Excellence, Creativity, and Achievement



WASHINGTON STATE
ARTS COMMISSION

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARD

Preston Singletary, Seattle



The art of Preston Singletary has become synonymous with the relationship between European glass blowing traditions and Northwest Native art. His artworks feature themes of transformation, animal spirits, and shamanism through elegant blown glass forms and mystical sand carved Tlingit designs. Throughout his over thirty years of glass blowing experience, he has worked

with artists in the Seattle area including Benjamin Moore and Dante Marionni. He learned the secrets of the Venetian glass masters by working with Italian legends Lino Tagliapietra, Cecco Ongaro, and Pino Signoretto.

Singletary's artworks are recognized internationally in museum collections such as the British Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, and Seattle Art Museum, among many others. In 2009, the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, WA, launched a major mid-career survey of his work, entitled *Preston Singletary: Echoes, Fire, and Shadows*. In 2018 he will launch a new traveling exhibition with the Museum of Glass, titled *Raven and the Box of Daylight*, which will push the boundaries of glass as a medium for storytelling. His latest work will be a large Killer Whale Totem created entirely in lead crystal and standing at nearly eight feet tall.

Photo courtesy of Preston Singletary.

ARTS LEGACY AWARD

Jim Kelly, Seattle



Jim Kelly began managing the Cultural Facilities Program for arts and heritage organizations in King County in 1993. In 1998 Kelly was appointed to manage the King County Office of Cultural Resources. In that role, he is credited for crafting a new funding model for cultural programs in King County, an independent public agency—known as a public development authority,

or PDA—with an independent board, budget, and self-governance. The new authority was chartered in 2003 and the newly named 4Culture was established in 2004 with Jim Kelly at the helm.

Kelly and 4Culture next set their sights on seeking state legislative approval for extending the use of lodging taxes for cultural programs in King County. With the help of thousands of arts advocates, a long seven-year struggle to achieve this goal culminated in legislation passed in 2011 that will fund cultural programs long into the future.

Kelly retired from 4Culture in March of 2018 leaving behind a legacy of leadership that helped 4Culture to become the largest cultural funder in Washington State. During his tenure, over \$130 million has been distributed to 2,800 individuals and groups. The organization serves Seattle and 38 municipalities in King County.

Photo courtesy of 4Culture.

MERITORIOUS ARTS AWARD

Paul G. Allen

This discretionary award is given to an individual who, for a significant period of years, has provided continuous and extraordinary contributions to the arts. Paul G. Allen left a legacy of creativity, generosity, and passion for the arts and humanities across the world and especially in Washington State. As co-founder of Microsoft, he helped to bring the personal computer to the mainstream and used his incredible resources to advance science, technology, education, wildlife conservation, the arts, and community services. He funded billions of dollars in catalytic philanthropic endeavors and nowhere is it more evident than in his hometown of Seattle. Paul was a long-time supporter of the Seattle Symphony, but his love of Jimi Hendrix spurred him to



found The Museum of Pop Culture, which will forever stand as a tribute to his passion for rock 'n' roll, science fiction, and the wild world of popular culture. From renovating and upgrading the iconic Cinerama movie theatre, to founding the Seattle Art Fair, to helping nonprofits nurture the arts, the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation and Vulcan Inc. support cultural causes big and small, including for the past four years, ArtsWA and the Governor's Arts and Heritage Awards. Paul Allen's willingness to invest in potential and to take chances on creative thinking and endeavors is a true inspiration to us all.

Photo courtesy of Paul G. Allen Philanthropies.

Paul G. Allen
1953-2018

YOUNG ARTS LEADER AWARD

Leah Wilson-Velasco, Walla Walla



Originally from New Mexico, Leah Wilson-Velasco holds a BA in music performance (viola) from Whitman College and a Master's in Music Education from the Boston Conservatory. Leah has committed the past 15 years to impacting people through music, a passion that has led her to hold positions with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra, and the Walla Walla

Symphony where she has been CEO since 2011.

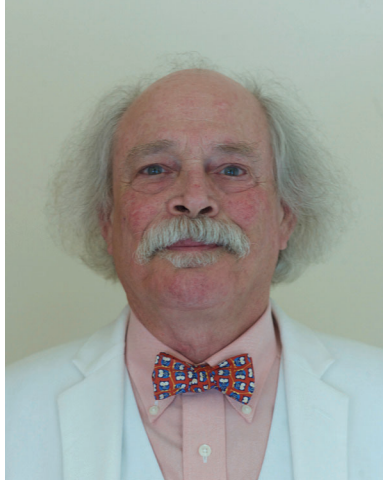
During her time in Walla Walla, she has brought financial security to the Symphony, stabilized and expanded youth engagement programs, and worked with the Symphony's music director to create seasons of growing popularity and artistic merit. She has also become a community-wide leader collaborating with other local arts and non-profit organizations to create interdisciplinary experiences for the residents of the Walla Walla Valley. Most recently she has become co-chair for an exploratory project that is working to explore the feasibility of creating a shared space in Walla Walla for all of the arts nonprofits.

