CITY OF PORTLAND
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY & CIVIC LIFE
PRESENTS

2018
Spirit of Portland Awards

NOVEMBER 13
2018
2018 Spirit of Portland Awards Ceremony

6:00PM Welcome
   Food – DJ music

6:20PM
   MC: Andre Middleton (Friends of Noise) Opening the Event
   Welcoming – acknowledgements

6:30PM
   Land Acknowledgment by drummer native group

6:45PM
   Spirit of Portland background

6:55PM
   Introduce and thank the 2018 Spirit of Portland Selection Committee

7:00PM
   Presenting the 2018 Spirit of Portland Awards to the Community nominated award winners

7:15PM
   Intermission performance with artist from Friends of Noise

7:23PM
   Special Tribute

7:30PM
   City Council awards

7:55PM
   Honor Song (interfaith leaders) for awardees and community

8:05-8:20PM
   Closing remarks
Una ciudad, muchas comunidades
Un oraș, mai multe comunități
One city, many communities

私たちの信条 ひとつの町
一个城市，多个社区。

قددعىتم تاعمت جمو قدحاو قنرى دم هب نمؤن ام

Один город – множество сообществ

ah Hal magaal, marka la eego kuwo badan n oo bulshada

Một thành phố, nhiều cộng đồng

 Одне місто, багато громад
Spirit of Portland Awards are a recognition of local heroes and the impact of their work on creating a shared future in a city we all share.

Since 1985, recipients have included activists, community advocates, and committed individuals who serve to advance the Portland community. Awardees embody our city’s culture, goals, and a dedication to enriching the lives of their fellow Portlanders. In celebration of Portland’s diverse communities, the theme for 2018 ceremony is “One City, Many Communities”.

THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY & CIVIC LIFE connects the people of Portland with their City government to promote the common good. Our programs create a culture of collaboration, expanding possibilities for all Portlanders to contribute their knowledge, experience, and creativity to address local concerns and make life better in the city we all share.
What we believe

One city, many communities
Portland is home to a diverse range of communities with unique experiences and interconnected lives. Weaving these distinct perspectives together to inform local decision-making strengthens our city in ways that benefit everyone.

Power for and from the people
Portlanders have the ambition and ideas to address the challenges that impact their own communities. Support from and partnerships with local government create new opportunities for participation and encourage more people to help lead the way forward.

Creating our future together
Our actions today will shape our city tomorrow. It’s critical that we respond to the opportunities created by our growing, increasingly diverse population now while learning from the experiences of the native and global populations that have long made this place their home.
FROM THE ARTIST THEA GAHR

One City, Many Communities

This art celebrates the history of the land from which Portland has grown. I wanted to use the symbolism of nurse logs as giving life to the native and domesticated roses as well as the pollinators, who have stayed with us into city life, which have now become the symbol for migration. I see the roses representing the diverse communities that are growing at the roots from all that came before. The image of the river with all of its bridges representing the act of community organizing that connect these diverse ecologies of peoples and place.

This is a multi block and hand painted Linoleum cut on cotton paper. The background block was done with a very large brayer and rainbow rolled giving a special individual touch to each of the prints in this edition. Each print was made with lots of love and care with the hopes of reflecting back the amazing work of those building communities.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Thea Gahr is an artist, activist and educator whose work focuses on the intersection of social and environmental justice. Using printmaking, industrial stitching, and other forms of art to plant seeds of social change globally, Thea has roots in Oregon, Mexico, Haiti and beyond. She is a member of the Pittsburgh-based artist cooperative Justseeds (justseeds.org), works with the EPM68 autonomous school in Mexico City and Linfield College in McMinnville, OR. Thea draws inspiration from a deep sense of connection to and love for the land and responsibility to its humans. She is currently engaged in the movements for racial, border, and environmental justice. In addition to her work, Thea holds a passion for speaking Spanish, dancing, building tiny houses, and occasionally cycling across the country.
Building community at
The Rosewood Initiative

2018 Disability Power
PDX participants at the
graduation ceremony

One City, Many Communities trophy artwork for 2018 Spirit of Portland.
By Thea Gahr
Outstanding Individual and Organization Leadership Awards

Civic engagement has no age. These winners show that anyone—at any age—can be a leader. This year’s winners are shaping our city and society through their impactful and meaningful contributions.

