

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH BY AN INDIVIDUAL - Community outreach, engagement, and involvement in the arts in Tacoma by an individual**

Nominator Name	Individual Nomination Name	Business (if applicable)	Briefly tell us why this individual deserves recognition.	Briefly describe how this individual has exhibited community outreach, engagement, and involvement in the arts in Tacoma.	How do you know about this nominee?
Dana Peregrine	Carlos Taylor-Swanson	Madera Furniture Company	<p>Carlos Taylor-Swanson, a Tacoma entrepreneur and artisan, is one of Tacoma's most hard-working, enthusiastic, compassionate and enduring advocates for the Tacoma arts community and, Tacoma in general. He takes any opportunity to share his enthusiasm, skills and art, to contribute his expertise and time, and to support and promote the local arts community. I know few people who are so talented and skilled yet so humble. I know few people who so adeptly and steadfastly work with seemingly everlasting energy and optimism toward goals. I know few people with such unwavering commitment to their passion and their community. Carlos Taylor-Swanson is one of these few and very special people.</p>	<p>There are so many ways Carlos has exhibited, no, has performed community outreach, engagement and involvement in the arts community. They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•As Gallery Madera hosted Tacoma's Third Thursday Art Walk for six years.</li> <li>•Continues to host artists, from flamenco dancers to musicians, at Madera Fine Furniture.</li> <li>•Creating and hosting an artist cooperative, Madera Architectural Elements, to promote the work of other artists and collaborations between artists.</li> <li>•Maritime Festival participant and supporter for at least nine years.</li> <li>•Hosting interns from School of the Arts (SOTA), Science and Math Institute (SAMI) and Stadium high school every year for nine years.</li> <li>•Mentor to young and/or beginning woodworking artisans.</li> <li>•Donating artfully designed furniture to local community auctions, including Northpoint Cooperative Pre-School, SOTA, SAMI, and Seabury School.</li> <li>•Donating time, ideas, skills and materials to create class projects for auction at his childrens' school.</li> <li>•Volunteering time to create supplies for and lead participation in a community art project sponsored by the Browns Point Salmon Bake</li> <li>•Continually growing and stretching his creative excellence and involvement in the Tacoma arts community with curated items at a local gallery and an installation at the Wright Park Conservatory.</li> <li>•Donated his functional and artfully designed furniture to furnish an apartment redeveloped as a local women's shelter.</li> </ul> <p>Allow me to also recognize Carlos' business skill and acumen. Not only is he a successful entrepreneur, he is a successful entrepreneur in a creative/artistic pursuit (while raising a family in a two-income household I will note). This year Carlos celebrates his 10th year with a Tacoma business. He has endured because of his skill and ability to see and adapt to upcoming trends, to learn any and all skills necessary to keep current and relevant, and to adjust his business to the every-moving economics of today's world. He has endured because he gives back.</p>	<p>I met Carlos through our children. For at least 10 years now I have had the great pleasure and honor to call him and his family, friends. Carlos continues to be a role model for me in his love and action for community, passion and family. I see him act in both supportive and leadership roles with great encouragement and optimism. In this, his 10th year in business in Tacoma, I can think of no better way to honor his hard work and skills, his enduring creative excellence, and his unwavering, heartfelt support of Tacoma and its arts community.</p>
Brian McGuigan	Christopher Paul Jordan		<p>Chris is a rare artist, one who is exceptionally skilled in his craft, yet sees the importance of art as more than just an opportunity for self-expression but as a means for connecting with people, sharing stories, and building community. Even as a relatively young artist, he's aware of the value of his work and wants to use it as a tool to change in the arts community as well as Tacoma as a whole. Chris is a talent that deserves more recognition, a voice that deserves a louder microphone, a person for whom Tacoma should be proud to call one of its own.</p>	<p>Through his work as part of Fab-5, Chris is a leader for youth and young artists who may not have access to the arts. The way the kids he works with look up to him -- he's the kind of influence more youth need, someone who's passionate about their work. Beyond his work in engagement with youth through Fab-5, Chris spearheaded the "die-in" protest of the Art AIDS America show at Tacoma Art Museum calling attention to the lack of Black artists in the exhibit. The protest drew lots of attention in Tacoma and beyond and sparked a conversation about issues of representation in the arts and the effect of the AIDS crisis in Black communities.</p>	<p>He was a previous grant recipient of ours (Artist Trust) and has been an excellent partner in connecting with artists in the Tacoma area.</p>
Lisa Kinoshita	Claudia Riedener		<p>Claudia showed fierce determination and leadership in opposing the construction of an environmentally threatening methanol factory, putting her life on hold for many months while building up the citizens' group, Redline.</p>	<p>Claudia has been a mainstay of the Tacoma arts scene for many years, and a public artist whose work requires outreach and engagement with the communities for whom she creates art. It was the anti-methanol campaign, however, that drew from her deepest well of creativity, strength and force of character to find ways to protect the city from potential environmental catastrophe. All of Tacoma, not just the arts, benefitted from Claudia's work, moving its image up another notch from "gritty Tacoma" to "progressive city".</p>	<p>Have been acquainted with Claudia and her work for several years.</p>

