



For Immediate Release

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Contact: Dana Stewart  
ARTSFAIRFAX  
Phone (571) 395-4624  
dstewart@artsfairfax.org

## Sharon Bulova and Shashikant and Margaret Gupta to Receive 2019 ARTSFAIRFAX Jinx Hazel Awards

Fairfax County, VA— ARTSFAIRFAX will present two Jinx Hazel Awards to three individuals for their support of the arts and community and their significant impact on the arts and quality of life in Fairfax County. The 2019 honorees, Fairfax County Board of Supervisor Chairman Sharon Bulova and Shashikant and Margaret Gupta, will be recognized at the 2019 Arts Awards on Friday, October 18, 2019 at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel from 12 – 2 p.m.

### Chairman Sharon Bulova



Chairman Sharon Bulova

Bulova’s commitment to the arts stems from her personal passion and love for music. Her leadership and commitment to a community where people want to live, work, and play is illustrated in her role in strengthening the arts in Fairfax County. In addition to her commitment to the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, Bulova’s vision for community arts engagement resulted in Evenings on the Ellipse at the Fairfax County Government Center and the realization of the Workhouse Arts Center, a regionally and nationally recognized innovative collaboration of visual and performing arts, education and community. It was under Bulova’s leadership that **ARTSFAIRFAX** funding grew to provide greater support to artists and arts organizations, both small and large, and provided leadership in creation of a new Poet Laureate initiative with **ARTSFAIRFAX** to be launched in 2020.

### Shashi and Margaret Gupta

Long-time supporters of education and the arts, the Gupta’s solidified their commitment to Fairfax County and arts education by donating a \$1 million gift in support of Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts. The donation is the largest individual gift in the history of the Wolf Trap Institute. The Guptas, co-owners of Apex CoVantage, an international technology company based in Herndon, founded their company based on four core values: integrity, dignity, excellence, and creativity. Their volunteer work with Wolf Trap allowed them to see firsthand the organization’s impact on children in areas receiving early childhood arts education. The Gupta’s gift will have broad and long-term impact by providing art exposure to children



Shashi and Margaret Gupta

in the early learning stages creating a ripple effect on student learning through their educational years.

“The Jinx Hazel award is the ultimate honor at the annual Arts Awards luncheon, recognizing impact aspects contributing to a broad quality of life for Fairfax citizens. It is exciting that we have an opportunity to honor three outstanding recipients for their unprecedented commitment to serving others. As a member of the Board of Supervisors, Sharon Bulova has consistently led our community in ensuring access to the arts, arts education for all ages, funding to support the arts as well as her personal passion to promote and share the arts with others. Similarly, the Gupta’s were selected because their gift of arts education is transformative for the Northern Virginia region and potentially beyond. They have planted a seed that will continue to grow and impact our community for multiple generations,” said Linda S. Sullivan, President & CEO of **ARTSFAIRFAX**.

### **About the Jinx Hazel Award**

The Jinx Hazel Arts Award is named in honor of Mrs. ‘Til’ (Jinx) Hazel, whose love and dedication to the arts was unflagging, and significantly contributed to the cultural life in Fairfax County. This award recognizes an individual or organization that exhibits the same commitment to the arts and community, and whose vision and commitment have played a significant role in the quality of life in Fairfax County and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.

### **Event Information**

**ARTSFAIRFAX** presents the 2019 Arts Awards at the Fairview Park Marriott, located at 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church, Virginia on Friday, October 18 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. The event recognizes the extraordinary contributions of artists and arts organizations, as well as the corporations, foundations and individuals that support the arts in Fairfax County and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Additional honorees will be announced later in the summer. To buy tickets or learn more about the Arts Awards, visit [artsawards.org/artsawards](http://artsawards.org/artsawards).

### **ARTSFAIRFAX**

**ARTSFAIRFAX** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization, incorporated in 1964, as Fairfax County’s designated local arts agency. **ARTSFAIRFAX** is funded in part by Fairfax County, corporations, foundations, individuals, the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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