

COMMUNITY OUTREACH BY AN INDIVIDUAL - Community outreach, engagement, and involvement in the arts in Tacoma by an individual					
Nominator Name	Individual Nomination:	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?
Joni Joachims	Amy Reeves	Tacoma Metal Arts Center	She has promoted jewelry as an art form in Tacoma by providing a wide variety of classes and she has participated in Tacoma arts events. Her studio is a unique school that educates many people about metal arts	Amy participates in art events and provides studio space for many students during her open studio sessions. She brings in many instructors that would not be in Tacoma.	I teach a casting class at her studio and I've taken classes
Wanda Thompson	Connie K Walle	Puget Sound Poetry Connection	This individual has prevailed and epitomizes sustainability of writers in the community bringing together cross-cultural and demographic diversity	Maintained a strong community-based connection and act as liaison for new and existing artists for self-expression and literary awareness	As a cac member, observer and participant
Mariesa Bus	Emily Alm	Destiny City Film Festival	Emily Alm has a passion for film and has single handedly created the Destiny City Film Festival to make manifest this passion in her community.	The Destiny City Film Festival brings films from around the world for screening in Tacoma. In addition, it brings together screenwriters, film-makers, and cinema buffs for discussion and workshops. Emily Alm is the founder and operator of this film festival.	Emily is a co-worker and friend.
Joanne Babic	Gordy Lee		He started a Facebook page called Awesome Tacoma encouraging local artists and photographers to explore Tacoma and post their Tacoma related art. Awesome Tacoma has grown to over 3,500 members, both artists and fans.	He has started more than one Facebook page to bring artists and supporters together and started several art contests and other display opportunities for local artists in Tacoma and bring attention for the art community to the public. He teaches art at the VA hospital in Lakewood.	I met him through the Awesome Tacoma Facebook page.
Katy Evans	Heather Joy	Spaceworks Tacoma	Heather has worked tirelessly to serve Spaceworks clients since she became manager of the program. Since she has helmed the program, Spaceworks has taken huge strides in sustainability and service to Tacoma's emerging artists and entrepreneurs.	Heather hit the ground running with Spaceworks and never backs away from an opportunity to connect, innovate, or support Tacoma artists. She goes above and beyond to support Tacoma's growing creative economy.	We worked together when I was a member of the Spaceworks Steering Committee
Lisa Kinoshita	Jack Curtright	Curtright & Son	I nominate Jack Curtright for his work in the Tacoma arts community, and his outstanding contribution to local culture through his shop of Native American and Western antiquities, Curtright & Son.	Jack began collecting Indian baskets as a teenager in Hoquiam; decades later, he is renowned in the US and British Columbia for his expertise as a collector and dealer of museum-quality artifacts. His store enables the local community to see some of the most unusual and finest examples of American Indian art, and benefit from his encyclopedic knowledge of Northwest tribal art. Jack Curtright's lifelong dedication as a	I have worked with Jack on projects before and visited his shop many times.
Wanda Thompson	Jackie Fender	Creative Colloquy	Jackie is the co-founder of Creative Colloquy, one of the largest subscription-based literary site in Tacoma; allowing a forum and platform for written and spoken word in the community of published authors, students and editors, as a resource and network for multiple genres.	Ms. Fender has faithfully encouraged artists from all walks of life to come to the table and share their unique expressions. Once a month without fail, holiday or not, rain or shine she fosters a unique gathering place for all writers to mingle and support each other.	I have attended several functions and Creative Colloquy meetings.
Andrea Trenbeath	James Allan Tucker	Prime Studios	He deserves recognition for his outstanding work as chairman of the board for this year's Art on the Avenue.	He has been pulling to bring more recognition to artists and the arts at Art on the Avenue for the last several years. This year he organized the event, brought in artists to demonstrate their techniques to the public, secured sponsorships, and promoted the event. His contributions helped result in one of the biggest turnouts yet and was met with overwhelming positive feedback.	We have collaborated on creative projects including previous Art on the Ave art demonstrations and designing t-shirts that promote Tacoma.

