



Allied Arts of Renton



Allied Arts President's Letter

By Linda Middlebrooks

SPRING: Are we ready for warmer weather and a chance to enjoy the excellent parks in Renton? (The Renton Parks Department does a fantastic job keeping our parks in good shape!)

SPRING: A time when I feel we need more energy after a few challenging years. I am pleased to say we have new energy with new board members! You can read about Betty Childers and Andrea Meld in this newsletter.

Nine students from Dr. Quinton Morris's **Key to Change Studio** applied for scholarships from **Allied Arts of Renton**. After reading all the applications and meeting with Dr. Morris, we decided to divide the scholarship money between these nine students who will receive their scholarship awards at **Benaroya Hall on Sunday, May 7, 2023, at 2 pm**.

More information about the **Key to Change** event: <https://www.keytochangestudio.org/event/spring-salon-fundraiser-2023/>

We continue supporting the Renton School Foundation's annual **March Music Month** with a donation every year. This celebration of music is an outstanding program that helps keep music alive and well in our Renton schools.

I hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter and again, we are open to your suggestions and ideas. Thank you for supporting all of our volunteer work, some of you such loyal and generous members. **Thank you!**

Linda Middlebrooks, President, Allied Arts of Renton, can be reached at jmidbk@aol.com.

Key to Change is a Washington State 501c3 nonprofit organization that inspires underserved youth through world-class music instruction and supports their development as self-aware leaders. Founded and directed by violinist, educator, and entrepreneur Dr. Quinton Morris, Key to Change strives to dispel the "starving artist" mentality and provide young artists with the educational tools and resources they need in order to grow and thrive as musicians and as individuals.

Key to Change recently launched a violin studio, of the same name, in South King County which serves middle and high school students of color and economically disadvantaged backgrounds in Renton, Kent, Auburn, Maple Valley, and Federal Way neighborhoods. Quinton Morris opened the studio after returning from his 25-city BREAKTHROUGH World Tour, which paired chamber music recitals with educational outreach and community service in under-resourced communities around the globe. For more details: <https://www.keytochangestudio.org/>

Appreciation

CURRENT OFFICERS

President: Linda Middlebrooks ~ Vice President: (**open**)
~ Secretary: Pat Tucker-Dolan ~ Treasurer: Shari Fisher

BOARD MEMBERS (**Now recruiting!**)

Janice Tanner ~ Leslie Aungst ~ Julie Horan ~
Kristen Brenneman ~ Mike Simpson ~
New members: Andrea Meld ~ Betty Childers

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Charmaine Baker ~ Eleanor Bertagni ~
Barbara Nilson ~ Nancy Osborn ~ Terri Zura

ALLIED ARTS OF RENTON NEWSLETTER

Editor and Production: Andrea Meld
Reporters: Allied Arts of Renton Members and others

ALLIED ARTS OF RENTON MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 151 / Renton, WA 98057-0151
alliedartsofrenton.org Follow us on Facebook!

*The Allied Arts year runs from **June 1, 2022, to May 31, 2023.** The following have made contributions to Allied Arts of Renton for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2023. Thank you!*

PARTNERSHIP

City of Renton (Renton Municipal Arts Commission)
grant for kids contest and family concert

ACADEMY AWARD WINNERS \$500 +

Harry Blencoe in memory of Janet Blencoe

ARTIST EXTRAORDINAIRE \$150+

Norm & Carol Abrahamson
Allan & Merry Avery
Jim & Char Baker
Steve & Avanti Bergquest
Bob Bliesner
Deloris Dewing
Shari Fisher
Gary Miller & Sharon Feucht
Gary and Barbara Glasscock
Sally Rochelle
Cheryl Scheuermann
Janice Tanner
Pam Teal
Patricia E Tucker-Dolan

SUPER STARS \$100 TO \$149

Anonymous
Leslie Aungst
Betty Childers & Steve Denison
Calandra Childers (in honor of Betty Childers)

Diana Hagen
John & Linda Middlebrooks
Joan Moffatt
Barbara Nilson
Ron & Kris Nolton
Gary & Marcie Palmer
Ray & Judi Schafer
Basil Simpson (in memory of Ellie Simpson)
Kenneth Williams

