

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Date: April 19, 2010

Washington Recreation & Park Association Announces Annual Award Winners

The **Washington Recreation and Park Association (WRPA)** honors public agencies and individuals for outstanding and unique achievements during their annual conference and trade show, which was held this year in Tacoma, WA. Park and Recreation professionals, facilities, special programs and media materials from throughout Washington State were recognized during an awards ceremony on Thursday, April 15, 2010 at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center.

“The WRPA presents a series of annual awards for individuals and organizations who have been singled out for their commitment and contributions to the field of parks and recreation. These awards have become a coveted honor” stated Brit Kramer, WRPA Executive Director .

The annual conference hosted 300 park and recreation professionals from around the state and provided opportunities for professional and organizational development, training, learning, information sharing, and networking. The park and recreation conference featured a trade show and many educational sessions, roundtable discussions and special keynote speakers. Topics during the four-day event focused on Cultural Arts and Heritage, Nature and the Environment, Health and Wellness and Economic Development.

Award recipients are listed below.

The following is a listing of the 2010 WRPA Professional, Spotlight and Section Award Recipients:

PROFESSIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Honor Fellow

Jennifer Schroder, Kirkland Parks and Community Services

Distinguished Service

Jim Sheler, City of Lacey

Jerry Rerecich, City of Renton

Citation of Merit - Citizen

Peggy Doering, Spokane Valley Parks and Recreation

Charlotte Valbert, Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma

Citation of Merit - Legislative

Representative David Quall - 40th District

Citation of Merit - Organization

Parks Foundation of Clark County

Citation of Merit - Professional

Kathy Whitman, Seattle Parks and Recreation

Young Professional

Courtney Brown, Shoreline Parks and Recreation

Andrea Clay, Pierce County Parks and Recreation

SPOTLIGHT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Facilities and Parks

Best Park Design

City of Seattle Magnuson Park

Best Trail Project

City of Renton Springbrook Trail Boardwalk

Best Sports Complex

Thurston County / City of Lacey Regional Athletic Complex

Best Special Use Site

Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma Jefferson, McKinley and South Park Spraygrounds

Media Awards

Best Brochure

Ephrata Basin Summer Sounds Music Festival Poster
Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma Fall 2009 Event Calendar

Best Park or Trail Map

Vancouver Clark Parks and Recreation Discovery Guide

Program Awards

Events, Fairs & Festivals

City of Auburn ArtRageous: Artists in Action Art Fair

Youth & Adult Programs

City of Seattle Conservation Corps Park Upgrade Program

SECTION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Aquatic Section

Outstanding Professional

Kevin Johnston, University of Idaho

Outstanding Program

Adaptive Aquatics, Arne Hanna

Teen Service Section

Outstanding Professional

Kathy Owen, City of Lacey

Outstanding Program

Auburn Youth Council, City of Auburn

Athletic/Fitness Section

Outstanding Community Member

Miguel Galiana, Route 16 Running and Walking

Scholarship Award

Rick Bruya, City of Auburn

Program Services Section

Outstanding Professional

Courtney Brown, City of Shoreline

For more information, contact the Washington Recreation & Park Association at 360.459.9396, 888.459.0009 (toll free), e-mail: wrpa@wrpatoday.org or visit the Web site at www.wrpatoday.org.