



City of Seattle
Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Office of Arts & Culture
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Mayor announces 2014 Mayor's Arts Awards recipients

Mayor's Arts Awards ceremony will be on Friday, Aug. 29 at 4 p.m.

SEATTLE (June 25, 2014) — Mayor Ed Murray is proud to announce the recipients of the 2014 Mayor's Arts Awards. The honorees include two individuals and four organizations, and represent categories ranging from promoting arts as a means of social change to artistic excellence. The Seattle Arts Commission recommended the recipients from a pool of more than 650 public nominations, a new record. The Mayor's Arts Awards recognize the contributions of artists, creative industries and cultural organizations who contribute to Seattle's reputation as a hub of creativity and innovation.

“This year's Mayor's Arts Awards winners represent the best in Seattle: they are talented, multi-disciplinary, passionate, visionary and diverse,” said Mayor Ed Murray. “These people and organizations embody Seattle's vibrancy and spirit of innovation.”

The 2014 honorees are:

- Cultural Ambassador: **Alan Chong Lau**
- City of Creativity: **MOHAI & Leonard Garfield**
- Social Justice: **Path with Art**
- Cultural Investment: **Snoqualmie Indian Tribe**
- Raising the Bar: **Stephen Stubbs**
- Future Focus: **TeenTix**

The recipients will be honored at the Mayor's Arts Awards ceremony, on Friday, Aug. 29 at 4 p.m. at Seattle Center at the Fisher Stage, which is outdoor and open to the public. Presented in partnership with Bumbershoot, the awards ceremony is part of the official opening of Bumbershoot 2014 and a day of free activities that includes a public preview of the festival's visual arts exhibits beginning at 3 p.m. in the Fisher Pavilion and the Fountain Lawn Pavilion. The Mayor's Arts Awards are presented in partnership with media sponsor *City Arts* and event sponsors The Boeing Company and Chihuly Garden and Glass.

For more information about the Mayor's Arts Awards, including past recipients, visit http://www.seattle.gov/arts/events/arts_awards.asp.

2014 MAYOR'S ARTS AWARD RECIPIENTS

Alan Chong Lau – Cultural Ambassador Award

Alan Chong Lau is a poet, painter, editor and sometimes curator and coordinator of arts events. As a poet, his work is represented by publications in numerous anthologies as well as individual titles such as "Songs For Jadina" which won a Before Columbus Award and "Blues and Greens - A Produce Worker's Journal." As a visual artist he has shown in Seattle since the early 1980s represented by Francine Seders Gallery until her recent retirement. He is also the Arts Editor for the International Examiner, a Seattle-based Asian American community newspaper. He believes that the arts play a vital role in society and through his various occupations facilitates culture throughout Seattle. He is a freelance coordinator and curator around town, creating "pop-up" arts events and shows in venues as diverse as Wing Luke Asian Museum, Kobo at Higo's, Elliott Bay Book Company and the M. Rosetta Hunter Art Gallery.

MOHAI & Leonard Garfield – City of Creativity Award

MOHAI has grown to become the largest private heritage organization in Washington State and attracts more than 200,000 visitors annually. MOHAI is dedicated to enriching lives through preserving, sharing and teaching the diverse history of Seattle, the Puget Sound region and the nation. The museum engages communities through interactive exhibits, online resources, and award-winning public and youth education programs. Executive director Leonard Garfield directs all activities at the museum, working with the Board of Trustees, MOHAI staff and the community to ensure MOHAI achieves its mission. Mr. Garfield holds a M.A. degree in American Culture from the University of Michigan and has more than 25 years' experience managing regional cultural organizations, including 15 years as executive director at MOHAI and six years as executive director of the King County Office of Cultural Resources (now 4Culture). In February 2014, Garfield was one of Seattle Business Magazine's Executive Excellence Award recipients.

Path with Art – Social Justice Award

Path with Art transforms the lives of adults in recovery from homelessness, addiction and other trauma by providing opportunities for in-depth arts engagement and positive community connection. Since 2007, Path with Art has helped students find their voice through the power of artistic expression. Today, the organization partners with 28 social service partners such as Plymouth Housing Group, Recovery Café, and Harborview Medical Center to offer 30 eight-week studio art classes taught by professional teaching artists across 18 disciplines. Through its *Access Art* program, Path with Art collaborates with leading arts organizations, to connect participants to arts and cultural events throughout the city. Quarterly art exhibitions and showcases invite the broader community to engage with students through their art and individual stories, fostering a dialogue about the issues surrounding homelessness and recovery, and seeing individuals beyond the lens of statistics.

Snoqualmie Indian Tribe – Cultural Investment Award

The Snoqualmie Indian Tribe is a federally recognized tribe in the Puget Sound region of Washington State. Known as the People of the Moon, Snoqualmie Tribal members were signatories of the Treaty of Point Elliot of 1855. The Tribe owns and operates the Snoqualmie Casino in Snoqualmie, WA. To date, the Tribe has donated over \$4 million dollars to non-profit organizations located in Washington State. Over fifty arts and culture organizations including the Seattle Art Museum, Seattle International Film Festival, the Genius Awards, Seattle Symphony, Pacific Northwest Ballet, EMP, Vera Project, Seattle Children's Theatre, and Longhouse Media have received donations from the Snoqualmie Tribe. The Tribe seeks to support these and other exemplary arts organizations in the Puget Sound area and collaborate with them to expand open

access programming that allows underserved communities the opportunity to enjoy these regional treasures.

Stephen Stubbs – Raising the Bar Award

After a thirty-year career in Europe, Stephen Stubbs returned to his native Seattle in 2006 as one of the world's most respected lutenists, conductors, and baroque opera specialists. Previously, he was based in Bremen, Germany, as Professor at the *Hochschule für Künste* and director of Tragicomedia, which toured worldwide and recorded numerous CDs. Stubbs is the permanent artistic co-director of the Boston Early Music Festival (BEMF). With his colleague Paul O'Dette, Stephen directs all BEMF operas and recordings, three of which were nominated for Grammy awards. In 2007 Stephen founded *Pacific MusicWorks* in Seattle, reflecting his lifelong interest in early music and contemporary performance. Other recent appearances include Gluck's *Orfeo* in Bilbao, Mozart's *Così fan Tutte* in Hawaii, and Handel's *Messiah* with the Seattle Symphony. His discography includes well over 100 CDs. In 2013, Stephen was appointed Senior Artist in Residence at the University of Washington School of Music.

TeenTix – Future Focus Award

Since 2004, TeenTix has been the central office of a community-wide effort to engage young people in civic life through the arts. The organization believes that arts institutions have a crucial role to play in building better futures for the youth in our community, and as such, they provide teens with tools to become empowered arts audiences, critics, leaders, and influencers. With a consortium of 54 regional arts-presenting organizations, TeenTix has facilitated the sale of over 45,000 \$5 arts tickets to teens over the past decade. Members of the TeenTix Press Corps have written over 400 arts reviews for the TeenTix Blog, the region's best source of teen-centric arts coverage. Graduates of their arts leadership training program, The New Guard, have gone on to take up positions in arts, culture, and civic organizations both locally and nationally. Their vision of a healthy community includes diverse civic leaders who value, support and participate in a thriving arts community.

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The Office of Arts & Culture envisions a city driven by creativity that provides the opportunity for everyone to engage in diverse arts and cultural experiences. The Office is supported by the 16-member Seattle Arts Commission, citizen volunteers appointed by the mayor and City Council. Find out more at seattle.gov/arts