STAR PERFORMERS \$50 TO \$99

Dr. Frank Brozovich,
Helga & Fredy Jacques,
Steve Lavender & Maryann Di Pasquale
Roberta Logue,
Barbara MacGregor
Michael & Valerie O'Halloran
Bill & Zoa Shumway
Richard Williamson

ARTS DEVOTEE \$25 to \$49

Greg & Carrie Bergquest
Donna Chevallier
Bill Collins
Sylva Coppock
Barbara Downs
Julie Horan
Ray & Julie Johnson
Howie Perryman & June Hewitt
Lyn McKay
Nancy Osborn
Dee Teodoro

BUDDING ARTIST up to \$24

Nancy Clow
Gayle Collins
Rich & Jo Ann Foster
Beth Greggs
Peggy Hansen
Linda Harris
Kay Nairn
Roger & Rosemary Richert
Theresa Zimmerman

Business

ARTIST EXTRAORDINAIRE \$150 +
Red Door Music Studio (Mary Kaye Owen)
St. Charles Place Antiques

Arts in Action in Renton

A Spellbinding Concert by the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra!

By *Deloris Dewing*

We of Allied Arts were happy last October 23rd as we again hosted the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra at the IKEA Performing Arts Center's theater, with conductor Adam Stern at the helm.

The Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra never disappoints. Each performance is fresh, musically satisfying and professionally done. Maestro, Adam Stern is an enthusiastic, talented conductor who is a joy to watch as he leads the musicians.

Last year's program was an homage to Halloween with music chosen to highlight the season. Bertini's "Werewolf," Herrmann's "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," Offenbach's "Overture, Orpheus in the Underworld," etc. The audience seemed to be spellbound.

The Orchestra, composed of musicians who are all volunteers, gave us the gift of their experience for our enjoyment and theirs.

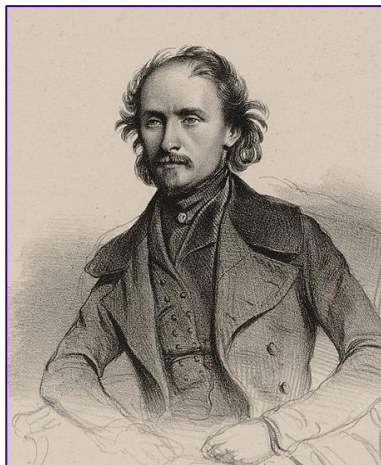
Watch for our **Fall 2023 Newsletter** where you will find information on this year's concert!

~ Deloris Dewing is a contributor to the Allied Arts of Renton.



Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra
Adam Stern, Musical Director
For Love of Music Since 1944

<https://seattlephil.org>



French Composer
Henri Bertini
(1798 – 1876)
[Wiki Commons](#)

Coloring for Fun!

Join us for a creative self-care hour by coloring in pre-printed coloring books! Coloring has been linked to reducing anxiety and depression, improved meditation, better sleep, improved motor skills, mindfulness, and better brain function. All materials & supplies will be provided & yours to keep. No experience required. Join us 2 times a month & create something as beautiful as you are!

The class description is located at this link, pages 26-27. [Let's Go Renton! Recreation Guide May-August 2023](#)

Renton Municipal Arts Commission

City of Renton Calls for Proposals to Update Arts and Culture Master Plan: Help Shape the Future of Renton's Cultural Landscape

By Jessie Kotarski

The City of Renton is looking for proposals from experienced firms in arts and cultural policy, master planning, and technical support to update the 2010 Arts and Culture Master Plan. This is an incredible opportunity for our community to shape the future of arts and culture in Renton!

The current master plan was created in 2010, and since then, Renton has changed and grown in so many ways. Updating the master plan will ensure that the City's strategies relating to art align with the current state of our community and meet the needs and desires of our constituents. The updated master plan will provide a roadmap for the future of arts and culture in Renton, and the City wants to ensure that the updated master plan reflects the diversity and vibrancy of Renton and its residents.

We are looking for a team that is passionate about arts and culture and can provide strategic advice and technical services in arts and cultural planning. The proposals will be evaluated based on personnel experience, technical approach, familiarity with Renton, work plan and schedule, capacity to perform within budget, and project budget.

The request for proposals was announced on **March 28**. The deadline to submit a proposal was **April 27, 2023**, with an anticipated contract to be awarded in mid-May. The selected team will begin working immediately, with all work completed by or before **November 30, 2023**.

