



# Allied Arts of Renton

## Fall 2023 Newsletter

### Allied Arts of Renton President's Message

By Betty Childers, Allied Arts of Renton Co-President

**Happy Fall, everyone.** Fall is often a time to get cozy in readiness for the wet, cold winter ahead. But at Allied Arts, we are busy making some changes. I'm proud to announce that Linda Middlebrooks and I will serve as co-presidents. She and I will collaborate, using her depth of knowledge and experience along with my skills. I have lived in Renton for nearly 35 years. I worked for Renton School District as a special ed teacher and substitute teacher. I've always had a passion for the arts, and now that I'm retired, I can devote more time to it. I love to draw. I work in graphite and charcoal. I enjoy doing portraits of my favorite actors and musicians.

Allied Arts also has some new Board members with fresh ideas. Read on to learn more about our website, Facebook page, and newsletter changes.

**We need your email address!** Sending the newsletter digitally, as we did in the summer, saves postage, and allows your donations to go directly into the Arts to support our Mission statement. We have more connections for digital contributions, too.

[alliedartsrenton@gmail.com](mailto:alliedartsrenton@gmail.com) is now the email address for Allied Arts of Renton. Please send us an email letting us know that you would like to subscribe to the newsletter. Thank You!!

### Message from the Newsletter Editor

By Andrea Meld

The focus for this issue is **Music in Renton**. We are also moving forward to reach a wider audience in the Renton community and make the best use of our resources through technology. This issue may be the last in printed format.

If you're planning to attend the **Fall 2023 Family Concert by the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra** on Sunday, October 22, at 2:00 pm, please stop by at the **Meet and Greet** table. We'd love to see you there and you can provide your email address on the sign-up sheet.

**Donate to Allied Arts of Renton ~ Support the Arts in Your Community and Make a Difference!**

You can donate using this link which takes you to our website. [HTTP://pay.alliedartsofrenton.org](http://pay.alliedartsofrenton.org)  
Or scan using the QR code below to make your donation to Allied Arts of Renton:



**Our New Website: Supporting the Arts - Allied Arts of Renton**  
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## Fall Family Concert

### Musings From a Rock and Roll Fan

by Julie Horan, Allied Arts Board Member

My husband and I love rock 'n' roll and country western music, especially to dance to or sing along with. But we allow for our eclectic tastes, and when the Seattle Philharmonic comes to IPAC Sunday, October 22, at 2:00, we'll be there. When they play the Blue Danube Waltz, with its beautiful sweeping rhythm, as a finale, it will be hard for us to sit still in our seats.

Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra has been delighting audiences in Renton for over fifty years, starting with Renton's bicentennial year of 1976 when the orchestra performed three free concerts, one each for spring, fall, and winter, at Renton High School. In 1985 Seattle Philharmonic celebrated Allied Arts of Renton's fiftieth anniversary with a special concert. The family concerts have continued from that year until this, delighting whole families, only stopped from doing so by a worldwide pandemic a few years ago. This same orchestra, under the baton of Conductor Adam Stern, finished last year's October visit with a rousing "Can-Can" (Did you know it's a classical piece?)

**The performance this year is at 2:00 Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.** Ticket prices are \$10.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children and \$8.00 for seniors and can be purchased at **King and Bunny's**, 4608 Sunset Blvd in the Renton Highlands, and at **L.A Frames**, 308 3<sup>rd</sup> St. in Downtown Renton. Tickets can also be purchased from Allied Arts members and will be available at the box office on the day of the performance. It's a delightful way to spend a Sunday afternoon!

### Myths, Legends, and Dreams!

**Beethoven's Overture from Prometheus** opens the Fall Concert program with images of fire and light. The beloved **Blue Danube Waltz** by Johann Straus, Jr., with echoes of an enchanted river and its mermaids will play, in closing. Also in store: **Hinemoa**, a Maori folktale, composed by Maria Grenfell from Australia, Bordin's **In the Steppes of Central Asia**, evoking a caravan winding its way through the desert, and Gounod's opera **Faust**, conjuring the magic spell of Mephisto -- a perfect prelude for Halloween!

## City of Renton Arts & Culture

### Join us in shaping Renton's cultural future!

By Jessie Kotarski

Renton is crafting a comprehensive 10-year Arts and Cultural Master Plan for 2023. This plan will steer the direction of Renton's arts and culture initiatives, fostering community engagement, diversity, economic development, and accessibility. Starting this August, the project team has been hitting the streets, talking to local businesses, and immersing themselves in Renton's vibrant arts and culture scene at local events like the farmer's market, summer concerts, and wine walks. Our "Arts and Culture Wishing Well" has been on the move, making appearances at various community events to gather your hopes and dreams. Renton truly shines as a hub of artistic expression and cultural diversity! Do you have insights to share about arts and culture in our community? We want to hear from you! **If you are viewing online, take a quick quiz** and visit our [project webpage](#) for more opportunities to contribute.