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Jennifer Johnson	James Allan Tucker		James's undying devotion to the arts and other artists demonstrates his belief in the artist in all of us. He positively reinforces the efforts of those he collaborates with and he actively seeks out ways to make it easier for other artists to find outlets and resources for their work.	James was the Chairman of the Board for the much loved annual street festival Art on the Ave for 2015. As a performing artist at the festival in previous years, James experienced firsthand the need for change and a reconnection of the festival to actual local level artists. He presented his ideas to the Sixth Avenue Business District board detailing how the connection to genuine art and community would allow the festival to grow and begin to reach its true potential as a showcase opportunity for artists. James returned to Tacoma from New York City where he had gone to challenge himself as an artist and volunteered for the position for Art on the Ave. Wanting to serve his community and fellow artists, James threw himself into the position with abandon to insure a successful event. 2015 was the most successful Art on The Avenue in its 16 year history. James had worked to include collaboration projects between local artists and vendors and Habitat for Humanity, Tacoma Art Museum, and Goodwill, and more. Beyond the festival, James mentors budding artists and is a resource of technique and knowledge. He focuses on helping fellow artists balance creative process and financial reward. He shares his talent, studio and its resources. That sort of open door policy in a business orientated artistic studio is exactly what the Tacoma artistic community needs. James has worked with various artists for events such as Music And Art in Wright Park and brings his vision of Tacoma to life by combining commercial production techniques with unique artistic flare. His pro-Tacoma graphic series of tee shirts sold out in three hours, a testimony to the presentation and aesthetic prowess he brings. James' embrace of the commercial and business application of artwork can also be viewed in the Jazzbones balcony gallery on 6th Avenue. He curates and presents new artists to Jazzbones on a regular basis. His affinity for effective presentation is obvious in the fact that there are currently four different artists showing at Jazzbones' art gallery. Every artist James has brought to Jazzbones sold at least one piece (some have sold three) within the month of June this year. Jazzbones takes no percentage from the sale and neither does James. It is a labor of love and community for both parties. James focuses his entire life on art, networking to better our artistic community, inspiring fellow artists to stretch out of their comfort zones, and find their bliss.	I have worked with James on many projects both personally and professionally.

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Karen Pickett	Juel Lugo	LILT	<p>Funding LILT, a local Tacoma graphic design firm, has spearheaded a large scale sculpture project in the Ruston / Pt. Defiance area completely free of charge. Since November 2012, LILT co-owners Juel Lugo and Bethany Maines have written grants and attended council meetings to procure funding through the Tacoma Arts Commission, City of Tacoma, City of Ruston and Ruston-Pt. Defiance Business district, all in order to make the dream of having large scale accessible art in the West End of Tacoma a funded reality. All told, just the gathering the funds for this project has taken eight months to complete.</p> <p>Project Expansion The original project concept consisted of only one sculptural bench, but as LILT worked with local leaders, sourced additional funding, and kept tight stewardship over the budget and worked with artist Jennifer Weddermann to create economies of scale, the project has blossomed to include four additional sculpture benches which were installed in November of 2014. LILT also was involved in the creation of the artistic vision for the art benches themselves. In the same geographic area LILT also created artwork for area pole banners with the same art motifs (octopus, gears etc) as the sculptural benches. While LILT completed the artwork pro-bono, they worked with the Ruston-Pt. Defiance Business District to fund the fabrication of the banners. Permitting Both owners also worked with local businesses to get agreements for the placement of the sculptural benches onto private property since the public right-a-way was not wide enough to incorporate the benches and still comply with ADA clearances. Permitting through the City of Tacoma for a non-standard art use also took many months to complete. LILT also engaged the public in the design of the benches themselves. This kind of community commitment is right on track for LILT who continues to donate their time and services to other worthy causes, such as the Ruston Family Fair and the Seattle Goodwill's Summer Youth Program. Fellow business district members and residents of the area have really embraced the art as their own and feel that is contributing to "place making". LILT is helping us bring life, color, and beauty to our area!</p>	<p>LILT connects the art world with the neighborhood by bringing art into the public space through the grants they have secured for art fabrication as well as creating some of the art themselves. On the sculptural art benches, throughout the design process they have served as a bridge between the design committee, comprised of small business owners, and the artists. They have also solicited feedback from a small group in the community. A public dedication of the project with open invitation to the public, with historical talk, and tour of the installed sculptural benches was held in November 2014.</p>	<p>I have worked with LILT as member of the Ruston-Point Defiance Business District since February 2011.</p>