The updated master plan will help us bring exciting and engaging cultural experiences to Renton. We're thrilled about this opportunity and can't wait to see the creative proposals that come in. This is a chance for the Renton community to help shape the future of arts and culture in our city.

Stay tuned for more updates on this exciting project!

Would you like to learn more about the Arts & Culture Master Plan project? The Request for Proposals (RFP) is available online at rentonwa.gov/bids, through **April 27**, or a copy can be requested by sending an email to arts@rentonwa.gov.

*Jessie Kotarski is the Economic Development Manager for the City of Renton.
She can be reached at jkotarski@rentonwa.gov or arts@rentonwa.gov.*

A Winning Design for the Renton Utility Box Project!

The City of Renton Municipal Arts Commission is excited to announce the selection of six talented local artists for the Utility Art Box Project. The project aims to transform dull utility boxes into visually appealing works of art that reflect the culture, history, and landscape of Renton.

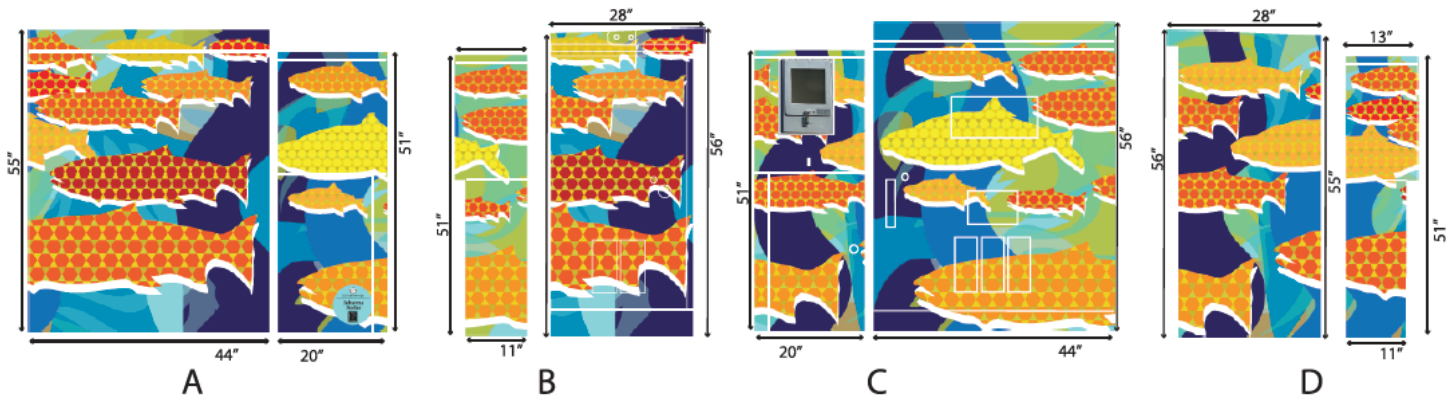
The City received an overwhelming response to the Request for Proposal, with 50 artists submitting their proposals. After careful consideration, the selection committee chose six exceptional artists whose designs stood out from the rest.

Hats Off! to Marsha Rollinger, Tommy Segundo, Amy Ferron, Johanna Porter, Emily Mozzone, and Rhodora Jacob, the six artists selected to bring their unique perspectives to the project. The Renton Municipal Arts Commission believes that the artists' unique perspectives and creativity will add value to the public right of way.

The locations of the six utility boxes are NE 4th Street & Duvall Ave NE, Rainier Ave & Grady Way, Rainier Ave & S 4th Pl, Rainier Ave & S 7th St, and SE 128th & 156th Ave SE. The artists' designs will be transformed into vinyl graphics wraps that will be applied to the boxes later this year.

The City of Renton Municipal Arts Commission is thrilled to be able to provide a platform for local artists to showcase their talent while enhancing the visual appeal of public spaces in Renton. We look forward to seeing the transformation of the utility boxes and the positive impact they will have on the community.

