



# Allied Arts of Renton



## Allied Arts Presidents' Letter

By Co-Presidents Linda Middlebrooks and Deloris Dewing

During these difficult times, we are striving to be as "normal" as possible. Of course, little about the year 2020 has been normal. But there is new hope in the air as we head for a new year! This will not happen overnight and there are things that have permanently changed. However, what will not change is the commitment we Allied Arts of Renton board members have to our community, its people and the arts.

We hope you will enjoy reading about our Creative Kids Contest with a theme meant to get kids in our area thinking about how Covid19 has affected their own lives. This may become a regular part of our mission to keep kids inspired to be involved with the arts. Also, read the

article about our newest downtown mural which is getting a lot of attention. We hope that this next year will enable us to again sponsor the creative events that we enjoyed in past years.

Again, thank you for your support as AAR supports the Arts in our Community. Remember that we always invite your feedback. Please send suggestions and other comments to AAR, P.O. Box 151, Renton, WA 98057. ♦



PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS when you send in your membership. Of course, we will also send paper copies via snail mail to those who prefer.

## Newest Renton Mural with a Whimsical Story

by Leslie Aungst

Downtown Renton's newest Mural is on full display on the east side of the Renton Printery! Montana artist Gabriella Lewis created the piece with hidden features that you will have fun searching for. (Hint, one is a bear.) The design is her whimsical take on Renton's historical tale of

farmer Erasmus Smithers allowing the railroad use of his property, provided a tunnel was 'four cows wide' to move his cows through to another pasture. The artwork will delight us for years to come! ♦



# In Remembrance

## CONTRIBUTORS: THANK YOU!

*The Allied Arts fiscal year is June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021. The following have made contributions to Allied Arts of Renton for this past fiscal year.*

### ACADEMY AWARD WINNER \$500

Rich Wagner for Andee Jorgensen RAAS scholarship award

### ARTIST EXTRAORDINAIRE \$150+

Jim & Char Baker; Rolland & Deloris Dewing; Shari Fisher; Gary & Barbara Glasscock; David & Melody Kroeger; John & Linda Middlebrooks; Jerry & Cheryl Scheuermann

### SUPER STARS \$100 TO \$149

Harry & Janet Blencoe; Bob Bliesner; Elizabeth Stewart; Sonja Kyes; Fay Moss; Gene & Huong Sens; Janice Tanner; Pam Teal; Patricia E Tucker-Dolan; Kenneth Williams; Ray and Judi Schafer

### STAR PERFORMERS \$50 TO \$99

Leslie Aungst; Patricia Auten; Maryann Di Pasquale & Steve Lavender; Marilyn Edlund; Roberta Logue; Naomi Mathisen; Gary Miller & Sharon Feucht; Ron & Kris Nolton; Michael & Valerie O'Halloran; Lee & Merna Wheeler; Richard Williamson

### ARTS DEVOTEES \$25 TO \$49

Eleanor Bertagni; Donna Chevallier; Betty Childers & Steve Denison; Gene & Judy Craig; Jerri Everett; Helga Jacques; Ray & Julie Johnson; Barbara MacGregor

### BUDDING ARTIST up to \$24

Nancy Clow; Sylva Coppock; Rich & Jo Ann Foster; Patricia Gouge; Linda Harris; Hisako Leatherma; Joan Moffatt; Meg Morgan; Barbara Nilson  
Howie Perryman & June Hewitt; Roger & Rosemary Richert; Pat Roland; Susan Schmidt; Theresa Zimmerman

## BUSINESS

### Artist Extraordinaire \$150+

McCorkle & Associates

### Super Stars \$100 to \$149

Arts Tech Center; Red Door Music Studio (Mary Kaye Owen)