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Johnny Gregory	Dr. Paul-Elliott Cobbs	Tacoma Youth Symphony Association	For all his long-term contributions to the Tacoma Youth Symphony.	Our community has benefitted from his tireless devotion to our youth.	Personal knowledge and observation.
Susannah Daulton	Dr. Paul-Elliott Cobbs	Tacoma Youth Symphony Association	Dr. Cobbs is a role model for the youth of our city and community. He inspires students to be the best musicians and grow in their talents while guiding them to work together as orchestras to become greater than each individual. The students see him demonstrate leadership and grow in this area as well. Many of these students are in leadership roles in their student body, clubs, and even community boards. Dr. Cobbs knows each of hundreds of student's name and connects with them. Over the past ten years I have heard students ask for his advice, share their proudest moments, and even a few tragedies. He sees each student as an individual and plans a path within the TYSA organization that will foster their musical abilities, encourage their sense of belonging when teens can struggle to fit in, and prepare them to be great citizens for our city.	Dr. Cobbs partners with the Tacoma Schools. He works with Music Education Teachers by stepping into their classrooms. He brings TYSA students to play for schools, inspiring and encouraging learning an instrument. It is a proven fact that music stimulates the same area of the brain as math and science. Encouraging youth to learn an instrument may produce an engineer a doctor or some other STEM graduate. Dr. Cobbs also conducts an annual Costume Concert that draws hundreds of families in our community. A free concert is provided annual to 5th graders, and he leads a middle school festival each spring and two summer camps. He commits his talent, enthusiasm, heart and leadership daily to the youth of our city and has for 21 years.	My daughter joined TYSA and first met Dr. Cobbs when she was 8 years old. She loved her time with TYSA as a student and working with Dr. Cobbs and remained until she graduated from high school. She went on to gain a Music Education degree from UW Seattle and is now a middle school Music Teacher. She has stayed connected to TYSA, working with Dr. Cobbs as a violin coach and has held masters classes while she also performs locally. She developed leadership skills, a sense of discipline and purpose, and most of all the love of music education by watching Dr. Cobbs demonstrate these on a daily basis. As a parent over the years I have known Dr. Cobbs he has provided sound advice, shared his knowledge regarding music, encouraged parental involvement in the TYSA organization and demonstrated his kindness and authentic appreciation for being a part of this community treasure.

