

Bill Naito Community Trees Award 2019

Nominations Packet for Urban Forestry Commission

Voting on Nominees at UFC on 9/19/2019

Award presented at Tree Summit on 10/26/19

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Portland Urban Forestry Commission created the annual Bill Naito award in honor of the late builder and community leader who did so much to beautify Portland with trees. Bill was especially devoted to Portland's trees. He rarely missed an Urban Forestry Commission meeting, which he founded in 1974 and chaired until his death. No one in Portland has been more tenacious than Bill Naito at encouraging the planting of trees. Through his humor, persistence and imaginative approach to projects, he inspired many individuals to recognize the beauty trees bring to our city.

The Bill Naito Award was designed to honor the stories of individuals, organizations or projects that have continued Bill's work and reflect his dedication. Together, these stories weave a picture of our community's dedication to Portland's urban forest heritage.

Below are the final nominations for the 2019 Bill Naito Community Trees Award. A list of past award winners is also included. There is an individual recipient award as well as a group award, both of which will be voted on at the September 2019 UFC meeting. There are three group nominations and two individual nominations. Nominations should be judged for their degree of impact, quality, innovation, and the degree to which the work serves as a worthy example for others to follow.

We are asking that you please read and review the following nominations for this year's Bill Naito Community Trees Award and be ready to vote at the September meeting.

Thank you.

Past Recipients of the Bill Naito Community Trees Award

Year	Recipient
2018	Carol Lee
2018	St Johns Tree Team
2017	Catherine Clark
2017	Tree Inventory Volunteers
2016	Jim Labbe
2016	Albina Neighborhood Tree Team
2015	John Iott
2015	Leigh Rappaport and the Leadership Corps of the Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center's Rosemary Anderson High School
2014	Phil Hamilton
2014	Damon Schrosk and Martin Nicholson with numerous volunteers
2013	Mark Franklin
2013	Anne Downing and David Douglas High School's English as a Second Language Class
2012	Phyllis Reynolds
2012	Concordia Tree Team
2012	David Odom

Year	Recipient
2010	Save Our Elms
2010	Bruce Nelson
2009	Chad Honl
2008	Friends of Columbia Children's Arboretum
2008	Jefferson High School Ecology Class
2007	Ed Kerns
2007	Eastmoreland Neighborhood Tree Committee
2006	Tuesday Crew Volunteers
2005	Jim Gersbach
2004	Sean Batty and the Parkway Improvement Committee
2003	Starr Hogeboom
2002	Dr. Joseph Poracsky
2001	Jane Glazer
2000	James Allison
1999	Doug Klotz
1998	Friends of Trees
1998	Terry Griffiths
1998	Sandy Diedrich
1997	Richard Seidman
1997	Portland General Electric

2019 Bill Naito Award Nominations

Group Award Nominees

Canopy Stories Filmmakers

Contact: Dave Hedberg

The filmmakers that created this anthology of Canopy Story films brought to life stories of trees through the eyes of people connected with them. This documentary series highlights many of the great historical trees in Portland, as well as the challenges to growing an equitable urban forest in our city. Beautifully filmed, each story was unique and poignant, inspiring admiration and respect for these sentinels of our urban forest, as well as a call to action for everyone to do more towards raising awareness of why our city's trees are vital to our collective wellbeing and the importance of protecting them. This group of filmmakers provided a beautiful and accessible vehicle that will inspire many to speak for the trees.

Whole Foods Market - Laurelhurst

Contact: Cierra Cook

Whole Foods volunteered with Urban Forestry at one of the Yard Tree Giveaway events in 2018. They brought a total of 24 volunteers - most who were newbies to the tree world - and jumped into the event with both feet! They tirelessly loaded trees in peoples' cars, shoveled mulch and even provided the container tree planting demonstrations for the public (after instructions from Urban Forestry) in an inspiring and engaging manner. They had so much fun, that they are coming back again this year!

Depave

Contact: Katya Reyna - Project & Volunteer Coordinator

Depave is a Portland-based non-profit that has been in operation since 2008. Depave focuses on underserved areas to reduce pavement and increase access to greenspaces. They have completed more than 50 projects in Portland. From their website: "Depave empowers community members to change their surroundings from pavement to thriving landscapes that bring people together, foster stewardship, increase safety, augment play and learning spaces, provide places to grow food, capture stormwater and add to the urban tree canopy."

For the past few years, Depave and the Urban Forestry Learning Landscapes program have partnered up with other organizations to bring trees to five Portland school campuses. These schools include: Peninsula K-5, Vernon K-8, Lent K-8, Boise-Eliot/Humboldt Elementary, and Woodmere Elementary. In order to make room for trees, asphalt was removed by Depave via the work of volunteers of all ages.

Individual Award Nominees

Jennifer Baxter

Over the last two years Jennifer Baxter has worked with Urban Forestry in several different ways: she has volunteered at many UF events, served as a Tree Steward, co-hosted tree walks, and served on the Heritage Tree Committee. The passion Jennifer has for the preservation and planting of trees comes through in these roles. She is especially passionate about trees in east Portland, of which she is a resident. Her enthusiasm is palpable and her dedication to understanding the aspect of getting trees planted (which isn't always easy) goes unwavering. If left to Jennifer alone, I feel she could speak for the trees and their importance all by herself!

Tom Ralley

Tom has helped to bring trees to the Lent K-8 campus for many years now. (Lent school is a Spanish dual-language school in a low-income low-canopy neighborhood, and 82% of the students receive free or reduced lunch according to niche.com.) In addition to advocating for trees to be planted, Tom has been present to help on planting day with the students and has tended to the trees during the summer. He weeds, mulches, and drags hose to water 100+ trees! For two summers now (2018 and 2019), Tom has arranged for the portable classroom on the Lent campus to be available to the Youth Conservation Tree Crew for several days so that the crew can learn tree establishment care. He has stayed on campus to work with the Tree Crew while they are there and continues on with the tree work after they leave. Tom graduated from the Neighborhood Tree Steward program and has volunteered at many Urban Forestry events through the years.