### STAR PERFORMER \$50 TO \$99

St. Charles Place Antiques

## SUE TIERNEY MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Jim & Char Baker

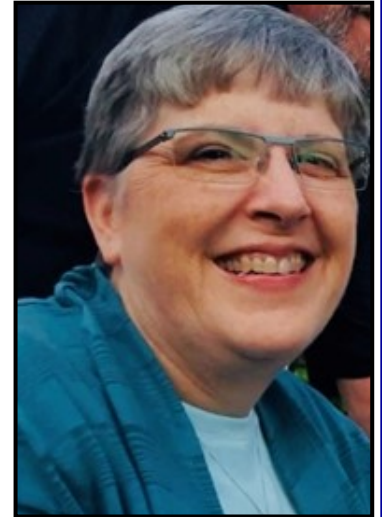
Roberta Logue

John & Linda Middlebrooks

Kazuki Sawanoi

## AAR Board Member, Sue Tierney

We AAR board members are sad to tell you that Sue Tierney, our IT technology wizard board member passed away September 17, 2020. Sue fought a good battle against ovarian cancer but was taken from us at too young of an age. Sue was a multi-talented woman and an excellent clarinet player. She was involved in several musical groups including Renton City Concert Band where she was concert master and band manager, Midsummer Musical Retreat



where she played and was also treasurer, and smaller quartet groups. Agility dog trials were another passion that over the years earned Sue and her dogs (all with musical names) many awards. Sue's artistic talent showed in the professional scrapbooks and greeting cards she created. Sue retired in May and had many plans that she wanted the opportunity to complete. We all miss her. ♦

## CURRENT OFFICERS

Co-presidents: Deloris Dewing and Linda Middlebrooks  
Secretary: Pat Tucker-Dolan      Treasurer: Shari Fisher

## BOARD MEMBERS

Jaris English ~ Melody Kroeger ~ Sonja Kyes ~ Cira Reymann ~  
Janice Tanner ~ Leslie Aungst

## HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

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

## ALLIED ARTS OF RENTON NEWSLETTER

Editor: Jaris English

Production: Lynda Barger

Reporters: Allied Arts of Renton Members and other contributors as named.

## ALLIED ARTS OF RENTON MAILING ADDRESS

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

Website: [www.alliedartsofrenton.org](http://www.alliedartsofrenton.org)

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# Spotlight on Local Artists

## Art in My Life

*By Francie Mullins*

I was born in the Hazelwood area of Renton and graduated from Renton High School. After my husband and I were away at college and after teaching school for three years in Yakima, we returned to Renton to raise our children here. We both retired after teaching elementary school for thirty years. I incorporated my degree in Art Education into my teaching. It was a way to find time for art in my daily life.

My earliest experiences with art was in observation of colors, shapes and textures in nature. I paid attention to ferns, fronds, pinecones, and snail shells. I learned to spot details and was determined to teach children to do the same. Children inspire me. They are so creative when given the chance! In my classrooms, we celebrated their unique differences without judgement.

Art makes me happy! Every year, we spend six months in Arizona. The bright winter skies and flowers there are inspiring. I now favor strong colors in both realistic and abstract works of art. Watercolor is my favorite medium because I can take it with me when we travel.

I like to make it unusual by adding other mediums like acrylic, chalk, oil pastels, or collage or with unusual color schemes. As arthritis started taking a toll on my hands, I began working with glass mosaics, clay pots, hand-woven baskets, and thread weavings with beads. I just completed a paper weaving of a cactus. I have been looking at the painting, "Lady in Gold" by Shistav Klimt with gold flakes in the gown. I am trying to figure out how to

combine paint with colored glass and mirror pieces - such as glass windows in a building or glass spray in a waterfall.

I only exhibit at the Renton Annual Art Show and at two major shows in Arizona. My style is varied to the point that the last seven entries in the art show in

Renton that were so varied that they were not recognized as by the same artist. I am immensely proud of the Renton art show. It is a beautiful show and a credit to Renton. I worked with the show for twenty years before I got brave enough to enter as an artist. I have been able to sell several of my entries and have won awards, including last year's RAAS Purchase Prize. We are leaving for our six months in Arizona soon. Our goal is to stay healthy and wait out the pandemic. We will be spending a lot of time outside and doing art both alone and with others. ♦



# Creative Kids Contest 2020

## Creative Kids Contest Inspires Talented Local Youth

*By Jaris English*

Along with the rest of the world this year, the pandemic stopped Allied Arts from pursuing our usual activities - no Annual Art Contest - no Fall Family Concert with the Seattle Philharmonic - no book signings or any gatherings to promote and foster creative culture in Renton.

