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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BEAVERTON ARTS COMMISSION HOSTS 2013 ANNUAL ART AWARDS**

**BEAVERTON, Ore.** – The Beaverton Arts Commission (BAC) will present the 2013 Outstanding Achievement in the Arts Awards during the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Beaverton City Hall (4755 SW Griffith Dr.). Students will be recognized for their outstanding artistic achievements, while individuals, organizations, and businesses will be honored for their significant contributions to the arts.

“I am so thrilled with our roster of award and scholarship recipients this year,” said Mayor Denny Doyle. “The artistic dedication and talents of our community are truly awe-inspiring.”

Nominated by their peers and selected by the Board of Directors for the BAC, the individuals, organizations, and businesses represented will be honored for their important contributions to the arts locally and regionally.

Student honorees were recommended by their teachers, selected by an arts education panel and approved by the BAC Board of Directors. Ten students will receive \$1,000 scholarships sponsored by the Beaverton Arts & Culture Foundation and Southminster Presbyterian Church Celebration of Creativity. Five scholarships will go to the Outstanding High School Visual Art Students and five scholarships will go to the Outstanding Performing Art Students.

### **President’s Award: Funny Farm Early Learning Center**

Funny Farm Early Learning Center strongly incorporates the performing arts in their curriculum as instructors believe the performing arts develops preschoolers' language and cooperation skills as well as improves their ability to recall and reflect laying the early groundwork for innovation and creative thinking, contributing to a complete educational experience.

### **Volunteers of the Year: Music Workshop**

Music Workshop, conceived by Amy Richter, is a nonprofit, volunteer organization that provides an innovative, turnkey and free supplemental music program to public elementary schools in Beaverton and Portland.

**Outstanding Business of the Year: The Oregonian**

The Oregonian recently launched a new circular, the “Beaverton Leaders,” focused on Beaverton and has supported the BAC’s Beaverton Last Tuesday Concert Series, Annual Visual Arts Showcase, and Beaverton Ten Tiny Dances.

**Visual Arts in the Marketplace Award: Progress Ridge New Seasons**

Progress Ridge New Seasons created a new revolving art display in their deli café to increase the available opportunities for local artists to showcase their works and has also supported the BAC’s Annual Visual Arts Showcase and Progress Lake sculpture dedication.

**Performing Arts in the Marketplace Award: ISing Community Choir**

ISing presents free, high quality music offerings, incorporating a repertoire that is diverse, multi-lingual and multi-cultural. ISing gives all received donations to local nonprofit organizations.

**Art Leadership Award: Jayanthi Raman**

Raman is a dancer, choreographer, master artist as well as founder and artistic director of the NATYA Dance Academy (Classical Indian Dance), which recently celebrated its 20th anniversary.

**Art in the Schools Award: Beaverton Art Literacy Program**

The Beaverton Arts Literacy program consists of volunteers who work in elementary and middle school classrooms giving visual presentations on 72 famous artists followed by a hands-on art project with students.

**Outstanding Art Program: Young People’s Theatre Project**

The Young People’s Theatre Project combines entertainment and education for all audiences, allowing young people of all ages to explore their creative potential through performances, workshops and residencies with professional theatre artists.

**Outstanding Art Instructor: David Sikking, ACMA Theatre Director**

Sikking is the theatre director for the Arts & Communication Magnet Academy (ACMA) who coached and directed ACMA students in the production of Great Expectations and past productions of The Great Gatsby, Much Ado About Nothing, and Metamorphoses.

**Outstanding High School Visual Art Student: Amanda Shearon, ACMA**

Recommended by instructor Jon Gottshall, Shearon has been ACMA’s Yearbook editor-in-chief for the past five years, won a gold key Scholastic Art Award for her photography portfolio, and served on the BAC Board of Directors as a student liaison. Shearon will continue her artistic education at the Savannah College of Art and Design.

**Outstanding High School Visual Art Student: Yurong Peng, Valley Catholic**

Recommended by instructor Marty Karlin, Peng has taken art classes regularly since sixth grade, and won the title of “Artist of the Month” at her previous high school in Wisconsin. While in Wisconsin she also won a regional art appreciation award. Peng will continue her education in Seattle studying architecture.