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Gina Gillie	Dr. Paul-Elliott Cobbs	Tacoma Youth Symphony Association	<p>Dr. Paul-Elliott Cobbs pours his heart into working with hundreds of young students who participate each week in meaningful musical endeavors and life enhancing experiences. I have personally watched Dr. Cobbs lead his orchestras at the Tacoma Youth Symphony rehearsals, and I observe the level of respect and reverence that the students cultivate during their time in youth symphony. Dr. Cobbs instills common values, courtesies, and a hard work ethic in his students. I can remember from my days as a student under his baton that "Early is on time, on time is late, and late is unacceptable." Students know that although he expects great things from them, he also cares deeply about their well-being, their success, and their growth. As someone who has given his life to leading groups of musicians in a variety of orchestras, Cobbs has shared not only music with many communities, but he has helped to enrich the community spirit with his ebullience, love, and passion for what he does and for the people with whom he works. Everyone I know who has worked with Dr. Cobbs remembers his service, and they are touched by how deeply he cares. This impact leads some people on to lives as professional musicians, successful doctors, college graduates, and many other things. But most of all, we remember his spirit of service, and it inspires us to give back as well.</p>	<p>Tacoma Youth Symphony. He also directs the Everett Philharmonic and is a frequent guest conductor around the world, including Japan and Europe. As a conductor, Dr. Cobbs perpetually engages members of the community in music making and performance. Frequent concerts presented for the public serve as artistic outlets, music education, and growing experiences for musicians young and old. In 2013, Dr. Cobbs invited me to solo with the Everett Philharmonic, and I played a Mozart concerto on the natural horn. This experience allowed me to share this unique instrument with a large audience, and to educate them about early music practice and performance. Being open to and seeking out these varieties of musical presentations provide an artistic service to the community. Dr. Cobbs' work with young students is the gem in his crown of community service. Each weekend, hundreds of students from around the Puget Sound area meet in the Broadway Center to rehearse orchestral and chamber music. Under the careful direction of Dr. Cobbs, these students not only learn how to perform their music at a high level, but they learn important life lessons like punctuality, preparedness, responsibility, independence, team-work, listening, sensitivity, and passion for their art form. In addition to a regular performance schedule with the TYSA, Dr. Cobbs also takes his orchestras into local schools and performs educational concerts for thousands of students. Other outreach concerts include performances at the Victorian Country Christmas, the Festival of the Trees, the Evergreen Music Festival, Merrill Gardens, and more. It's not just the students who are involved in the service that Dr. Cobbs leads, but it is the whole community of Tacoma. We all have a chance to see and hear what young lives are creating on a weekly basis. In a world that is fraught with horrifying news stories each week, the arts are a way for us to express, to heal, to love, to unite, and to find a meaningful way forward. Because of his leadership, Dr. Cobbs gives us all the opportunity to participate in experiences that draw us together and</p>	<p>I first met Dr. Cobbs when I was a high school student participating in the Evergreen Music Festival. Since then, I have gone on to become a professional musician, and I now serve on the Board of Directors for the Tacoma Youth Symphony Association. As a Board member, I get to see his activities on a monthly basis, and I see the impact that his work has on all of his students.</p>
Frederick D. Warnick	Dr. Paul-Elliott Cobbs	Tacoma Youth Symphony Association	<p>Dr. Cobbs has been an exceptional teacher of and inspiration to thousands of students of music in our community for over two decades, teaching music, discipline, teamwork, and commitment, with joy, love of the journey and the results, and sincere dedication. Many, many students of his can so attest. Dr. Cobbs' leadership and direction are truly a landmark of excellence for a generation in our community.</p>	<p>As conductor and musical director of the Tacoma Youth Symphony Association, Dr. Cobbs has been involved with multiple visits to area elementary schools annually, as an outreach and involvement effort focusing on exposure to orchestral performance, as well as an annual summer week-long day camp for junior musicians, and an annual week-long, high-immersion live-in music camp for high school musicians. He also directs student chamber music programs throughout the school year, and additional one-time special concerts in Tacoma, at Christmas and Halloween, in addition to the regular three-concert season for each of two of the TYSA orchestras, the latter of which, for all six youth orchestras, he is the musical director..</p>	<p>I have served on the Board of Directors for all the years that Dr. Cobbs has been associated with TYSA. Year after year after year, new ranges of students invariably favorably comment -- no: rave -- about the incomparably favorable, positive experience they enjoy and cherish, in the growth of their musical and maturation experience under the tutelage and direction of Dr. Cobbs..</p>
Wanda Thompson	Jackie Fender	Creative Colloquy	<p>Ms.. Fender is the founder of Creative Colloquy, a community outreach platform for aspiring and professional writers in the greater Tacoma and South Sound regions; to come together monthly in a welcoming artistic environment and represent multiple literary genres and artistic expressions of the written and spoken word.</p>	<p>Creative Colloquy has grown since 2014 and reaches 40-60 attendees monthly, from high school students to senior citizens. The Creative Colloquy team promote special events, resources and opportunities that have a strong presence in community outreach, engagement, involvement and investment in Tacoma's local creative literary culture.</p>	<p>Community outreach and networks</p>