We knew how frightening life must be for young people in our community who are isolated from friends and extended family - with no sports or social activities providing emotional and physical energy outlets. Therefore, we developed the Creative Kids Contest to inspire these kids to use their talents for sharing their stories and feelings in a safe way that would even give them a chance to win cash awards. The Renton Municipal Arts Commission issued a grant to make this program possible.

The contest consisted of three categories - Visual Arts (including drawings, paintings, and photography), Poetry and Creative Essays. First, Second and Third Place cash prizes were awarded for each category and several Honorable Mention McDonald Gift cards were sent along with a frameable Achievement Certificate. There was no exposure to Covid19 during the process because all entries were sent by email, and a team of judges reviewed them online from their homes. Awards were then sent by mail. The entries showed us the amazing creative talent among young people in our community which made the judging exceedingly difficult. A huge thanks to everyone who participated in the process and we hope to make this a yearly event. We are planning to share the entries through social media and online as well as in a public display when that becomes possible. ♦

### POETRY First Place

**Lily Goodall - Age 16     Hazen High School**

Dear Corona,  
You canceled my Sweet 16.  
You canceled my sleepovers with friends.  
You took away the summer camp that was always the highlight of the season.  
You took away swimming in a public pool on a sweltering day.  
You took away the excitement of spending full days at the beach.  
You trapped me with my obnoxious family for six months and counting.  
You demolished my sleep schedule so that a full night of sleep seems outrageous.  
You forced me a foreign version of my school, where I can't focus or learn.  
You took away my motivation to accomplish the simplest tasks.  
You wrecked the healthy eating patterns that I know are so essential to my well-being.  
You introduced me to a new lonely when I someday barely have the energy to get out of bed.

You took advantage of our lack of preparedness and hit us relentlessly with everything you had.  
Worst of all,  
You killed 200,000 of us, but there are still 300 million of us.  
What you don't know Corona, is  
We are stronger than you.  
We are smarter than you.  
We will no longer be naïve and selfish.  
We will stay fervent so that others can stay alive.  
We long for normality but know that the lives of the innocent come first.  
We will put aside our petty inconveniences and political biases for the good of the nation.  
Above all else, we know that every person deserves a chance at a full and joy-filled life.  
We now know how to rid ourselves of you, and we're studying how to keep you from coming back.  
COVID-19, you have met your match.



# Creative Kids Contest 2020

## ESSAY First Place

**Cole Barger - Age 15**    **Liberty High School**

### QUARANTINE

In early March, there was talk of a quickly spreading virus, but among my generation it felt just to be a joke. We started hearing about how fast this thing was spreading but never felt like it was actually going to be OUR problem. Well, little did my friends and I know that in just a matter of weeks the whole world would be under quarantine with a global pandemic in our hands.

Even with news talk, then social media short behind with memes, and everybody talking about it, none of my friends seemed to take it seriously until schools started closing first for the month, and eventually for the year. It seemed so fast it was already local in Washington, the first place in America where someone tested positive. Then the virus spread so quick that we all went from just talking about it to watching our favorite restaurants and businesses being shut down or even going out of business. Me and my friends were thinking this was a blessing for all the hard work we had put into school and that we should all go party. Which we did ... stay up all night and hang out with each other.

About a week into our break, I was heading over to pick up one of my friends to go do rebellious teenage things, but then totally lost contact with him as we were stuck in traffic behind lots of cop cars and ambulances. We made our way out and ended up deciding he was not going make it that night. By the morning I was getting hundreds of calls from people asking if he was okay and was discombobulated from just waking up when I finally received a call from a friend's mom. She was in tears as she went through details about a car accident with that

friend I was supposed to meet the night before. He passed away after battling a coma for months. This was my reality check, it didn't take too long or too much for life to kick me in the rear without warning that this was going to be the beginning of a long and harsh reality of things that I won't have any control over. Hopefully, I can take these things away from now and learn to be a better person in my own individual way.

