



## BAINBRIDGE ISLAND ARTS & HUMANITIES COUNCIL Island Treasure Awards

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### **ARTS & HUMANITIES COUNCIL NAMES CYNTHIA HARRISON AND JOHNPAUL JONES RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 ISLAND TREASURE AWARDS**

The Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities Council is pleased to announce that retired Bainbridge Island head librarian Cynthia Harrison and nationally renowned architect Johnpaul Jones have been named recipients of the **2013 Island Treasure Awards**.

Barbara Sacerdote, Executive Director, Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities Council Executive Director, said, "It is such an honor to recognize and thank Cynthia and Johnpaul. There isn't a single person on Bainbridge Island who does not benefit from their vision and generosity towards our community."

#### **About Cynthia Harrison**

Cindy Harrison may be best known as our beloved head librarian, a post that she held from 1991-2007, but that does not begin to describe the many ways she has nurtured our community. It was Cindy's unique vision for our library that firmly made it the heart of the community. She pioneered many new programs at the library during her tenure, including a private teen enclave in the library, the establishment of the "Friday Tidies" under the wing of Ann Lovejoy, the Library Speaker Series, and the creation of Field's End. In 2006, Cindy was recognized with the New York Times Librarian Award, clearly putting her in a unique position as described in the New York Times:

*The world now knows what  
Bainbridge Library  
Board, Staff, Patrons  
Volunteers, and the  
Bainbridge Community  
have known for years*

*Cindy Harrison  
is the  
Best of the Best*

In addition to her work with the library, she has been a member of the Bainbridge Choral, has served on the board of Helpline House, and has worked countless hours working on the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial. She still volunteers with the library, helping to organize the Living Library program and heads the archive committee.

Cindy's special gift has always been to find ways to stimulate thought and discussion. In her eighteen years as head librarian and manager, she has made the Island's library far more than a

repository for books—she has made it relevant to our lives. By expanding its reach through new technologies, special services, art exhibitions and vital programming, she has inspired untold numbers of Islanders to become more engaged with our community and to renew their commitment to both the arts and the humanities. In every respect, Cindy is the definition of an Island Treasure.

### **About Johnpaul Jones**

Johnpaul Jones is a Bainbridge Island Architect who has specialized in creating public places that help tell a story about the place. He credits his Native American heritage for helping to shape his design philosophy. His distinguished career includes the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington D.C. His work in advancing public consciousness of the Native American heritage earned him the AIA Seattle Medal in 2006. He also pioneered the movement to create more natural habitats for zoo animals in order to help educate the public about the animal and the natural world. His revolution in zoo design includes the gorilla exhibit and the elephant house at the Woodland Park zoo.

Johnpaul has lived on Bainbridge Island for over 43 years. He describes the Island as a beautiful place to live where you can hear birds, see animals, and get to know your neighbors. He designed the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Wall, which follows the exodus by the Nisei Islanders. He began the project as he begins all his projects, by listening to the stories of those who were part of the story. He used their stories to guide his design. Jones said, "I was trying to capture the emotion of lives that had been flowing along smoothly and were all of a sudden interrupted by exile, a shock that is represented by an abrupt break in the wall." The wall has added a valuable and meaningful asset to our community and tells an important story about the history of the Island. As one committee member stated, the BIJAEM would simply not have happened without Johnpaul Jones.

Johnpaul's latest contribution to Bainbridge Island is the design for the Waypoint. The park at the corner of Winslow Way and Highway 305 marks the culmination of the work by Islanders to have a welcoming place to greet visitors as they transition from the ferry to the downtown area.

There is no question that Johnpaul is a true Bainbridge Island Treasure, and one that we are fortunate to share with the rest of the country, if not the world.

A ceremony and reception to honor the recipients will be held at 5 p.m. February 23 at IslandWood. Tickets will be available in January and through the Arts & Humanities Council office. For more information about the award and recipients, view our [Island Treasure](#) page.

### **The Island Treasure Award Process**

Each year the Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities Council honors two Bainbridge Island residents who have made outstanding contributions in the arts and humanities in the community.

Conceived in 1999, the Island Treasure selection process is modeled on the MacArthur Genius Awards Program. Ten nominators chosen from a pool of community members representing a broad range of arts and humanities organizations on Bainbridge are each asked to anonymously nominate one or two outstanding candidates. Candidates' names and descriptions of accomplishments are then submitted to a five-member jury comprised of individuals drawn from every sector of the Bainbridge Island community, ensuring representation of a wide range of experience. The names of the two award recipients are then approved by the Arts & Humanities Council Board. Complete anonymity of nominators, jurors, and recipients is maintained throughout the process.

Each Island Treasure Award recipient receives an unrestricted \$4,000 cash award and an Island Treasure Candle Holder Trophy designed by Island artist Kent Van Slyke.

**Past Island Treasure Award winners include:**

2012: George Shannon and Michele Van Slyke  
2011: Ann Lovejoy and Sally Robison  
2010: Kathleen Alcalá and Frank Buxton  
2009: Alan Simcoe and Kathleen Thorne  
2008: Alice Mendoza and Kristin Tollefson  
2007: David Guterson and George & David Lewis  
2006: Gayle Bard and Barbara Helen Berger  
2005: Jenny Anderson and David C. Korten  
2004: Maggie Smith and Hidde Van Duym  
2003: Janice Shaw and Richard Stine  
2002: Kim & Ela Esterberg and Frank Kitamoto  
2001: Norma Edens and Bob McAllister  
2000: Jerry Elfendahl and Joel Sackett

**About the Arts & Humanities Council**

For more than a quarter century, the Arts & Humanities Council has nurtured Bainbridge Island's cultural community with programs, services, and collaborations that form the core of our mission: *to create an environment on Bainbridge Island in which the arts and humanities flourish.* We do this by supporting creative professionals, cultural organizations, and their audiences. Last year we provided powerful arts programming in the schools for 2,730 students; provided free and low-cost support and advocacy services to local artists and 22 cultural organizations; and awarded significant grants to outstanding members of the cultural community.

**Contact**

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