Award categories honor efforts that are creating a culture of awareness, appreciation, and shed a light on our city—its history, its culture, and its people.

Winners in these categories are nominated and chosen by Portlanders.
Outstanding Young Leader Award

Amira Tripp Folsom

Amira embodies one person using her conviction, heart and passion, to influence many communities. She has such a conviction for justice that she not only lives it out, but also encourages and recruits others to join her.

At the age of 14, Amira started a Youth Ending Slavery group at her school to raise awareness about young girls being sex trafficked and to raise funds to give to groups that work to help victims of sex trafficking. With all the shootings taking place across the nation, the unnecessary lives lost, and the pain and hurt in its aftermath, Amira was a part of organizing a student led walk-out at her school.

Amira is a very ambitious young woman. She is proud of both her African American and Korean heritage and loves celebrating diversity. As such, she has been a part of the diversity committee at her school (which is predominantly white) where she insisted that staff and faculty highlight and celebrate cultural and racial diversity at their school. Amira is an exemplary young woman.

Outstanding Young Leader Award

Mahmood Jawad

Mahmood currently serves as an intern at the Urban League of Portland. He is a rising Sophomore at Muslim Educational Trust’s Oregon Islamic Academy, where he will graduate in 2021. As an Iraqi refugee who first came to Oregon at a young age, Mahmood is eager to use his expertise and opportunities to help other young immigrants and refugees secure economic liberation, equity, power, and civil rights.
He is passionate about creating a safe and supportive city for all newcomers. As a refugee himself, Mahmood is passionate about creating a program that helps refugee youths navigate the college application process and life in high schools. Mahmood also has concrete ideas to help refugees through program development at the Urban League.

Mahmood’s vision for his program focuses on the inclusion of the refugee community into the city of Portland. The refugee community is unfortunately a community that often gets overlooked, although, it has a strong presence in our city. Mahmood’s work is the personifies “one city, many communities”.

Mahmood works closely with his local community and his mosque. His work at the Muslim educational trust focuses on student leadership positions.

Outstanding Elder Leader Award
Antoinette Edwards

Antoinette Edwards, a 66-year-old African American Portlanter, has spent her life working for equality, human dignity, and social justice. She is best known recently as a lifeline to at-risk youth.

Although this work has been outside of her career, it has also been part of her official position under Portland’s last three mayors. She heads the Office of Youth Violence Prevention under current Mayor Ted Wheeler.

Antoinette’s leadership is very respected in the Black community. She is a also a beloved ally of the LGBTQ community. She founded PFLAG Portland Black Chapter, the nation’s first PFLAG group created by and for African Americans. The organization, currently known as Sankofa Collective Northwest, promotes health and well-being of
LGBTQ people of color, their families and friends.

Antoinette has been a parent coordinator at Self Enhancement Inc. where she founded the Sisters Reflecting Beauty group that’s still going to this day. She spent many years as a family intervention specialist with Multnomah County, a job that once included hosting an intervention in her own home with a gang-affected family. She was the first diversity and volunteer services director of the Oregon Trail Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Award
Hattie Larrouy

Hattie Larrouy has lived in the Rose City Park neighborhood for 27 years. She spent 30 years in public service prior to her retirement last year. In her role as a public health nurse, she worked with immigrants and refugees, incarcerated women, and parents. She is currently enjoying retirement and volunteering with a women’s fly-fishing organization, being a grandmother, becoming an Oregon Master Naturalist and working with other community groups who work with issues of equity.