## VISUAL ARTS First Place

**Kiki Eidsmore Age 18**    **Hazen High Graduate**



# Creative Kids Contest 2020

## POETRY Second Place

Oriana Plumridge Age 14 Hazen High School

I am a whirlpool.

Of thunder. Of rain. Of tears.

Tears,  
Hot tears that stream down my face  
and leave wet marks through my foundation.  
Hot tears that make my mascara slash  
dark cuts into my cheeks.  
Or cold tears that send convulsions  
of fear, of pain, and of isolation

Rain,  
The white noise of rain  
that I use to block out the world.  
Drip.  
Drip.  
Dripping rain that I turn  
into the gliding motions of my shining black ink  
scratching on a blank page.  
The soft notes of warm rain that consume my mind,  
telling me,  
I'll be fine.

Thunder,  
Thunder that rumbles in my stomach  
making me feel suffocated.  
Like a dream  
where no one can hear your screams.  
Thunder that once unleashed  
sends cold shudders through their brains,  
their bodies,  
and their homes,

As I make my whirlpool known.

## VISUAL ARTS Second Place

Madeline Perman Age 13 Risdon Middle School



## POETRY Third Place

Alicia Ing Age 18 UW (Renton HS Graduate)

### Yellow Chicken

Yellow. Oriental. Ching Chong. Ling Long. Chink.

Far too many times have I seen confirmation in your eyes  
when you ask

“What kind of Asian are you?”

and I say, “I’m Chinese.”

What you don’t see is the voice I repress

the suffocating idea I want so badly to express

that it’s not all I am

Regardless of the boxes you tell me to check or the boxes you  
tell me to fit in

I can be Vietnamese without being an Nguyen.

My knowledge, my accomplishments, all overshadowed by  
my race

The only reason I’m 4.0 is the color of my face

I am not your dictionary. I am not your calculator.

The only thing that adds up is your inability to see more than  
what meets the eye

Even with my almond shaped eyes, I can see how blind you  
are to who I am inside

When the stories society spins are rooted in stereotypes as old  
as archives

it renews the paint stroke of whitewash on the canvas of our  
lives

Privilege is what I will always lack, because POC doesn’t just  
mean Black

With being a minority, I’m no novice, I know to find racism,  
I’ll visit the oval office

Stripped of respect, I am a knight with no shield, no power to  
wield

If all I am good for is overachieving, the reason I’m extra is to  
level the playing field

## POETRY Honorable Mentions

Bruck Daniel - Age 12

Diana Santos - Age 18

Nolan Saltonstall - Age 14

Traveah Alford - Age 14

# Creative Kids Contest 2020

## ESSAY Second Place

Catherine Cruz Gomez Age 12

### HOW THE CORONAVIRUS AND THE QUARANTINE AFFECT ME

The quarantine affected me emotionally but it also showed me a life lesson. The Coronavirus has affected me because my grandpa died, and I never got to see him and my family was worried for each other because none of us want to get coronavirus and my aunt works in the medical field and she was also worried that she would get covid19. If you just take health precautions you can save many lives and your family. The quarantine has affected me because from one moment I was in school and now am doing online class it also affects me because I stopped seeing my loved ones and friends and we just had to stay in the house BORED. Thanks to quarantine now I know more about technology and with all virtual meetings or classes. And I think that the quarantine helped more families to have a better communication with each other because before everyone was at work and they just see each other at diner and do not talk a lot with their family, now everyone is at home and they can know even more their family members and they can communicate with each other and say more than... how is their day is going, let us take advantage of this situation, to unite our families more and practice the values of empathy and solidarity with those around us.

## VISUAL ARTS Third Place

Tessa Lam Age 17 Hazen High School



## ESSAY Third Place

Bill Young Age 15  
Formerly, Renton Christian School

A carton of Granny Smith apples and a lock of marigolds. I stared down at my front porch in confusion at what sat there. As I read the accompanying note, I learned that my neighbor, an elderly lady, had left them as a gift for my family. Bewildered, I wondered why she would give such a lovely gift to someone who had, aside from the occasional hellos, barely interacted with her. Deciding to thank her, I gave her a call and as we talked, I discovered to my surprise that all my fellow neighbors had received her gifts as well. After the call, I felt my heart warm. I headed to my family's tomato patch excitedly, knowing exactly how to pass on this generosity. Later, I shared the story on my neighborhood app, Nextdoor. The next day, to my utter shock and delight, I found half a dozen eggs on my front porch.