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Creative Colloquy	Jackie Fender	Creative Colloquy	Ms. Fender founded Creative Colloquy in 2014, as a home and setting for writers who are aspiring, or are commercial to have a platform and voice in the literary community of greater Tacoma, South Sound and the Pacific Northwest region..	Ms. Fender works hard to feature a monthly meeting in Tacoma and now in Olympia that connects numerous literary talents from all walks of life, genres, and ages of 40-60 participants monthly. It is a welcoming environment and outreach in the community with opportunities for networking poetry, music, prose, and fellowship from students to senior citizens. It is always a packed house.	Community outreach and network.
Lark Sundsmo	Kerry Cole	The Blue Octopus	She has a unique concept which helps people express themselves and employs and mentors new art around Tacoma.	She has a little hole in the wall concept of speak easy lounge meets art and art therapy. She regularly pulls the expression out of folks who have since buried it.	I'm privileged to call her a friend we found her trying to sell our art
Yuki Nakamura	Lisa Kinoshita		She has organized "EVOLUTION: Art, Nature & Adaptation" at Conservatory, exploring a strong connection to science or its philosophical underpinnings.	She has invited many press people to the exhibitions. The exhibition was reviewed by the Tacoma News Tribune. There were about 200 people at the opening.	through the exhibition
Commander RR	Ms. Darcy Anderson	Tinkertopia, LLC.	Ms. Darcy has been working long hours bringing Tinker workshops to Tacoma Public Libraries, Pierce County Libraries and offering her Tinkerspace to local orgs like Tacoma Rescue Mission... many of these underserved kids have very little access to artist materials or have ever built anything!	by offering free tinker craft activity workshops through the public library system, and offering her tinkerspace studio at a deep discount to jr. tinker cadets who come from financially struggling families... She teaches kids that anyone can tinker... and can use tools in a safe way in a magical creative environment	Ms. Darcy is my boss and I get to see how hard she works and how her eyes light up when a kid builds something she/he loves.

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Susanne Marten	Kate Smith	Centro Latino	Centro Latino was incorporated in 1991 as a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization with a mission to assist Caribbean and Latin American immigrants to find work, housing, education and healthcare services. This effort could not have been achieved without the charity of several City of Tacoma civic leaders and the fund raising assistance from the emerging community of Latino Artists.	From the beginning of Centro Latino's existence, Latino Artists served on the Board of Directors and championed community fund raising events by donating their art for public auction. This foundation resulted in a natural progression for Centro Latino to not only honor the historic commitment of Latino Artists to the betterment of the entire Latino community but to enjoin them and others in a celebration of Latin and Latino Arts. To this end, Centro Latino has successfully sponsored and implemented the City of Tacoma's Latin Art Festival. This event includes a Juried Art Show, Film Contest, Artist Reception, Barrio for micro businesses and a promenade of flags and costumed marchers representing North, Central and South American and Caribbean countries.	I learned about this nominee from the City of Tacoma's Economic Development staff.
Karen Tully	Jackie Cassella	Creative Colloquy	Awesome dedication and support of local authors!	They hold events, open mic nights to share the written word and publish online and print collections.	Proud contributor.
Alec Clayton	Jackie Cassella	Creative Colloquy	Creative Colloquy promotes literature and local writers with a monthly online publication and monthly readings and other events designed to promote local writers.	Once a month they host readings by local writers both professional and amateur including an open mic in which anyone can read their work. They have an annual Creative Colloquy Crawl featuring readings by local authors in a variety of venues downtown (the 2nd annual Crawl is coming up this summer), and they publish a print anthology of works by local authors.	I first learned about this nominee on Facebook.
James Hudson	Chandler Woodfin	Feast Arts Center	Although a relatively young arts organization in Tacoma, Feast is all about building community around great art and so far they have done a fantastic job doing that at their gallery, studio, classroom and gathering place, all rolled into one. The guiding concept at Feast is the belief that community involvement enriches personal experience, that personal experience informs art making, and that art making strengthens communities. Feast is as much about building a community as it is creating great art.	The center serves people of all backgrounds, skill levels and ages (from youth to seniors.) The co-founders, Chandler Woodfin and Todd Jannausch, are adamant that Feast remains an affordable community art space. I understand they do not take commission from artists showing in their gallery space. They also intend to keep class prices low while keeping the artistic bar "high" by using professional working/teaching artists. Financing the activities and programming at Feast is a constant challenge for them. Classes offered at Feast have included drawing, painting, basket weaving, creative empowerment, wood carving, book making, intaglio, relief-printmaking, poetry and paper cutting. Over the last eight months Feast has allied itself in community building with organizations such as the Tacoma Housing Authority, Tahoma Audubon Society, Artist Trust and Senior University at Franke Tobey Jones. Recently, in cooperation with the Pierce County Conservation District's Depave program, Feast has depaved 6,000 square feet of their property to be used as a new community space for local music, outdoor film screenings, video installations and outdoor yoga.	As the coordinator of a lifelong learning program serving seniors in Tacoma, Feast, and in particular its co-founder Chandler Woodfin, have been very helpful and enthusiastic in helping us develop art programs. We look forward to creating more learning experiences for seniors. I believe that Feast Arts Center would be an excellent nominee for the AMOCAT.

