

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington Recreation & Park Association Announces Annual Award Recipients

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 Wenatchee, WA. Park and Recreation professionals, facilities, special programs and media materials from throughout Washington State were recognized during an awards ceremony on Thursday, April 28, 2011 at the Coast Wenatchee Convention 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 200 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 keynote speakers.

Award recipients are listed below.

The following is a listing of the 2011 WRPA Professional, Spotlight and Section Award Recipients:

PROFESSIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Honor Fellow

Caryl Morrell, CPRP Wenatchee Parks & Recreation

Distinguished Service

Jerry Nissley, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Citation of Merit – Legislative

Representative Judy Warnick & Representative Hans Dunshee

Citation of Merit – Organization

Cascade Land Conservancy

Citation of Merit – Professional

John Keates, CPRP Mason County Parks & Recreation

Young Professional

Colin Walker, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

President's Award

2011 Annual Conference Exhibitors

SPOTLIGHT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Facilities and Parks

Best Park Design

Discovery Park, Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation (Class II)
Codiga Park, Tukwila Parks & Recreation (Class I)

Best Special Use Site

Discovery Playground, Spokane Valley Parks & Recreation (Class II)

Best Sports Complex

Dwight Merkel Sports Complex, Spokane Parks & Recreation

Media Awards

Best Media

BRAVO Performing Arts Series, Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation

Program Awards

Events, Fairs & Festivals

Wild'n Wooly Sheep Shearing, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Youth & Adult Programs

(Class I): Adventure Playground, Mercer Island Parks & Recreation Department

(Class II): Bellevue Youth Court, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

Regional: Get Movin', YMCA of Snohomish County, Cities of Everett, Lynnwood & Marysville
Regional: Camp Wrinkle Ranch, Cities of Tukwila, Burien, Auburn, Bonney Lake, Federal Way,
Puyallup and University Place

Cultural Competency

Creative Arts for Life, Shoreline Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

SECTION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Aquatic Section

Outstanding Professional

Karen Johnston

Outstanding Program

Adaptive Aquatic Program, Mountlake Terrace

Athletic/Fitness Section

Outstanding Community Organization

South Sound Running

Outstanding Professional

Chad Harvell,

Scholarship Award \$300

Andrea Clay, CPRP

Facility Section Awards (Mid Year 2010)

Innovative Facility Practice

Issaquah Parks & Recreation

Outstanding Professional

Joanna Puthoff, CPRP

Customer Service

Patricia Bischoff

Park Resource Section

Outstanding Professional

Garin Lee

Outstanding Field Staff

Rick Huggins

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.