Leah's husband Michael Simon runs a recording studio and teaches Music Technology at Whitman College. They have two daughters, Evelyn (4) and Alice (1).

Photo courtesy of Leah Wilson-Velasco.

ARTS PHILANTHROPY AWARD

Edmund Littlefield Jr., Arlington



Edmund Littlefield has built a legacy of support for arts organizations across Washington State, making significant contributions both personally and through his private Sage Foundation. Edmund studied music at Stanford University. Music has always been the center of his life, leading him to develop Sage Arts Studio in Arlington, WA in 1972. He continues his involvement in

music as a member of Marley's Ghost, a folk/roots band that plays and performs around the country. As a philanthropist, Edmund has shown incredible leadership through life-changing gifts of support to traditional and heritage-based organizations in Washington State and across the country. These gifts have been instrumental in advancing singular missions and historic efforts to preserve American history, artifacts, and folklore via archival recordings, publications, and scholarship. Edmund regularly contributes significant donations to organizations such as the Fort Worden PDA, Cornish College of the Arts, Centrum Foundation, and the Celtic Arts Foundation. His generosity has touched thousands throughout the state.

Photo courtesy of Edmund Littlefield Jr.

ARTS COMMUNITY AWARD

Mery Swanson, Aberdeen



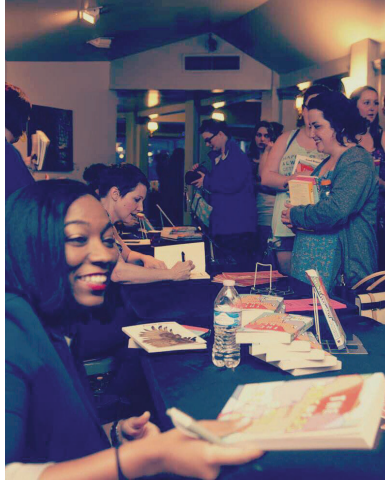
Mery Swanson's work to better her community began shortly after she moved to Aberdeen, WA in 1996. Finding no arts community there, she made it her mission to create one by developing and marketing new programs across Aberdeen. She belongs to the Harbor Art Guild, the North Beach Art Guild, and the South Beach Art Association, and is the Director of the Art Marketing Group of Our Aberdeen. In

2013, Mery received the Aberdeen Revitalization Movement President's Award for her contributions to the community. You can see the results of Mery's devotion to the arts and cultural life of Aberdeen in just about every corner of town. Mery nurtures an engaged, productive arts community, thus improving the area's economy and quality of life. Mery is an artist and a change agent who has made an indelible mark on the Aberdeen area.

Photo courtesy of the Aberdeen Daily World.

ARTS ORGANIZATION AWARD

Get Lit! Programs, Spokane



Founded in 1998, Get Lit! Programs is a non-profit literary arts organization housed within Eastern Washington University's College of Arts, Letters, and Education. Get Lit! Programs is responsible for the Get Lit! Festival, the Spokane region's only annual, week-long literary festival, which has grown from a single day of back-to-back readings to a seven day celebration of literature that brings in thousands of attendees from Spokane and the surrounding region. With help from generous community partners and sponsors, the festival offers

free and low cost readings, writing workshops, craft classes, poetry slams, panel discussions, literary happy hours, and much more. Get Lit! also runs Writers in Residence, a program (funded by grant dollars) that places published authors in local schools to teach 10-week creative writing courses to students who may not normally have access to a creative writing curriculum. In 2018 Get Lit! Programs celebrated its 20th anniversary.

Photo courtesy of Get Lit! Festival.

HERITAGE AWARD: INDIVIDUAL

Patsy Surh O'Connell, Gig Harbor



Patsy Surh O'Connell was born in Shanghai, China of Korean parents, and lived her early life in Korea before immigrating to America in 1963. As a student of Chinese ink painting, Sumi-e, oil, watercolor, pastel, acrylic, lapidary, weaving, pottery, quilting, and batik in Korea, Japan, China, and in the United States, Patsy has been a water media teacher at the college level for 37 years.

In 1996, Patsy founded the nonprofit Asia Pacific Cultural Center in Tacoma. Asia Pacific Cultural Center, a 2015 recipient of the Governor's Arts & Heritage Awards, is a gathering place for 47 countries of Asia and the Pacific Islands in the Tacoma-Pierce County region. The mission of the organization is to bridge communities and generations through arts, culture, education, and business.