Here is a sneak preview of the winning design for the utility box at NE4th and Duvall Ave NE:



Washington State Arts Commission Grants for Arts Organizations

Now open: FY24-25 General Operating Support: Sustaining (for large groups) Grant offers 2-year funding to support organizations that provide creative experiences for Washingtonians. **Apply by May 23.**

Now open: Art Service Organization Support grant provides operating support to non-profit arts organizations that support arts professionals. **Apply by May 23.**

For more information: email: info@arts.wa.gov webpage: <https://www.arts.wa.gov/grants/>

Allied Arts of Renton News

Networking with Key to Change

By Leslie Aungst

Last January, AAR Board members had a wonderful afternoon networking with Dr. Quinton Morris of **Key to Change**. The Renton Non-profit's Mission is "Inspiring underserved youth through world-class music instruction and supporting their development as self-aware leaders."

We look forward to partnering with **Key to Change** to celebrate young artists in our community. At their **Spring Salon Fundraiser, May 7th, 2023**, we will award several scholarships to their music students to further their lessons and assist in instrument rental costs.

As the **Key to Change** Sponsorship declares "the vehicle for the opportunity to nurture and develop these young people happens to be musical training in an accessible, inclusive environment committed to rigor and infused with joy."

We are honored to contribute.

*Lesley Aungst is a Member of the Board
for the Allied Arts of Renton*



**Welcome Aboard, New Board Members
Betty Childers and Andrea Meld!**

*We are actively seeking new members to help
support local art and artists. Don't be shy!*

A true masterpiece does not tell everything. ~ Albert Camus

You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have. ~ Maya Angelou

A painter paints pictures on canvas. But musicians paint their pictures on silence ~ Leopold Stokowski

Artists are just children who refuse to put down their crayons. ~ Al Hirschfeld

I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way. ~ Georgia O'Keefe

Spotlight on New Board Members

By Board Member Julie Horan

Lunch with Andrea

Linda Middlebrooks and I recently enjoyed lunch with Andrea Meld and her husband Marco. It was a special meal in so many ways. The location was the cafeteria of Renton Technical School. The meal was prepared by students in the culinary arts classes. Our meals were delicious! We were there to meet Andrea Meld, a prospective member of Allied Arts at the time.

The extra special thing was that we were sitting surrounded on all sides by beautifully executed acrylic paintings in vivid colors. There was also a large screen with a picture show. The most special thing of all? It was all Andrea's work - all her display. The exhibit, entitled "The Northwest Corner," was there for visitors to enjoy for several months and we got to enjoy it in the company of the artist!

Andrea grew up in the Pacific Northwest, where she enjoyed hiking, sailing, gardening, music, and art. She earned a doctorate in education from the University of Washington in 1985. She was active professionally in educational measurement and research.

After retiring in 2018 from the Kent School District, she began painting with acrylics and mixed media, and took many classes in various media and using different techniques. You will find much more about Andrea on her website <http://www.andreameld.com>. You can enjoy perusing her paintings, find out about upcoming exhibits, and even read an entertaining blog.

Andrea has become a member of Allied Arts of Renton. In fact, she is editor of the newsletter you are now reading.

Getting to Know Betty Childers



I met Betty for coffee and spent a delightful couple of hours getting to know her. Afterwards we drove to her home for a visit to her cozy studio and a look at some of her portraits. A handsome penciled Burt Reynolds gazed up from her desk. Other celebrities in charcoal stood in a nearby file. Betty Childers taught special education classes for eleven years in Los Angeles. She was also a reading specialist, which was her favorite teaching assignment. Students responded to her ability to make reading fun as she brought their reading skills up to grade level.

Later, as a volunteer mentor in Communities in Schools, she helped students develop better social skills. By playing games, especially card games, students learned to respond to each other in positive ways. An organization dear to Betty's heart is **Key for Change**. This organization was founded by a local world class violinist, Quinton Morris, whose mission is to "bring quality music instruction to the underserved." In addition to technical skills students learn the transferrable skills of discipline, welcoming others, and cooperating in small and large groups. Recently

Betty assisted in the selection of scholarship recipients for this program which Allied Arts of Renton helps support.

Over the years, Betty became more and more interested and proficient in her own art through classes at community college and also by instruction from other gifted artists. She learned watercolor, and print making, and acrylic painting. She did metalwork in jewelry with silver and enjoyed it very much. More recently Betty has become interested in art history and portraiture. (In the photograph Betty is adding some finishing touches to a portrait of Jeff Bridges.) Betty would like to see "more public art and more opportunities to be creative, and more classes at community centers." She is excited about the possibility of an art studio opening in the Pavilion in downtown Renton.