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Andrea Michelbach	Chandler Woodfin	Feast Arts Center	Within the short time Feast has been in Tacoma, it has already begun making a big impact, brightening a corner of Hilltop that is somewhat off the beaten path and working hard to be inclusive of new and established artists, art lovers and the center's neighbors. Chandler and her husband have poured their heart and soul into this endeavor!	Just recently, Feast was awarded a Spark grant from GTCF so they can provide free art classes to Tacoma Housing Authority participants who could otherwise not afford them. I was not in the least surprised to see them pursuing this direction. I know they have been very open about their studio, meeting their neighbors and reaching out to potential partners.	I've attended a watercolor class at Feast, subscribe to their newsletter and keep in touch with Chandler about hopefully buying one of her watercolors someday.
Wanda Thompson	Mary Dunaway	KPLU Jazz Radio	KPLU is a grassroots dual format station and is ranked as one of the most popular award-winning local and national jazz/ blues stations since its beginnings in 1966. As a public media they provide information, education and entertainment through music, stories, and arts programming to over 350,000 listeners weekly.	The "Save KPLU" campaign was an unprecedented effort to raise 7MM in 4 1/2 months from 18,000 contributors in the Puget Sound region. Their outreach included 85 events and sponsoring many ongoing community services for music lovers through engagement with high school students and professional musicians, that broadened the already dedicated listening audience and art supporters.	Community outreach and network
Creative Colloquy	Mary Dunaway	KPLU Jazz Radio	KPLU is a public radio station that has award-winning local/national news, jazz and blues music to the Puget Sound Region since 1966. It is far-reaching and has a large presence in the listener-supported media in broadcasting that informs, educates and entertains a mass audience through music, stories, news, outreach and engagement at the grassroots level of artistic excellence in Tacoma for many years.	In the "SAVE KPLU" campaign, it was unprecedented to raise money and awareness from local listeners which was a goal of 7MM, in 4 1/2 months from 18,000 contributors in the Puget Sound area. KPLU reaches 350,000 with unique artistic events, programming, and music both live and recorded for all listening age groups.	Community outreach and network

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Naomi Strom-Avila	Ms. Monkey	Monkeyshines	<p>Monkeyshines began in 2003 when a group of anonymous artists in Tacoma banded together to produce glass balls and medallions emblazoned with the Year of the Monkey logo. In that first year, 200 pieces of artwork were hidden throughout Tacoma to encourage community members to get out and explore our beautiful city. For 13 years now, these volunteer artists have been creating glass gifts - now producing over 1000 pieces each year - and hiding them throughout all corners of our city. In the past few years, they have also encouraged citizens to contribute to the project by creating their own gifts – everything from poetry in a bottle to glass marbles – and hiding them around Tacoma as well. Monkeyshines is a well-loved and anticipated community event. So much so that in 2016, after the final year of the 12-year Chinese New Year cycle had come and gone, community members banded together once again to commit to a second 12-year cycle of gifts to Tacoma.</p>	<p>Monkeyshines mobilizes the community to get out, socialize, explore our city, and create community through the act of giving. It is truly a come-one, come-all event that people can participate in on any level - from the average person searching for a treasure, to a dedicated volunteer making the gifts to hide. It is free, accessible to everyone, and happens throughout all corners of Tacoma – bringing art directly to the people – even to those who aren’t outright on the search for an artistic experience. Monkeyshines is a fully volunteer event produced by and for the community. There is nothing commercial about it, even the event organizer and participating artists are anonymous. Monkeyshines is truly based on the love of Tacoma and the desire to build a stronger community by spreading joy.</p>	<p>The Tacoma Arts Commission has funded Monkeyshines multiple years and it has garnered much attention in local media. I've also been on the hunt for them this past year.</p>
Doris Austin	Edward Gentz	Tacoma Barbershop Harmony Chorus	<p>The Tacoma Barbershop Harmony Chorus "the TotemAires" has for 70 years sang and reached out to Tacoma and Pierce County residents through music, supporting the Food Connection, a food bank, through Harmony Explosion, a camp for young people 12 to 21 to teach Ac Capella singing since 1946. The group performs for Nursing Homes, Community Organizations, the Military Bases, and Community events gratis. It continually reaches out to minority communities and schools. It, through the Barbershop Harmony Society provides free music and education of Ac Capella style to music educators and students</p>	<p>The TotemAires are the oldest Ac Capella men's chorus in the Northwest including Western Canada and Alaska. The group raises funds to support food banks, Sings several times a month at community events and nursing homes. It has taken a pro-active approach to help enrich the lives of students by giving free music and learning materials to schools and music educators. Tacoma Barbershop Harmony Chorus sponsors "Harmony Explosion" a music camp for students, both boys and girls, every summer at Pacific Lutheran University. They not only sponsor the camp, they offer scholarships to students who want to sing who could not otherwise afford such an experience. The chorus supported the Harmonize for Speech Fund which helps those with speech problems, speak.</p>	<p>I became acquainted with the TotemAires many years ago and recognize that this fine arts organization has not been recognized for their contribution to the Arts community in Tacoma.</p>