She currently serves as President of the Korean American Artists of Washington for the past five years, is a member of the Women Painters of WA, and is a Signature Life Member of the Northwest Watercolor Society. Patsy lives in Gig Harbor with her husband. She has two sons and a daughter.

Photo courtesy of Patsy Surh O'Connell.

HERITAGE AWARD: ORGANIZATION

Port of Kennewick, Kennewick



Port of Kennewick

As a 103-year-strong organization, Port of Kennewick has a proven record of adapting to meet evolving district needs and of building and sustaining the community through advocacy, art, and architecture. Indeed, the Port is investing in public artwork, sharing the stories of the community, and using that tapestry of stories as a catalyst to transform the city's tired waterfront into a regional destination. From honoring local tribal, pioneering, ship-building, agricultural, environmental, industrial, and ethnic traditions, to providing cultural touchstones through

educational imagery and representative structures, the Port of Kennewick has worked hard to advocate, highlight, and symbolize the community's rich and diverse history.

The Port's efforts have received accolades from both Tribal and Latino civic leaders; song and drum blessing ceremonies from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and a Downtown Revitalization Award from the Kennewick Arts Commission.

Photo courtesy of the Port of Kennewick.

1966
PONCHO

1967
City of Bellingham
Angus L. Bowmer
Pike Place Market
Washington State Library

1968
Eunice P. Ziegler

1969
Western Washington State
College
Seattle First National Bank
Olympia Brewing Company
Richard E. Fuller
Atlantic Richfield Hanford
Company

1970
Allied Arts Council of the Yakima
Valley
Boise Cascade Corporation and
the Blue Mountain Committee of the
Pacific Northwest Ballet Association
Farm Credit Banks of Spokane
Erna Gunther
Rainier Brewing Company
Seattle Opera Association
Taholah Elementary School District #77
Mark Tobey
James Washington, Jr.

1971
Battelle Pacific
Northwest Laboratories
Morris Graves
Henry Art Gallery
Robert Joffrey
Helen Loggie
Mr. and Mrs. Lowell T. Murray, Sr.
Pacific Car and Foundry
Foundation and the City of Renton
Seattle Symphony Orchestra and
the Musicians' Association (Local 76)
Tacoma School District #10

1972
Glen Alps
Ralph Anderson
Carnegie Center of the Arts
Richard Daugherty, Pullman,
and the Makah Tribal Council
John and Anne Hauberg
Philadelphia String Quartet
Seattle Repertory Theater
Spokane Civic Theater

1973
A Contemporary Theater
Allied Arts of Seattle, City of
Seattle and King County
Park and Mildred Cook
Alan Hovaness
Ariel Lelooska

1974
Murray Morgan
Port of Seattle
Spokane Symphony Society
Whitworth College 1975
Allied Arts Association of Richland
Anacortes Arts and Crafts Festival,
Inc and Anacortes School District #103
Lester S. Baskin
Vilem Sokol and the Seattle Youth
Symphony Orchestra
The City of Spokane and its
People

1975
Richland Allied Arts Association
Anacortes Arts and Crafts Festival,
Inc and Anacortes School District
Dr. Lester S. Baskin
Julia Butler Hansen
Vilem Sokol and the Seattle Youth
Symphony Orchestra
The City of Spokane and its
People

1976

Allied Arts Council of North
Central Washington
Black Arts/West
Stanley Chapple
Ellensburg Community Art Gallery
Washington State Department of
Highways
Bill Holm
Elida H. Kirk
George Laisner
Virginia and Bagley Wright

1977 No awards presented
1978 No awards presented
1979 No awards presented
1980 No awards presented
1981 No awards presented
1982 No awards presented

1983

Guy Anderson
Kenneth Callahan
The Capitol Theater Corporation
Columbia Basin Allied Arts
Mrs. David W. Gaiser
City of Kent
Safeco Insurance Company,
R.M. Trafton, Chairman
Virginia Shackelford
WAMPUM

1984

Alcoa Foundation
Dale Chihuly and the Pilchuck
School
Connoisseur Concerts
Anne Gerber
Jacob Lawrence

1985

Burlington Northern Foundation
Columbia Arts Center
Hans and Thelma Lehman
Tacoma Actors' Guild
Victor Steinbrueck
George Tsutakawa

1986

Artists Unlimited
Mr. and Mrs. Morris Alhadeff
Dr. and Mrs. Elsworth Alvord, Jr.
Alfredo Arreguin
Ben B. Cheney Foundation
The Group Theatre
Old National Bank
Port Angeles Symphony
Jose Rambaldi