She has always worked towards the advancement of equity in both her professional and personal life. When an issue of equity came up, literally, in her back yard this summer, she didn’t hesitate to act and respond swiftly and whole-heartedly, with a message based purely in love, acceptance, and city-wide community engagement. She facilitated uniting City bureaus, County programs and community members to implement “Rose City Park Stands with Refugees and Immigrants National Night Out,” and focused on reducing hate, uniting community members and re-affirming our natural spaces as places of healing and solace.
Access and Disability Justice Award
Saara Hirsi and Abdi Mohamed

Saara and Abdi have been tireless advocates for immigrants and refugees with disabilities. They collaborate to uplift disability issues uniquely impacting immigrants and refugees, bringing attention and awareness to issues that are largely ignored in Portland’s larger disability communities and nondisabled immigrant and refugee communities.

Saara and Abdi founded the Disabled Refugee Alliance, which seeks to build community, raise awareness, and create local action. Their most recent filled-to-capacity event, “Our survival skills are our super power!” offered disabled refugees and disability service organizations the opportunity to share stories and solutions around the systemic barriers faced by refugees with disabilities.

Outside of the Alliance’s efforts, Abdi and Saara both offer unique individual contributions to community efforts for justice, including work with the Disability Arts and Culture Project, African Youth and Community Organization, Portland Commission on Disability, Northwest Health Foundation, and City of Portland Disability Program.

Abdi and Saara are invaluable community assets and catalysts for change in Portland and beyond.

Civic Engagement Award
Pride Northwest

Pride Northwest produces the annual Portland Pride Waterfront Festival and Parade, one of the largest Pride celebrations in the nation. Pride imparts a sense of dignity, community, and empowerment to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people.
LGBTQ people have been historically marginalized and, still today, face much discrimination. Even now, 40% of homeless youth are LGBTQ. Because Pride festivities are heavily covered by the media, these are often the first positive images many young LGBTQ people see. The whole process communicates a vision of belonging and purpose to members of the LGBTQ community.

Pride Northwest exemplifies the 2018 Spirit of Portland theme of “One City, Many Communities” because it is a celebration and vehicle for empowerment of the LGBTQ community, but also includes many non-LGBTQ allies. These people cover a full range of race, ethnicity, income, gender and class. Portland Pride participants represent a cross selection of Portland residents and visitors.

Pride Northwest works with numerous organizations and businesses across the region, to build community and to support LGBTQ people throughout Oregon and SW Washington. Those include organizations such as Latinx Pride, Trans Unity, PFLAG, Pride Collective, Portland Area Business Association, Q Center, and McLaren Youth Correctional Facility.

Private Business For-Profit Initiative Award: McMenamins

Brothers Mike and Brian McMenamin opened the Barley Mill Pub in Portland in 1983. Their original idea of McMenamins continues today. McMenamins strives to provide gathering places that foster a sense of community and history. Since the beginning, McMenamins has also been a pioneering engine for community hot spots like hotels, music venues, theaters, a winery, distilleries, community soaking pools, gardens and more.

Over time the aims evolved, and they now focus on reviving historic structures important to the surrounding community.
It is the connection to the community and the aspiration to do good that has helped and allowed McMenamins to grow. Building a fun sense of community is of such import that it is printed in all new hire handbooks and central to the development of its most prized assets, their employees.

McMenamins aims to be unique in all aspects of operations, and the nonprofit programs are no exception. In one program, the “Friends & Family Night” pairings, McMenamins will donate 50% of one pub’s nightly sales from to a local organization. Each individual pub pairs with several organizations each year. The organizations are typically focused on education, human support services and or community development.

**Non-Profit Initiative Award: Budding Roses**

Budding Roses is a volunteer run collective that provides a free two-week day summer camp for youth entering grades 4th-9th. Held in East Portland, youth are encouraged to express themselves and engage critically with social justice issues in a collaborative environment where they are both participants and leaders. Topics presented range from current and historical events around racism, sexism and gender, to environmental justice and police brutality. Daily community-building activities include art projects, outdoor recreation, interactive workshops, films, and games designed to spark questions, dialogue and envisioning of a future free of oppression and corruption. Curriculum and activities are often led in collaboration with other local activists and social justice organizations including the Burgerville Workers Union, Critical Resistance PDX, Food Not Bombs, and TALON.