Jessica Spring	Laurie Cinotto	Itty Bitty Kitty Committee	<p>Laurie has used her talents as an artist, photographer, designer and stylist to create the Itty Bitty Kitty Committee. This empire includes a blog, a book, hundreds of adopted shelter kittens, and Cinotto's own adopted cats, Charlene and Wylla.</p>	<p>Aside from rescuing and finding homes for kittens, Cinotto runs an annual fundraiser to benefit the humane society. She has raised over \$500,000 in the past seven years. Integral to this effort is her ability to create fundraising sets using paper crafting, populate them with tiny kittens, then capture them in photos and film for the blog. Their are obvious benefits for our local shelter, but also national, even international, donors. Laurie constantly involves the community: premiering the Itty Bitty Committee book at King's; participating in local craft fairs and events; and teaching paper crafting at local venues. While her work is completely appreciated locally, she has gained notoriety</p>	<p>I adopted an Itty Bitty Kitty alumni, and have participated in many local craft fairs with Laurie. She is a constant inspiration.</p>
Michael Kula	Marilyn Bennett	Toy Boat Theatre	<p>I have worked with Marilyn in various capacities over the past two years and she has shown tremendous vision, tenacity, and dedication in bringing Tacoma high quality and innovative theater that otherwise would not be performed in the city.</p>	<p>Through her Toy Boat Theatre organization, Marilyn has exhibited outreach in just about every way possible. She has partnered with private businesses (King's Books) to stage a show as part of Pride events; she has partnered with us (UWT) to found a new collaborative model of theater performances that is innovative not just locally, but also on a national level; and she has worked with other university based theaters (UPS) in more direct, hands on ways. In every way, she has dedicated her work toward</p>	<p>I have worked with her in partner collaborations for the past two years, and I have seen her Toy Boat Theatre produced shows on my own.</p>

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Elena Hartwell	Marilyn Bennett	Toy Boat Theatre	Marilyn Bennett works tirelessly in the Tacoma Community to foster local artistic excellence through teaching, acting, producing, and directing. She mentors local artists and builds community through both audience building and networking artists for collaboration.	Marilyn Bennett runs a theater company (Toy Boat), which produces high quality theater using local artists. She acts in plays, readings, and developmental workshops supporting local writers and theaters. She teaches at the University of Puget Sound, incorporating her students into the local theater scene. She supports various organizations, such as The Northwest Playwrights Alliance, to assist in the promotion of other artists. Additionally, she has served on the boards of various theaters and is an active participant in the newly launched production of theater events at the University of Washington's Tacoma Campus.	I first met Marilyn Bennett over twenty years ago, when she chaired the theater program at the University of San Diego. Since that time we have worked together in a variety of capacities, including her recent role in the premiere of my series of short plays "Unwritten Women" with the University of Washington, Tacoma. I have personal experience with her directing, acting, producing, and teaching, and cannot think of an artist better suited for your award.
Pegah Ouji	Stephanie Christy		Stephanie for the last few years has dedicated all of her time and energy to empower the rising generation of Tacoma. She has done this through the junior youth spiritual empowerment program that seeks to empower middle school age kids to become active agents of social progress in their communities.	Stephanie has organized outreach campaigns every three months in the last few years as part of efforts to build community particularly in east side of tacoma. There are many activities for all memebers of that community and artistic creations has been a part of all these activities. Many songs, paintings, pottery creations, drama skits and many more forms of art have been created and are continuously shared with others in that community.	I have also been with a group of middle school students in this neighborhood for a year and now am helping other youth to serve their community by providing education to younger members.
Lorraine Hardin	Steve Barnett	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	As Education Director at TMP, Steve has expanded the camps and classes offered by the theater, thereby offering the theater experience to more people in the community than any other company.	Steve has expanded his programs to reach all ages. He has also opened up camps for Homeschool groups, which no other theater is doing. He offers adult classes along with his school-age camps and classes. His classes include all aspects of theater, not just acting.	I am Board President of Tacoma Musical Playhouse.