Betty enjoys a good novel and is a self-described "movie buff". She and her husband Steve take adult education classes on various subjects in the TELOS program at Bellevue College and the OSHER program through UW. They enjoy friendships they have made there. Betty brings her desire to help other people, her enjoyment of learning and teaching, and her love of art to the Allied Arts of Renton organization. We are so happy to have her as a member.

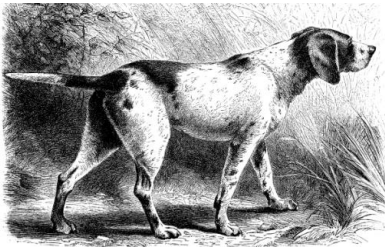
Arts Exchange ~ *New Column!*

Some Thoughts on Art Marketing

By *Andrea Meld*

Questions to help get started:

- ◆ What is the purpose or goal of your art marketing?
- ◆ What is your art marketing strategy or set of strategies?
- ◆ What are your assets and strengths?
- ◆ Which communities are you connected to?
- ◆ What are your limits in terms of time, effort, and expenses?
- ◆ What are you NOT willing to do, such as paying an entry or selection fee?
- ◆ Do you have a budget or timeline?
- ◆ What has worked for you in the past?
- ◆ Where has your art been shown and what made it fun or difficult?



Pointers and Suggestions

Have a folder, online or elsewhere where you keep your art story, profile, resume, and samples of your artwork. Update or modify as needed. Be ready to go if a call for artists, request for proposal (RFP), or request for qualifications (RFQ) shows up online or elsewhere.

Use only as many words as you need to convey your message to committee members or jurors. They will have lots of entries to sort through so you want yours to stand out and not require a lot of reading.

Describe your artwork as if you were designing a dinner menu. Don't promise what you can't deliver. Appeal to the reader's senses. Try for the unexpected rather than standard fare.

When you're exploring a new medium, makes lots of stuff without judgment. Later on, go back and select what you think are the best examples of your exploration.

Connect with local art and business communities. There are many opportunities posted online by city/town arts organizations and economic development agencies.

Apply for a WA state business license online -- you may qualify for small business grants and you might need this to set up a booth at farmers' markets or similar venues.

Andrea Meld is the new editor for the Allied Arts of Renton Newsletter. She grew up in the Pacific Northwest and started painting soon after retiring from a career in research and assessment. Andrea can be reached at andrea_meld@hotmail.com. She would LOVE to get your comments about the newsletter.

Musical Happenings in Renton – *Juneteenth!*

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION: MUSIC OF BLACK COMPOSERS AND PERFORMERS

Sunday, June 11th, 2 p.m., in the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, the Renton City Concert Band (RCCB) will present their Summer Concert. The theme of the concert is a **Juneteenth Celebration**, with all music either written by Black composers or made famous by Black performers. The composers are almost all young composers, making their mark on the band world.

Our community band will perform new music from Brittany J. Green, Katahji Kopley, Kevin Day, and Ayatey Shabazz. Mr. Shabazz's composition, "**Red Tails**", was written in honor of the famous **Tuskegee Airmen**, the Black WWII pilots and airmen that proved Black men could be elite fighter pilots.

The RCCB will also perform a special arrangement of W.C. Handy's "**St. Louis Blues**." This arrangement is a transcription of the one that James Reece Europe, a member of **Harlem Hellfighters**, active during WWI and WWII, wrote and performed throughout Europe. It is generally considered the composition that first brought Jazz to Europe. The RCCB is also happy to present the legendary music of **Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, and Stevie Wonder**.

Tickets for this amazing event will be available in June by contacting the Renton Community Center or the Renton Senior Center, and also at the door on the day of the concert.

General admission, \$10, Students and Seniors, \$7.

Arts Matchmaker – *New!*

Are you a restaurant or small business who would like to display art by local artists? Or have a small ensemble play in the background of your place?

Are you an artist, musician, or other performing artist who would like to share your talents?

We are hoping to help make connections ~ If you have any ideas or suggestions along these lines, please contact the newsletter editor, Andrea Meld, at andrea_meld@hotmail.com.

We encourage free exchanges but you are welcome to work out your own arrangements.