Despite how difficult this pandemic has been, it has brought my neighborhood together in a way I have never seen before. My experiences with compassion and generosity have literally hit closer to home. Instead of simply sharing a fence, my neighbors and I now share an invested commitment to our community. My experiences during this pandemic have shown me a neighborhood where neighbors surprise each other with thoughtful gifts, where a teenage boy and elderly lady can bond over apples and flowers, where a simple online post can produce such heartfelt generosity. A community. A makeshift family.

## ESSAY Honorable Mentions

Mykah Westgaard Age 12

Alicia Ing, Age 18

Dave Young Age 13







# Creative Kids Contest 2020

## Visual Arts Honorable Mentions

**Jalisha Matthews Age 14**



**Madison O'Neal Age 14**



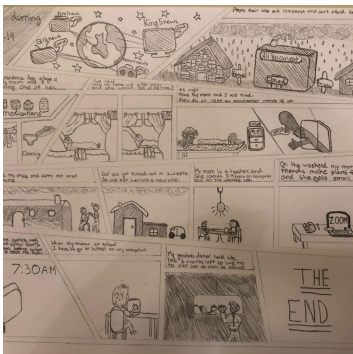
**Amelia Ossorio Age 17**



**Patrick Ossorio Age 13**



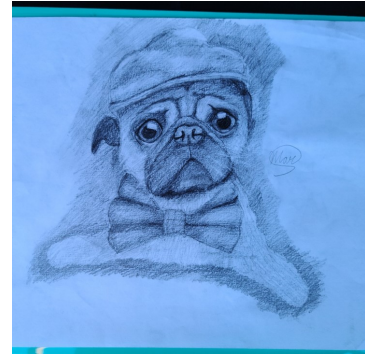
**Preston Pang - Age 13**



**Aria Scherer Age 13**



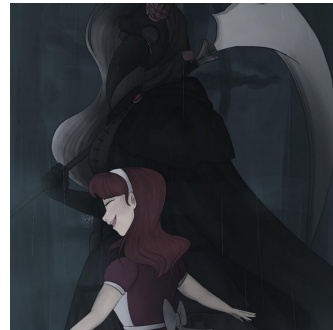
**Margarita Sergienko Age 13**



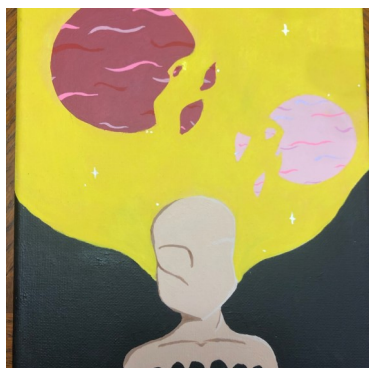
**Jasmine Suarez Age 16**



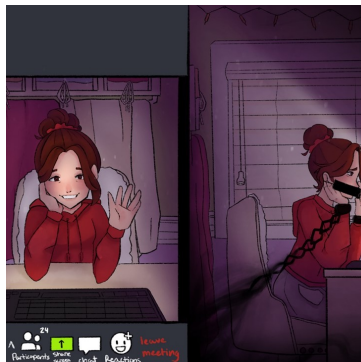
**Whitney Thai Age 17**



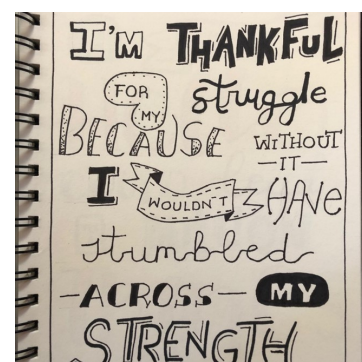
**Kaylyn Updyke Age 13**



**Makayla Visick Age 16**



**Taylor Wong Age 17**



# Art in Action in Renton

## Black Lives Matter Art Walk

*By Jessie Kotarski*

In June, local activist and mother of four, Francesca Vargas Smith, approached the Renton Municipal Arts Commission with an idea to bring forth artists and raise awareness of social inequities that black and underprivileged communities face every day. By leaning on the powerful, universal language of art, Francesca's goal was to move hearts and change minds to correct imbalances affecting marginalized individuals and populations