Budding Roses was inspired largely by the Black Panther’s Free Breakfast Program, and various other popular education projects. It was formed by members of the local Black Rose/Rosa Negra Anarchist Federation, and is maintained...
by struggling workers, students, and educators. As such, we recognize the lack of affordable care and empowering education. In these difficult and divisive times, we are all dedicated to continue providing material and emotional support for the youth of our communities.

Sandy Diedrich Environmental Stewardship Award: Robin Vesey

Robin Vesey is a retired OHSU Oncology Nurse who treated patients with cancer and hematology diagnoses. Living in southwest Portland with her husband Jack, Robin learned her love of running on Terwilliger’s forested Parkway. Desiring to give back to this public park that has given her so much, she started volunteering with the Friends of Terwilliger in 1996. Through her twenty-two years of amazing dedication and outstanding environmental restoration efforts to the Terwilliger Parkway — Robin scheduled and hosted 42 community restoration work parties with over 1,451 volunteers contributing 6,035 volunteer hours of restoration efforts along the Terwilliger Parkway.

These efforts have cleared 13.5 acres of ground ivy, removed 16.68 acres of tree ivy and over 3,459 trees have been cleared of tree ivy. Hosting the community restoration work parties Ms. Vesey has worked with numerous diverse groups from our community to achieve these environmental restoration efforts.

The groups that Robin has partnered with exemplify the 2018 Spirit of Portland theme “One City, Many Communities”. These include: Multnomah County’s Alternative Community Service (ACS) program, Lewis and Clark College, Portland State University, Chemeketa Community College, PECI, Univ. of Portland, Trust for Public Land, Umpqua Bank, Fred Meyer, Cub Scouts of Greater Portland, Veterans Administration, OHSU, Hands on Portland, and SOLV.
Though Robin’s goal of complete removal of English Ivy and other invasive non-native plants along the Terwilliger Parkway has not been achieved, she continues to be the driving force behind the environmental restoration of this century old Portland city park.
Outstanding Individual and Organization Leadership Awards

Each year Portland City Council honors and recognizes local heroes who do outstanding work for our communities. This year's winners include visionary leaders—both seasoned and green.

Through their exemplary work, the recipients are leading our city to drive support for important issues, change perceptions, and build movements.

Winners in these categories are nominated and chosen by Portland City Council.
Right 2 Dream Too (R2DToo) relocated to the Lloyd District in June 2017, continuing its operation as a rest area providing low-barrier, safe sleep for Portland’s unhoused community members. The nonprofit was welcomed with open arms by Lloyd District neighbors and community organizations, including Lloyd Community Association, Lloyd Enhanced Services District, Rose Quarter, Lloyd Ecodistrict, Holladay Park Plaza, Temple Baptist Church, and the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods. City partners at the table have included Portland Police Bureau’s Neighborhood Response Team, the Office of Community and Civic Life Crime Prevention program, and the Office of Equity and Human Rights, which provided facilitation support.

Initially, a simple Good Neighbor Agreement was formed to create shared expectations and a communication plan between R2DToo and its new neighbors but has since expanded to include creative community-building and fundraising strategies to continue support for R2DToo. From a welcome spaghetti dinner hosted by Temple Baptist Church to regular attendance at public safety meetings, R2DToo members have been invited to share their model with numerous Lloyd District-based organizations who want to support the rest area.

In July, Lloyd EcoDistrict raised $20,000 for a sleeping pod buildout for R2DToo’s members, with dozens of volunteers donating tools, materials and skills to the project. Lloyd Community Association and Lloyd Enhanced Services District organized an ongoing bottle drop fundraiser in some of the district’s larger apartment towers. Holladay Park Plaza residents mobilized to raise $2,000 toward an additional sleeping pod, in addition to donating over 2,700 personal
hygiene items to the rest area. This collective work has helped to humanize the conversation around houselessness and illustrates the positive impacts that prevail when organizations collaborate for the betterment of all community members.

