



CITY OF EVERETT NEWS RELEASE

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Rescheduled: City celebrates 26th annual Wendt and Mayor's Arts Awards

Mayor Cassie Franklin will honor recipients at April 15 ceremony

EVERETT – The Everett Cultural Arts Commission has selected the recipients of the 26th annual Wendt and Mayor's Arts Awards. Mayor Cassie Franklin will honor the award recipients during a public celebration on Monday, April 15, at the Everett Performing Arts Center, 2710 Wetmore Ave. Doors open at 6 p.m., program begins at 7 p.m., and all are welcome.

Richard Wendt Award of Excellence

The Cultural Arts Commission selected **Sandra Cope and Walt Gillette** as the recipients of the Richard Wendt Award of Excellence for their extraordinary commitment to Everett's arts community. Cope and Gillette have been early and steadfast supporters of Everett's art organizations including the Village Theatre's Kidstage program, the Imagine Children's Museum, The Dance School and the Schack Art Center.

The Richard Wendt Award of Excellence is given annually to a person or organization who has demonstrated outstanding support of the arts throughout their lifetime. The award is named for Dr. Richard Wendt, who passed away in 2007. Wendt was a long-time promoter of the arts in Everett and helped found the City's Cultural Arts Commission and the 1% for the Arts program.

Mayor's Arts Awards

In recognition of Everett's growing arts scene, the Cultural Arts Commission created the Mayor's Arts Awards to honor art educators, artists in the community, arts organizations and emerging artists that have made an impact on the Everett arts community.

This year's Mayor's Arts Award winners are:

- Enriching Children's Lives: **Raniere**, for her creative work with children at the Imagine Children's Museum.

- Artist in the Community: **Deb Fox**, for her artistic excellence and contributions to Everett's cultural vitality.
- Arts Changing Lives: **Mary Toews**, for creating Mari's Place, an all-volunteer organization that fosters creativity and self-confidence through artistic and cultural programs for youth and immigrant families.
- Catalyst for Emerging Artists: **Live in Everett's Tyler Chism and Garrett Hunt**, for promoting Everett's writers, visual artists, performers and musicians, advancing the cultural life of the city.
- Organization Making an Impact: **Fred Chu of Pacifica Chamber Orchestra**, for exceptional chamber music concerts and educational outreach in Everett's elementary schools that engage and inspire youth.

Learn more

The Everett Cultural Arts Commission is composed of volunteer commissioners who are appointed by the Mayor. The mission of the commission is to initiate, sponsor, organize and promote cultural and artistic programs and services for the enrichment and enjoyment of the Everett community.

For more information, contact Carol Thomas, cultural arts manager, at 425-257-7101 or cthomas@everettwa.gov, or visit everettwa.gov/mayorsarts

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