1987

Nelson Bently
Centrum Foundation
Chateau St. Michelle
Dr. Solomon Katz
Ramona Solberg
Tacoma Youth Symphony

1988

Harold Balazs
The Empty Space Theater
LaMar Harrington
Paul Horiuchi
The Music and Art Foundation
Ruth Slonin
Kent Stowell and Francia Russell
Vancouver Federal Savings Bank
Victory Music
The Wenatchee World

1989

Copper Canyon Press
Gaylen Hansen
Sheffield and Patricia Phelps
Seattle Children's Theater
Washington Trust Bank and
Washington Trust Foundation
Marie Bakke Bremner
David Forlines
Marija Franulovich
Andrew George
Woodrow Gifford
Nhiua YiaHeu
Vi Hilbert
Lucy Liu
Esther Mumford
Ivan Novikoff
Gordon Ekvail Tracie

1990

Cecilia Svinth Carpenter
Ralph Hayes
Selma Muller

1991

Richard Gilkey
Carole Glickfield
Intiman Theater Company
Moses Lake City Council
Samuel Stroum
Tears of Joy Theater
Fred Cordova
Joseph Locati
Patrinell Wright

1992

The Boeing Company
Doris Chase
Robert Helm
Erasmo Gamboa
Bruce (Subiyay) Miller

1993

Judith Meltzer-Smith
Toppenish Mural Society
Joe Wheeler, Centrum
Santiago Almeida
Nettie Jackson
Lillian Pullen

1994

Corporate Council for the Arts (CCA)
Phillip McCracken
Northwest Asian American
Theater
Palmer Johnson
Tazue Kiyono Sasaki
Emilija Tutlys

1995

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Benaroya
Columbia River Renaissance Art
Committee
Eastern Washington State
Historical Society
Elaine Timentwa Emerson
Larry A. Geogre
Otta Oja

1996

The International Alliance of
Theatrical Employees (Local 15),
Studio Mechanics of the Pacific
Northwest (Local 488), and
Theatrical Wardrobe (Local 887)
The Seattle Arts Commission
The Walla Walla Foundry with
Director Mark Anderson
Pauline Hillaire
Robert Sherwood
Maria Petrish

1997

Phillip Levine
Walla Walla Symphony
Citizens of Metaline Falls
Tacoma Art Museum
Carlton Appelo
Sara Quaempts
Maria Seo
Wing Luke Museum

1998

Max Benjamin
Hedgebrooks Writers Retreat
Alan Iglitzin and the Philadelphia
String Quartet
Skaidrite Abolins
Ed Carriere
Trinidad Marquez

1999

Walter Graham
Jack Mackie
Museum of Northwest Art
Gloria Napalani Fujii
Michael Vlahovich
Bin-Liang Wang

2000

Crossroads Youth Theater
Sam Hamill
Linda Oestriech
Ralph Bennett
Mariachi Huenachi
Irene Martin

2001

Artist Trust
Carol Hassen
Gail Tremblay
Salvador Baldovinos
Tatjana Krynytzky
Hazel Pete

2002 No awards presented

2003 No awards presented

2004 No awards presented

2005 No awards presented

2006

Warren Chang
Fabrication Specialities Ltd
Southeast Effective Development
(SEED) Arts Program
Peter Donnelly
Virginia Beavert
Wilho Saari
Wapato Indian Club

2007

Richard Elliott
Elizabeth Herres Miller
Gage Academy of Art
Michael Sandner
Elaine Grinnell
Pete Peterson, Sr.
Skye K. Richendrfer

2008 No awards presented

2009 No awards presented

2010 No awards presented

2011 No awards presented

2012

Book-It Repertory Theatre
Robert Maki
Lucia Perillo
Bailadores de Bronce
Heritage University
Johnny Moses
Maurice Rouman

2013 No awards presented

2014

Arts Council of Snohomish County
(The Schack Arts Center)
Norie Sato
Speight Jenkins
The Evergreen State College
Longhouse Education and
Cultural Center

Earl Davis

Johnpaul Jones

2015

Linda Hartzell
Northwest Sinfonietta
Jamie Valadez
Northwest Heritage Resources
Heidi Arbogast
Benjamin Hunter

2016

Dr. Quinton Morris
Oscar M. Galvan
Asia Pacific Cultural Center
Barbara Earl Thomas
Vashon Center for the Arts

2017

Peter Christenson
Terrance Robert Bernard Shaw
Living Voices
Lynn Di Nino
Seattle Art Museum
Deva Leinani Aiko Yamashiro

Background pages:

Contact sheets from 1986 Governor's
Arts Awards, awarded by Governor Booth
Gardner at the Seattle Art Museum
Photo courtesy of ArtsWA