



GOVERNOR'S ARTS & HERITAGE AWARDS – 2019



Arts Awards – Community – Davin Diaz (Benton County)

Davin is a multi-media artist, filmmaker, mentor, supporter, and promoter of other artists, as well as a community leader and advocate for underrepresented communities. He currently serves on the Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Board of directors and the first and only Latino to chair the Tri-Cities Legislative Council. Davin is the founder of the Tri-Cities Latino Community Network, and is a former member of the Richland City Arts Commission. He was instrumental in establishing Mid-Columbia Reads and the region's first TEDx talks. Davin has held leadership positions on numerous community projects focused on increasing access to the arts. Through his gallery, DrewBoy Creative (DBC), Davin has organized twenty-eight exhibitions and two film festivals featuring local artists.



Arts Award – Individual Artist – Juan Alonso-Rodríguez (King County)

Juan Alonso Rodriguez is a skilled working artist whose generative and socially minded visual arts practice spans several decades. His distinct style and aesthetic is recognizable at galleries, collections, museums, and public installations throughout the state. His sculptural installation *Sentinals* at Chief Sealth High School remains a valuable learning tool used by teachers with their students; likewise, his installation *Garden Windows* at the Columbia City Light Rail station intersects history with evolving residential surroundings. Alongside his commitment to his creative practice, Juan has been a consistent voice for Latinx artists and the LGBTQ community of Washington, organizing art events, curatorial projects, and decentralized networks to address issues of equity and representation.



**Arts Award - Legacy - Michael Spafford
(King County)**

Michael Spafford has been a seminal figure in the Seattle arts community for over five decades as both an artist and professor. Since moving to Seattle in 1963 to join the University of Washington Art Department faculty, where he taught for 31 years and now a professor emeritus, Spafford has built a comprehensive body of work exploring monumentality, mythology, and gesture across multiple disciplines. His creative achievement recognized through numerous awards including; a 1999 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Corporate Council for the Arts, Seattle; a 2006 Mayor’s Art Award; and a 2017 Lifetime Contribution to Northwest Art Award from the Museum of Northwest Art.



**Arts Award - Organization - The 5th Avenue Theatre
(King County)**

As one of the nation’s leading musical theater companies, the 5th Avenue Theatre is known for their innovative productions of musical theatre classics, contemporary musicals, and new works on stage. The 5th Avenue Theatre is the largest arts employer in the Pacific Northwest, providing 1,000 jobs annually for artists, technicians, and craftspeople, and has one of the largest subscriber bases in the country. Through programs for theatre writers that represents the voices of womxn, gender non-conforming, and non-binary folx, and their tuition-free program that gives students direct mentorship from professionals to produce and perform on the mainstage, the 5th Avenue cultivates and develops new stories while pushing the boundaries of musical theatre arts.



**Arts Award - Education - Anne Banks
(Thurston County)**

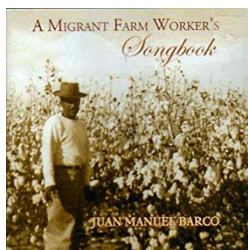
After a 47-year career in public education, Anne Banks retired from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) where she was Program Supervisor for the Arts. At OSPI, Anne demonstrated a deep commitment to expanding access to arts, forging

interdepartmental partnerships with School Improvement, Migrant and Bilingual Education, Federal “Title” funding programs, and Early Learning, and worked with K-12 System Supports to generate a research-based webinar on connections between arts and dropout prevention. Anne partnered with ArtsWA to implement the Washington State Teaching Artist Training Lab. She piloted an innovative data-sharing partnership with 4Culture to develop an interactive data dashboard for high schools. She worked with Arts Cadre to adopt and update the state’s arts standards, and established an annual State of the Arts forum with educational leaders to broaden dialogue around arts equity.



**Arts Award - Advocacy - Matt Cadman
(Chelan County)**

An exceptional advocate for the arts throughout Wenatchee Valley and across North Central Washington, Matt Cadman has worked throughout his professional career to improve access, diversify, and increase student exposure to arts. After several years in public education, in 2013 Matt became the Executive Director of Numerica Performing Arts Center in Wenatchee. During his six years with the organization, he created a number of student arts-access initiatives. With the implementation of the “Every Kid at the PAC” program in 2015, over 12,000 students experienced a variety of arts forms and performances, and it was Matt’s commitment to equitable access and viewership that free access for those from disadvantages socio-economic status was mandated.



**Heritage Awards - Individual - Juan Manuel Barco
(Snohomish County)**

Juan Manuel Barco is a notable and prolific composer of traditional Mexican and Mexican-American ballads in the form known as corrido and a talented musician and singer in the tradition of conjunto norteño. Historically, corridos of the type and content that Juan composes and performs typically focus on issues surrounding land rights, immigration, labor, political action, and cultural identity. It is a tradition of music specific to both Mexico and those of Mexican and Latino Southwestern heritage in the United States. Juan is a

recipient of the Pacific Northwest Tejano Music Association's Pride of the Northwest Award and has performed in hundreds of schools, universities, colleges, conferences, theater concerts, regionally and nationally.



Heritage Award – Organization – Northwest Native American Basketweavers Association (King County)

Currently celebrating their 25th year, the Northwest Native American Basketweavers Association is a 501c3 organization originally founded by 50 leading Washington Native basketweavers to provide opportunities, education, and access to traditional basketry and weaving resources for Native Americans as a means of promoting solidarity and communication, and as an educational and experiential

opportunity for the public. The NNABA has expanded to include 600 members and has broadened its reach beyond Washington State borders to include contiguous states. In addition to their large annual gathering, the NNABA also programs semi-annual meetings, workshops, and regional weaving and demonstration sessions.