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Gina Gillie	Dr. Loma Cobbs	Tacoma Youth Symphony Association	<p>There are few organizations in the community that draw hundreds of people from all over the region on a weekly basis to come together and make music. The Tacoma Youth Symphony is such an organization. There are 5 orchestras with players from 6-21 years of age that meet each Saturday to spend a full 8 hours rehearsing. Students also have the opportunity to learn music theory, play chamber music, interact with their peers, and take national and international tours. Since TYSA involves so many students and their families from across the region, it should be recognized for the service it provides. Special help is offered to under-privileged students so that music making will not be limited by socioeconomic status - this experience is open to all. The arts provide everyone with the chance to come together and build community. TYSA creates connections between students from across the region, and brings them all together for music making. This type of opportunity is absolutely vital in a healthy, thriving community. I believe that Tacoma would be much less vibrant without this organization since there would be significantly less interaction between community members.</p>	<p>The most obvious form of community engagement that the TYSA provides is the opportunity for hundreds of students to meet each week and make music together. This is a service for the students who participate since it builds community, instills common values (like responsibility, team-work, and preparedness), provides musical education, serves as a social outlet, provides a healthy and meaningful activity during non-school hours, gives students a mode of expression, and allows students to express themselves artistically. Students who participate in music tend to be higher achievers (because of the discipline required to play well), attend college after high school, and become successful professionals in their chosen line of work. TYSA not only provides a forum for the enrichment of musical talent, but it also helps to create thoughtful young citizens who give back to their communities when they enter their professions. Some specific community outreach events throughout the year for the TYSA are their regular concerts, Educator Night at the Museum, school educational tours, Victorian Country Christmas, Festival of Trees, collaboration with the Tacoma Symphony in master classes and a concert, String Orchestra Festival, and various chamber music performances. The TYSA also organizes the annual Evergreen Music Festival which is a week-long immersive experience for young musicians. The presence of this organization in Tacoma enriches our artistic and communal landscape by providing numerous concerts for the community, providing a vastly enriching experience for young musicians, building relationships across the region, creating upstanding citizens who value their community, and giving us all hope. In a world that seems plagued by endless tragedies, making music is a powerful tool that can help us express and heal. The Tacoma Youth Symphony Association gives this opportunity to all who wish to partake.</p>	<p>When I was in high school, many of my musical friends were involved in the Youth Symphony, and I attended one session of the Evergreen Music Festival. I was impressed from the very beginning with the quality of the organization and the people leading it. Today, I am a member of the Board of Trustees for the TYSA. I firmly believe in the educational mission and community service of the organization.</p>