Suggestions for restaurants/small businesses:

- ◆ Choose a theme that matches your menu, product, or location.
- ◆ Artwork could show the history of your street, such as how it used to look, for example, or a landscape or abstract that would appeal to your customers.
- ◆ Select a color scheme that harmonizes with the décor of your venue.
- ◆ Music could match your venue, such as mandolins or accordion for an Italian restaurant.

Suggestions for artists and performers:

- ◆ Use bright colors and tunes, but avoid harsh or garish tones.
- ◆ Figure out a good match for your art or music and the venue. For example, a seafood restaurant might like seascapes or paintings of fish. A pub might enjoy Celtic music, and so on.
- ◆ Research the location(s) where you would like to display your art or play your music.

Allied Arts Scrapbook Page



I WANT TO JOIN ALLIED ARTS TO SUPPORT THE ARTS IN RENTON

Please clip and make check payable to Allied Arts of Renton, Inc.
Send form to P.O. Box 151, Renton, WA 98057-0151

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ E-MAIL _____

Please include email to receive the next newsletter

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Membership dues are tax deductible and help us produce newsletters, brochures, pay for postage, etc. Membership entitles you to vote on any changes to the Allied Arts Bylaws, attend the Annual Meeting held in May and be assured of receiving our twice a year newsletter.

- STUDENT/SENIOR MEMBERSHIP \$ 5.00
- ADULT MEMBERSHIP \$ 8.00
- COUPLE MEMBERSHIP \$15.00
- BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP \$25.00

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

- ACADEMY AWARD WINNERS \$500.00 and up
- ARTIST EXTRAORDINAIRE \$150.00 to \$500
- SUPERSTARS \$100.00 to \$149.00
- STAR PERFORMER \$50.00-\$99.00
- ARTS DEVOTEE \$25.00-\$49.00
- BUDDING ARTIST \$5.00-\$24.00

Allied Arts of Renton

MEMBERSHIP \$ _____

GIFT DONATION \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Thank You!



RENTON REGIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Donations can be made online to Allied Arts through the Renton Regional Community Foundation at www.rentonfoundation.org (select Allied Arts Fund) or through Allied Arts at www.alliedartsofrenton.org



Rich Sweeney
425-235-1776
Cellular 206-794-0412

the Renton Printery
INCORPORATED

Your Helpful, Best Value Printer!

Fax 425-271-9148 rich@rentonprintery.com
315 South Third Street • Renton, WA 98057-2028

A special thank you goes out to the Renton Printery for printing this newsletter at a reduced rate. Community partnerships are a wonderful thing!

ALLIED ARTS MEETINGS

Held the fourth Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. There are no meetings in July or December. Locations TBA call **206-772-4010**

Allied Arts Mailing Address
P.O. Box 151
Renton, WA 98057-0151



Thank you, Allied Arts, for your most recent \$1,000 donation to the school foundation. You are a great partner in supporting students and teachers. We look forward to connecting this donation to future art or music projects!

To learn more about the Renton Schools Foundation visit www.rentonschoolsfoundation.org



RENTON CIVIC THEATRE

507 S. 3rd Street in Renton
Information: 425-226-529

boxoffice@rentoncivictheatre.org



Allied Arts of Renton

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

WANT TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

After recovering from a pandemic and striving for stability, the arts are more critical than ever to bring meaning, joy, growth, and fulfillment to humankind. The Allied Arts of Renton organization was founded over 50 years ago, and has evolved over the decades to continue to bring events to the community and support our artists, be it new and upcoming or established. We are always looking for new ways to continue to foster the arts, and **welcome new people to join our Board of Directors**—bring your ideas, bring your helping hands and new thoughts, and make a difference for the arts in Renton. We mean **YOU!** Or do you know of anyone else? **We welcome volunteers of all ages/experience to bring Allied Arts into the next 50 years.**

If you are interested, or know of anyone else, please contact Linda Middlebrooks at jmidbk@aol.com or call **206-772-4010**.

It takes volunteers, and we are looking to you to help keep Allied Arts alive and meaningful for the arts in Renton

Allied Arts is an all volunteer non-profit organization where every cent received in donations goes directly into arts-oriented programs. By seeking grants and partnerships, and using our own in-kind talents, we have helped keep the arts alive and well in Renton. Our organization supports visual arts, vocal and instrumental music, performing arts, as well as the literary arts. Your generous donations help us greatly in this endeavor.