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Jackson Hendrix	April Sanders	SPUN Clay Arts Studio & Gallery	Simply put, April and Jennifer at SPUN are amazing. Every person that walks through their doors are greeted with a smile and sometimes even a hug. They love their community and they are passionate about their chosen art form.	I've seen them at multiple block parties and events, letting children and adults on their wheels FOR FREE, getting dirty (that's their tag line). For a new business (they're just about to celebrate their one year anniversary, I believe) they are so generous with the community. A few months back they opened up their studio for a camera crew to shoot an adoption video for a little girl looking for a family. Since then, they've taken the girl under their wings and give her free classes when they can. I've spoken to them and their clients multiple times. The community is in love with SPUN and the girls that run it. They're helping to bring a love of art to people of all ages. They keep their classes incredibly affordable so most everyone can enjoy what they have to offer. From what I understand, both of them work full time jobs on top of working at SPUN full time. They're trying to make their dream a reality and it's quite humbling. I truly hope you recognize them for what they stand for and their hard work getting there.	I've visited their studio on the art bus, and on my own. I also have multiple friends (and their children) who have taken classes with them. I've seen them at block parties and events, on TV, etc.
Joanne Babic	Gordy Lee	Awesome Tacoma	Awesome Tacoma is a Facebook group that encourages artist through out Tacoma to take trips and explore Tacoma and it's neighborhoods and display their work for the public on it's Facebook page.	Engaging and promoting Tacoma related art on the internet through their Facebook page.	I am a member of the Awesome Tacoma group and have displayed my work on the Facebook page.
Hillary Ryan	Greg Owen	Museum of Glass	Hot Shop Heroes: Healing with Fire is an innovative program at Museum of Glass that assists wounded soldiers through building technical glass and life skills for a successful transition to civilian life. The glassblowing program offers soldiers a multitude of potential benefits including physical benefits such as improved dexterity, fine motor coordination, core strength and more, as well as emotional benefits such as social reintegration with fellow soldiers and the larger community. In addition, working with glass allows soldiers to practice mindfulness, which can decrease anxiety and stress, lower heart rates, and gain focus and control—all of which are beneficial to recovering patients.	Museum of Glass has demonstrated outreach to Joint Base Lewis-McChord and veterans in our community by providing these classes free of charge.	I work at Museum of Glass.
John Trueman	John Trueman	Ruston/Point Defiance Business District	The business district contracted to have four benches designed and produced for use throughout the district's commercial area.	The benches, hand-crafted by local artist Jennifer Weddermann, are made of steel and have aquatic and octopus imagery along with gears and mechanical elements that represent the district's strong manufacturing history. Two of the sculptural benches have additional functional elements-one has a bike rack while the other hinges to allow users to sit facing two directions. The district has also helped fund two building murals on commercial buildings within the district and worked with Spaceworks to bring local artist Kerry Cole of The Blue Octopus to establish an art business in a retail building in the district.	I am a property owner in the district and am currently president of the Ruston/Point Defiance Business District.

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Lorraine Hardin	Jon Douglas-Rake	Tacoma Musical Playhouse	<p>TMP reaches out to all audiences with consistently high-quality Main Stage musical productions, a vibrant Family Theater season, and an Education Department that reaches out to all ages.</p>	<p>Tacoma Musical Playhouse has, in its 21-year history, grown to be the 10th largest non-equity Musical Theater in the region. The company lives up to and morphs with its stated mission of Enriching Lives through the Art Form of Musical Theater by consistently presenting opportunities for audiences young and old to participate in or enjoy the entertainment of musical theater. This is the only theater in the region that still offers a live orchestra for every performance. The company also invites outside performances such as Jazz at TMP, a Swing Orchestra, Cabaret entertainment, and guided tours to see live musical theater performed in other parts of the country and world.</p>	<p>I am Board President of Tacoma Musical Playhouse.</p>
Karen Pickett	Juel Lugo	LILT	<p>Funding LILT, a local Tacoma graphic design firm, has spearheaded a large scale sculpture project in the Ruston / Pt. Defiance area completely free of charge. Since November 2012, LILT co-owners Juel Lugo and Bethany Maines have written grants and attended council meetings to procure funding through the Tacoma Arts Commission, City of Tacoma, City of Ruston and Ruston-Pt. Defiance Business district, all in order to make the dream of having large scale accessible art in the West End of Tacoma a funded reality. All told, just the gathering the funds for this project has taken eight months to complete. Project Expansion The original project concept consisted of only one sculptural bench, but as LILT worked with local leaders, sourced additional funding, and kept tight stewardship over the budget and worked with artist Jennifer Weddermann to create economies of scale, the