The Black Lives Matter Art Walk launched in downtown Renton on September 12 and can be enjoyed virtually through the Visit Renton app, or in-person as you walk around downtown to view the art and videos in storefront windows. The app is available for free download from the App Store or Google Play. For more information about the app checkout [visitrentonwa.com/visitrentonapp](https://visitrentonwa.com/visitrentonapp). The tour will remain on the app through the end of the year for viewing.

Free BLM embroidery kits are available (while supplies last) for pick up at Wildwood Creative to add to the Walk experience. Finished embroidery pieces can be returned and will be sewn together to create a community tapestry to weave together the powerful voices of those who stand together in support of the fight for Freedom, Liberation and Justice. ♦



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## Arts Alive for Youth Scholarship Program Applications Now Available

*By Char Baker*

In 2013, to honor the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Allied Arts, a new **Arts Alive for Youth Scholarship** program was established for talented young artists. Since then AAR has awarded scholarships to a variety of young artists to help pay for such things as piano lessons for an up and coming young pianist, helped purchase an oboe for an aspiring musician, helped purchase a trumpet for another young musician who wanted to be a part of her high school marching band, provided a scholarship to help a young artist attend a summer school music camp for artists and many others.

Allied Arts looks forward to awarding more scholarships in March of 2021 to students who live within the boundaries of the Greater Renton Area, or have a Renton address and are between the ages of

12-19. The purpose of the scholarships is to encourage and help talented young students further their training in their artistic field. The categories under which a student may apply are all areas of visual or performing arts. The scholarships range from \$250 to \$500 with a total of \$1,000 to be awarded in the spring of 2021.

A completed application (including financial information and public relations release), and all attachments must be received no later than **5PM, Wednesday March 01, 2021.**

Complete information on how to apply for a scholarship and to download the application are located on AAR's website at [www.alliedartsofrenton.org](http://www.alliedartsofrenton.org). For more information call 206-772-4010 ♦



## 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](http://www.rentonfoundation.org)  
(select Allied Arts Fund)  
or through Allied Arts at  
[www.alliedartsofrenton.org](http://www.alliedartsofrenton.org)



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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 vary—  
call **206-772-4010**

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

Website is  
[www.alliedartsofrenton.org](http://www.alliedartsofrenton.org)

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### Seattle Virtual Film Summit

This November .The Seattle Film Summit was a virtual event due to the pandemic. Allied Arts donated a \$500 grant which would allow funding for low income participants (or those negatively affected by COVID -19) to attend through a scholarship.

The Seattle Film Summit empowers and inspires content generators to discover and develop innovative methods of storytelling, funding, and distribution towards the ultimate goal of creating a robust native media production industry that provides well-paying, stable jobs for Washington residents.



### RENTON CIVIC THEATRE

507 S. 3rd Street in Renton

Information:

425-226-5529

[boxoffice@rentoncivictheatre.org](mailto:boxoffice@rentoncivictheatre.org)



*Allied Arts of Renton*

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

## Message from Renton Mayor, Armando Pavone

"I firmly believe a city is not whole without a strong, vibrant arts community and we're extremely fortunate in Renton to have such a community. This is a direct result of the dedicated work by members of the Renton Municipal Art Commission and Allied Arts of Renton. Even during the current pandemic, art in Renton has continued to evolve with several new projects that have had a key role in keeping our community connected. Walk almost anywhere in Renton and you will see statues, murals, sculptures and, of course, our fire hydrants. These pieces are unique, tell Renton's story, bring joy to your day and make our city special."



### About Allied Arts of 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.*