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Frederick D. Warnick	Dr. Loma Cobbs	Tacoma Youth Symphony Association	<p>Over fifty years ago visionary leaders of our community realized that a particular void in the development of our young people existed here. What began as one orchestra now has grown to six orchestras, plus programs for wind instruments, ensemble groups, music theory, and harp instruction and performance. The TYSA now serves over 500 students from fourth grade to age 20, annually. The engagement and commitment by these students is for two-hour rehearsals every Saturday, September to May, plus four, three, or two live performances per season. If not one hundred percent, then 99 %, of TYSA students go on to collegiate study. The TYSA founders, and now the Tacoma community, recognize the great importance music plays in the development of young minds. Music enriches a part of the brain different from other mental and emotional activities, and enhances and promotes academic and intellectual development. It is an important -- indeed, essential -- counterpoint to our youths' intellectual and overall growth. The great and expansive role that the Tacoma Youth Symphony has provided the young people of our community has played an important role in enhancing the quality of life in Tacoma, embellishing the reputation of life here to our visitors and to potential residents. Our own citizens, as well as businesses and fellow Americans, notice.</p>	<p>Engages over five hundred youth annually, in six different orchestral programs, ensemble, harp, and music theory classes, from September to May each year, and two week-long summer youth music programs. Sends older TYSA students out to elementary schools in the greater Tacoma area, to exhibit -- for many aged 6-10 for the first time in their lives -- what orchestral instruments look like, sound as, and do in concert. Performs approximately eighteen free or low-cost concerts annually in Tacoma, open to the public.</p>	<p>In the 1980s each of my two daughters were students in the TYSA progression of orchestras, for five and seven years, respectively. Each continued on to college, at Yale and Stanford Universities, each graduating with honors. Each continued to have music in their lives, one professionally, to include achieving an MMA from Juilliard Conservatory. The discipline, the commitment, as well as the musicianship they learned while members of the TYSA has enriched their lives and those who know them. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Tacoma Youth Symphony Association for many years, I have seen the enriched development of the character, respect, control, purpose, and expression of scores of successful young people who have become prominent, important, and useful members of their communities.</p>

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH BY AN ORGANIZATION - Community outreach, engagement, and involvement in the arts in Tacoma by an organization**

Nominator Name	Organization Nomination: Contact Name	Organization	Briefly tell us why this organization deserves recognition.	Briefly describe how this organization has exhibited community outreach, engagement, and involvement in the arts in Tacoma.	How do you know about this nominee?
Carol Ann Briggs	Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem	YMCA of Pierce and Kitsdap Counties	The YMCA Arts Department under the Y Center For Community Impact has been reaching out into the community through the schools to provide arts experiences and training to the youth of our community where they are at.	The Y takes the arts out into the community where it is within reach of so many more youth. Expanding the "Outreach" programming through partnerships with the schools and providing scholarships for many to receive training that can't afford it.	I work for the Y. In the past I have worked with the Arts Department and seen first hand how it can impact lives, especially of at risk and vulnerable youth. Their new Arts Outreach Program is expanding and putting quality arts experiences within the reach of many more youth than when I was a part of it. Their inclusivity makes it a very unique program. When I was part of the programs I had foster kids, autistic kids, kids that did not speak English, even a legally blind girl in my visual arts classes, to name a few. I know as they have expanded into more new programming it is creating even more opportunities for the youth of our community to experience the joy of artistic expression.

**ARTS PATRON - A community partner who significantly supports or contributes to the arts in Tacoma**

Nominator Name	Patron Nomination:	Organization	Briefly tell us why this patron deserves recognition.	Briefly describe how this patron has significantly supported or contributed to the arts in Tacoma.	How do you know about this nominee?
Amy McBride and Yuki Nakamura		Metro Parks Tacoma	Spaceworks works tirelessly to support artists both financially through its Artscapes program and with tools and training for long-term success through its Creative Enterprise program.	Metro Parks Tacoma has been supportive of integrating public art into public spaces at their parks. We worked with them through the Public Art: In Depth artist training program to develop a public art piece, created by Lisa Kinoshita, at STAR Center. In 2015 and 2016, they voluntarily began working with the City's Arts Program to develop and implement their own public art program that will ensure public art is integrated throughout the City's parks. They also partner with artists throughout the community to hold arts events and exhibits in park locations including "EVOLUTION: Art, Nature & Adaptation", an exhibit organized by Lisa Kinoshita, at the Conservatory	The City of Tacoma's Arts Program has been working with Metro Parks Tacoma for many years to include art throughout Tacoma. Most recently, we've been contracting with them to develop and manage their public art program.