**Commissioner Amanda Fritz Award**
**Andrea Williams, Executive Director, Causa**

Andrea Williams has been the executive director of Causa, Oregon’s statewide Latinx immigrant rights organization, since 2013.

Andrea is being recognized for her tremendous leadership and advocacy to support racial and social justice and advance Oregon’s immigrant and civil rights movement. She has advocated at the national, state, county, city, and local and community levels, and has worked to create community coalitions and train and develop our next generation of community leaders.

Andrea was instrumental in the City of Portland’s 2017 declaration as Welcoming City, a Sanctuary City, and an Inclusive City for all. Under Andrea's leadership, Causa worked with many Oregon cities and towns to pass similar local resolutions to prevent local resources from being used to separate immigrant families. Andrea has advocated for the passage of driver licenses for all and has worked tirelessly to defend the rights of Dreamers (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients) – with 11,000 in Oregon and 800,000 nationally. She has fought for tuition equity, workers' rights, and the rights of families and children, and advocated for the City’s 2018 budget allocation for Universal Representation.

Andrea graduated with a bachelor's degree in politics from Whitman College. She currently serves on the boards for the Northwest Health Foundation, National Partnership for New
Americans, Oregon Latino Health Coalition, and PCUN (Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste). She has also served on the board for MRG Foundation.

**Mayor Ted Wheeler Award**

**Faith Pauken**

Faith Pauken is a senior at Lincoln High School and formed the Never Again Club advocating for safer schools in response to the Parkland shooting. Her club and school organized a 17-minute long silent tribute to honor each student who lost their life during the shooting and has since led several protests supporting gun safety efforts. Working with Mayor Ted Wheeler, Faith spoke at the 2018 State of the City Address to raise awareness on school safety to the citizens of Portland. Faith continues to remain engaged on the issue of gun safety, especially within schools but also works within her community to bring recognition to social issues around homelessness and gender equality. In the future, Faith plans on attending college and plans to create a career out of her advocacy.

**Commissioner Chloe Eudaly Award**

**Ed Washington**

Ed Washington is a civil rights leader, Vanport Flood survivor, and former president of the NAACP Portland Chapter who became the first African American councilor for the Portland Metro council in 1991. Throughout the years Ed has served on many boards, including the United Way of the Columbia Pacific and Lifeworks Northwest. In addition, he was a member and served as the Chairman of the Urban Forestry Commission for the City of Portland. Ed has held a number of positions with Portland State University since 1993 and is currently serving as the Director of Community Outreach & Engagement in the Office of Global Diversity and Inclusion. In addition to his work at PSU and PCC, he is a speaker for the Fair Housing Council.
of Oregon tours which highlights past discriminatory housing practices in the City of Portland and the State of Oregon. Ed also serves as a current chair for the Oregon Travel Experience Board of the State of Oregon.

Commissioner Chloe Eudaly Award
Street Books

Street Books is a bicycle-powered mobile library serving people who live outside and at the margins in Portland since 2011. They strive to empower people on the streets through access to literature and create a community of support through a shared love of books.

Commissioner Nick Fish Award
Bobbin Singh

Bobbin Singh is a transformational leader in our community, dedicated to reforming the criminal justice system.

In 2011, Bobbin co-founded the Oregon Justice Resource Center (OJRC). It promotes civil rights and legal representation for historically underserved communities. OJRC works in collaboration with local nonprofits to serve our community, train public interest lawyers, and educate Portlanders on civil rights and civil liberties concerns. It focuses on essential programs rooted in equity and justice, including the Oregon Innocence Project, the Women’s Justice Project, and the Immigrant Rights Project.

Bobbin is the co-founder of the Oregon Innocence Project, which investigates and litigates prisoners’ claims of innocence. Their mission is three-fold: to exonerate the wrongfully convicted, to educate and train law students, and to promote legal reforms aimed at preventing wrongful convictions.