Jessie Kotarski, , Economic Development Manager for the City of Renton, can be reached at [jkotarski@rentonwa.gov](mailto:jkotarski@rentonwa.gov) or [arts@rentonwa.gov](mailto:arts@rentonwa.gov).

## New! Renton Arts Incubation Space

### Interview with Tommy Segundo

By Marianna Spiritakis, Allied Arts Board Member

We are thrilled to introduce Tommy Segundo, the visionary artist chosen to partner with the City of Renton in creating an innovative arts incubation space at the City Center Parking Garage in downtown Renton. Tommy's proposal reflects his rich experience, passion for art, and commitment to building a vibrant artistic community. With over 15 years in education and four years as a full-time artist, Tommy brings a unique blend of skills to the table. His background in planning programs, workshops, and curriculums, combined with his successful art and screen-printing business, positions him perfectly to operate a versatile space. This multifunctional area will include an art gallery, a gift shop, and a dynamic community space.

Tommy's vision is rooted in shining a light on the often-overlooked Indigenous communities in the USA, especially in Renton. He aims to bring traditional Pacific Northwest art to the forefront in a contemporary manner, creating a safe and welcoming space that

highlights the diverse Coast Salish and Indigenous cultures within the city.

Tommy, an enrolled member of the Haida and Coast Salish (Katzie) tribes, is deeply committed to honoring the vibrant heritage of Pacific Northwest Native cultures through his business, **CreNative Designz**. His passion for preserving the essence of these cultures shines through in every design he brings to life. (For more information, see his website: <https://crenatedesignz.com>.)

Tommy's deep ties to Renton are evident in his community involvement. With roots in the local schools, Renton High School, and various youth sports leagues, he has been a part of the city's fabric for years. We invite you to witness Tommy's creativity firsthand as he prepares to open the Renton Arts Incubation Space. Stay tuned for an upcoming event where you can explore the space, interact with Tommy, and gain insights into his artistic journey.

## Spotlight on Key to Change

### Interview with Dr. Quinton Morris

By Betty Childers, Allied Arts Co-President

Key to Change was started by Dr. Quinton Morris six years ago to provide violin and viola instruction for underserved groups of middle school and high school students in Renton and South King County. Dr. Morris, whose own career as a violinist found him playing such venues as Carnegie Hall and the Sydney Opera House, left all that behind to start Key to Change. His passion is now devoted to bringing his expertise, along with instructors from such esteemed institutions as the Julliard School for Music, to teach kids from Renton and South King County.

"During the last leg of my world tour, I was very inspired seeing students all over the world. They were curious and excited. They were nervous about playing the violin. I was very touched and humbled, watching students, especially from underserved communities, kids who really did not have the resources to play an instrument. I thought it would be cool to bring what I had learned during that time back to my own community. In South King County and Renton, where I grew up, the resources weren't afforded to me. I thought it would be great to create a program where I could provide that same high-level program and world-class music instruction for students here," Dr. Morris explained.

Scholarship money from Allied Arts pays the way forward for students' lessons at Key to Change. He is currently

starting a program, fueled by a matching fund from Allied Arts, targeting Dimmitt Middle School students who later attend Renton High School. He is gratified that his former student, Analisa Ruiz, a Renton High graduate, is now an intern at Key to Change. His success at Key to Change is based on his emphasis on caring, being prepared and showing up. By building that trust with kids, they know he is there for them, and his energy is contagious. To say his students are enthusiastic and motivated is an understatement. At a recent event, he was inundated with kids wanting their music, asking for their assignment, begging to get started.

Dr. Morris, born and schooled in Renton, started playing the violin in third grade. At Renton High School, he started Young Eight, a group of African-American string players who went on to schools and conservatories around the country. They were together for ten years. He has been a professor at Seattle University for 17 years, now a full professor. He is one of two Black full professors of violin in the country. In his successful performance career as a soloist, he's played with numerous orchestras and done many recitals around the world. He made his debut at the Seattle Symphony in 2008 at age 30.

To Support Allied Arts by mail: Please clip box below. Check should be made out to Allied Arts of Renton, Inc.

Mail to P.O. Box 151, Renton, WA 98057-0151

Allied arts is an all-volunteer 501c3 non-profit organization; all contributions are designated for local arts projects and are tax deductible.

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### Allied Arts of Renton

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**Thank You!**

## Allied Arts of Renton

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