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NEWS

Reston Town Center Association will receive 2021 ArtsFairfax award

Hannah Foley July 30, 2021 at 2:00pm



2021 Arts Awards honoree Reston Town Center Association brings arts and cultural events to the town center, including summer concerts (via Reston Concerts on the Town/Facebook)



ArtsFairfax, a nonprofit that has been designated as the county's arts agency, announced the winners of this year's awards on Tuesday (July 27).

“For ten years, our annual Arts Awards has recognized the creative visionaries who inspire us, engage us, and create transformational change in our communities,” ArtsFairfax President and CEO Linda S. Sullivan said in [a press release](#). “This year's honorees exemplify the impact that artists, arts and cultural organizations, and those that support them are making to the future of Fairfax County.”

In addition to marking their 10th anniversary, this year's Arts Awards herald a return for both the awards themselves after they were canceled last year and local arts groups, which are tentatively starting to reemerge from the upheaval of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Reston Town Center Association (RTCA) will receive the Arts Philanthropy Award, which “recognizes an individual, corporation, or foundation that has provided leadership funding or long-term monetary support to the arts,” according to ArtsFairfax.

A private nonprofit incorporated in 1988, RTCA says its mission is to “maintain a vibrant and viable downtown for the benefit of residents, employees, and visitors,” including by providing public arts, social, and civic events at Reston Town Center.

Since its founding, the association has maintained an Art Fund with revenue from its annual commercial property assessments to support public art and cultural programs, such as the summer [Concerts on the Town](#) and the annual Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival, according to Arts Fairfax.

While the summer concerts [were canceled](#) for a second year in a row, RTCA is planning to bring back the [Tephra Fine Arts Festival](#) in September, and it is working with Herndon's NextStop Theatre on a new [Theater in the Park initiative](#) expected to launch next spring.

“Supporting a strong cultural proposition is central to our mission,” RTCA Executive Director Robert Goudie said. “It is part of what we think differentiates Reston Town Center as a compelling destination. So we are very proud to receive this recognition, especially from an organization, ArtsFairfax, that is so important to the region's arts scene.”

Goudie says RTCA shares the award with its partners, including [Reston Community Center](#), [Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art](#), [Public Art Reston](#), [Washington West Film Festival](#), and Reston Town Center owner [Boston Properties](#).



- Arts Impact Award: [1st Stage Theatre](#)
- Arts Education Award: [Traveling Players Ensemble](#)
- Individual Arts Education Award: artist Kelli Schollard-Sincock, who volunteers as an art class teacher at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center

The 2021 ArtsFairfax Awards will hold a reception on Oct. 15 in The Atrium at Capital One Hall (7750 Capital One Tower Road) in Tysons. [Tickets](#) are now available for purchase.

Photo via [Reston Concerts on the Town/Facebook](#)

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