As a graduate of Portland State and Lewis & Clark Law School,
Bobbin continues to serve our community outside of OJRC. He is on the Oregon Council on Civil Rights and is a Board member of the ACLU of Oregon.

**Commissioner Nick Fish Award**

**Community Access Services in partnership with Project SEARCH**

The City of Portland is committed to removing barriers in the workplace.

Community Access Services is a regional nonprofit dedicated to advocating for individuals with disabilities. For over 25 years, Community Access Service’s Supported Employment Program has helped organizations recruit, train, and hire local employees with intellectual and development disabilities.

Project SEARCH is a transition-to-work program for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It provides opportunities for service agencies and employers to host job training in the workplace.

Community Access Services, in partnership with Project SEARCH, approached Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish with the goal of establishing a nine-month internship program at the City of Portland, for Portlanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Community Access Services, in partnership with Project SEARCH, approached Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish with the goal of establishing a nine-month internship program at the City of Portland, for Portlanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Beginning in October of 2017, the City of Portland launched the pilot Project SEARCH internship program in the Water Bureau and the Bureau of Environmental Services. Throughout the year, Community Access Services provided the interns with on-site skills training, job coaching, and mentorship. In June of
2018, five local young adults graduated from the program, and two were offered paid positions in the bureaus.

In October of 2018, the second pilot year started. Portland Parks & Recreation and the Bureau of Human Resources, with the support and resources from Community Access Services and Project SEARCH, are hosting interns.

**Commissioner Dan Saltzman Award**

**Kevin Jeans Gail**

Kevin Jeans Gail was the founding executive director and visionary leader of the Portland Workforce Alliance (PWA), which he led since its founding in 2005 until his retirement this year. The PWA, with funding from private, public, and philanthropic sources, works with educators and employers to offer Portland-area students more than 12,000 career-related learning experiences each year. Jeans Gail worked tirelessly and largely under the radar to establish partnerships with the education and business communities, and to recruit hundreds of adult volunteers with the singular mission of exposing students to potential careers and helping the region build an educated and diverse workforce.

During this tenure, Jeans Gail was a strong advocate for low-income teens, students of color, and all other students who had less access to early career opportunities. Prior to founding the PWA, he founded the Portland Organizing Project which later become the Coalition for Metropolitan Common Good. He was also Chief of Staff to City Commissioner Jim Francesconi (1996 to 2004). Among Jeans Gail’s many accomplishments in that role, he worked with Portland Public Schools to help create SUN schools and was staff liaison to Portland Fire & Rescue, a role which he loved.
Commissioner Dan Saltzman Award
Officer Mike Gallagher

Officer Mike Gallagher has been a police officer with the Portland Police Bureau for 27 years. During the majority of his career he has worked to address the issues related to prostitution and sex trafficking. For the past eight years he has been assigned to the Sex Trafficking Unit (STU) out of East Precinct. The Sex Trafficking Unit works with victims of prostitution to earn their trust; as well as building partnerships with nonprofit organizations that provide needed counseling, addiction treatment, housing, and career building services. The team also works to address the buyers (johns) through traditional law enforcement efforts as well as education (PPB’s “Sex Buyers Accountability and Diversion School” or better known as “John School”).

Officer Gallagher has contacted over two thousand victims of trafficking, both minors and adults. He has also dealt with approximately a thousand buyers (johns) in addition to assisting with the prosecution of numerous traffickers (pimps). Officer Gallagher is also cross-designated to work as a special agent with the FBI’s Child Exploitation Task Force.
Thank you to the planning team and review committee

Adrienne Livingston
Andre Middleton
Asena Lawrence
Claire Adamsick
Claudia Long
Dianne Riley
Friends of Noise
George T. Nicola
Jaspreet Chahal
Jill Shepard Erickson
Joanne Johnson
Juliette Muracchioli
Khanh Tran
Lisa Chin
Marco Mejía
Margaux Weeke
Matt Grumm
Pollyanne Birge

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Stephanie Yao Long
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Surya Joshi
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Wajdi Said
Winta Yohannes
Yesenia Ramos Pacheco
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Promote the common good