## CITY of BEAVERTON NEWS RELEASE

### **Outstanding High School Visual Art Student: Samantha Wrigglesworth, Aloha**

Recommended by instructor Tamara Ottum, Wrigglesworth received a national silver key Scholastic Art Awards for an individual photo last year, two gold key regional awards this year, and has had her photography featured at Oregon College of Art and Craft twice. Wrigglesworth plans to pursue photography at the college level.

### **Outstanding High School Visual Art Student: Lauren Hurrle, Aloha**

Recommended by instructor Tamara Ottum, Hurrle has taken graphic design courses all four years of high school, received a silver key Scholastic Art Awards for her graphic design portfolio and an individual graphic design piece, and is the president of the National Art Honor Society. Hurrle plans to obtain a degree in graphic design in college.

### **Outstanding High School Visual Art Student: Jessica Li, Southridge**

Recommended by instructor Jessica Pluhar, Li is a budding fashion designer having organized a benefit fashion show at Southridge last March to raise funds for the Portland Randall Children's Hospital. Li plans to study fashion design at the Pratt Institute in New York while using her creative abilities to give back to her community.

### **Outstanding High School Performing Art Student: Ryan Tai, Westview**

Recommended by private instructor Brandon Nelson, Tai is the leader of Westview's drumline, and won the districts solo competition on timpani advancing to the state competition level. Tai will attend the renowned University of North Texas College of Music where he received a music scholarship.

### **Outstanding High School Performing Art Student: Caroline Yamada, ACMA**

Recommended by Josie Moseley, Yamada is a talented dancer who will be pursuing her college dance career in New York. Her ultimate goal is to dance for Shen Wei or Mark Morris' dance company to take her dancing to the next level and be considered a true artist.

### **Outstanding High School Performing Art Student: Caitlin Chung, Southridge**

Recommended by Jeremy Zander, Chung plans to continue her flute education at Whitworth University, where she will be on scholarship to play in their wind symphony. Similarly, she hopes to take a mission trip to South America to spend time teaching music to underprivileged children.

### **Outstanding High School Performing Art Student: David Rogers, Valley Catholic**

Recommended by instructor Marty Karlin, Rogers has qualified for State Oregon Music Education Association competition for the bassoon for three years in a row, and hopes to make his own recordings and compositions in the future. Rogers will attend University of Portland to major in Music Performance and Mechanical Engineering.

### **Outstanding High School Performing Art Student: Alexander Zhu, Westview**

Recommended by private instructor Kelli Stephens, Zhu won first place in the 2011 Vancouver Symphony Concerto Competition, and placed as an alternate in the 2012 Music Teachers' National Association Oregon State Competition senior division. Zhu plans to continue sharing his love of music with the public throughout his time in college and beyond.

## CITY of BEAVERTON NEWS RELEASE

The BAC contributes significantly to the quality of life in Beaverton by presenting artistic and cultural events, which celebrates community values and helps connect residents to their artistic and cultural heritage. The BAC presents annual events such as the Last Tuesday concert series, the Visual Arts Showcase and Ten Tiny Dances. In addition, the BAC leads public art projects, including Beaverton's mural program and temporary sculpture program. For more information about the Beaverton Arts Commission, visit [BeavertonArts.org](http://BeavertonArts.org) or call 503-526-2288 or the event information line at 503-526-2379, or follow us on Facebook.

In 2013, Beaverton was again recognized as the **safest city in Oregon**. Since 2007, Beaverton has been named one of the safest cities in the Northwest. In 2012, the city was awarded the **Mayors' Climate Protection Award** from the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It was one of just four cities of its size recently recognized as a **"Smarter City" energy leader by the Natural Resources Defense Council** and **one of the 100 Best Places to Live in America** by *Money* magazine. In addition, Beaverton was named one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine, an **All-America City finalist**, as **one of the top 25 Suburbs for Retirement** by *Forbes.com*, **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine, the **Recycler of the Year** from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, a **Bronze Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists and as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**, the Beaverton Community Vision program was named **Public Involvement Project of the Year—Best Planning Project** by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Cascade Chapter. Beaverton also enjoys one of the most diverse populations in Oregon. For more information, please visit [www.BeavertonOregon.gov](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov) or follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton](http://www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton).



"Pride" by Jessica Li

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