project has blossomed to include four additional sculpture benches which were installed in November of 2014. LILT also was involved in the creation of the artistic vision for the art benches themselves. In the same geographic area LILT also created artwork for area pole banners with the same art motifs (octopus, gears etc) as the sculptural benches. While LILT completed the artwork pro-bono, they worked with the Ruston-Pt. Defiance Business District to fund the fabrication of the banners. Permitting Both owners also worked with local businesses to get agreements for the placement of the sculptural benches onto private property since the public right-a-way was not wide enough to incorporate the benches and still comply with ADA clearances. Permitting through the City of Tacoma for a non-standard art use also took many months to complete. LILT also engaged the public in the design of the benches themselves. This kind of community commitment is right on track for LILT who continues to donate their time and services to other worthy causes, such as the Ruston Family Fair and the Seattle Goodwill's Summer Youth Program. Fellow business district members and residents of the area have really embraced the art as their own and feel that is contributing to "place making". LILT is helping us bring life, color, and beauty to our area!</p>	<p>LILT connects the art world with the neighborhood by bringing art into the public space through the grants they have secured for art fabrication as well as creating some of the art themselves. On the sculptural art benches, throughout the design process they have served as a bridge between the design committee, comprised of small business owners, and the artists. They have also solicited feedback from a small group in the community. A public dedication of the project with open invitation to the public, with historical talk, and tour of the installed sculptural benches was held in November 2014.</p>	<p>I have worked with LILT as member of the Ruston-Point Defiance Business District since February 2011.</p>
Katy Evans	Rachel Ervin	Post Defiance	<p>Since 2011, Post Defiance has gathered and encouraged Tacoma writers, featuring their perspectives and stories on our city and it's culture.</p>	<p>The volunteer editorial team have worked with more than 100 writers to publish more than 500 articles about Tacoma and its culture, making Post Defiance an invaluable arts resource.</p>	<p>I am one-half of the editorial team. Rachel and I work together to produce Post Defiance.</p>

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Pegah Ouji	Stephanie Christy	Northwest regional Baha'i training institute	<p>The northwest regional Baha'i training institute is an educational institution, operating under the guidance of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of United States, which dedicates its efforts to the development of human resources for the spiritual, social, and cultural development of local communities. In Tacoma, there are hundreds of participants from all age groups in various communities who are becoming agents of positive social change.</p>	<p>The institute believes that arts is a language of expression that enriches community life and allows for people from varying experiences and backgrounds to explore ideas on equal footing. In east side Tacoma, the institute has been making consistent efforts for 5 years. There are many art projects including but not limited to creating songs, paintings, clay work, wood work and drama that have been created by local community members and are being shared with others actively through various spaces that the institute created for members of the community to come together.</p>	<p>I have been part of the efforts of this institute for a few years and have seen its impact on my life and those around me. One of the major impacts has been that we have become more concerned with the community we live in and how we can dedicate ourselves to its transformation through our professional work, our studies, our family life and engagement with younger members of the community.</p>

ARTS PATRON - A community partner who significantly supports or contributes to the arts in Tacoma					
Nominator Name	Patron Nomination: Name	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?
Lisa Kinoshita	Rick Semple and Jori Adkins		I would like to nominate Rick Semple and Jori Adkins for their ongoing effort (12 years and counting) to revitalize the Dome District.	They have worked tirelessly to improve the entire 300 block of buildings on Puyallup Ave. while also advocating for reasonable live/work studio regulations in Tacoma. Their REVIVE Spaceworks project, though short-lived, took local artspace to a new level. Rick and Jori are dedicated to improving every space they take on, and to making life more tenable, affordable and beautiful for working artists.	I had a studio in their building in the Dome District for several years and have followed their work closely.
Katy Evans	Ron Thomas	University of Puget Sound	University of Puget Sound has grown its cultural and civic engagement exponentially every year. Its partnership with the Tacoma Art Museum, the Race and Pedagogy Conference, and the many live performances, academics, and artists it hosts annually are just a few of the reasons Puget Sound deserves recognition.	University of Puget Sound has grown its cultural and civic engagement exponentially every year. Its partnership with the Tacoma Art Museum, the Race and Pedagogy Conference, and the many live performances, academics, and artists it hosts annually are just a few of the reasons Puget Sound deserves recognition.	They're a neighbor and I've attended many of their great art shows, lectures, and performances.