



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Images of 2016 Artist Trust grant recipients and their work.

Introduction

In 2016, Artist Trust celebrated 30 years of support for art at its source: the individual artist. Since its inception in 1986, Artist Trust has stayed true to its core mission: to support and encourage artists of all disciplines to enrich community life throughout Washington State. Artist Trust redoubled its efforts in 2016 as a connector, supporter, and funder for artists through a refreshed lens of a responsive, community-driven Strategic Plan and [Racial Equity Framework](#). This new direction has already had a great impact, giving artists the tools, connections, and support to build a stronger practice. Some highlights from 2016:

- Awarded over \$350,000—our largest amount ever—to 85 artists, and reached another 2,500 artists with expanding programming and resources.
- Attracted over 150,000 users to our website, more than half from Washington State, seeking out information on statewide arts events, opportunities, and other valuable resources.
- Hosted a sold out exhibition with performances by Artist Trust grant recipients from across Washington State in celebration of our 30th anniversary.



"In Case of Flood"
Barbara Earl Thomas
2016 TWINING HUMBER
AWARD RECIPIENT

- Publicly launched our [Campaign for a Creative Future](#), a \$3.5 million campaign to ensure the longevity of grants to artists of all disciplines throughout the state of Washington.
- Redoubled our efforts for greater geographic reach, taking Artist Trust on Tour to Port Townsend, Tacoma, Bellingham, and Spokane, bringing programming and increased collaboration to 11 other locations throughout Washington State, and growing our Spokane satellite office with the hiring of a Spokane Program Coordinator.

And we did all this while keeping our budget lean and Artist Trust's own business practices strong. This is all thanks to the incredible [community support](#) we've received. Thank you for looking back with us in this report of 2016, and looking forward to a future where we continuously better our work in support of the incredible artists in our great state. Together, we are supporting the artists who make Washington State a better place to be.

Read more about:

[STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

[GOAL ONE: DIRECT SUPPORT](#)

[GOAL TWO: CONNECTIONS](#)

[GOAL THREE: ARTIST ISSUES](#)

[FINANCIALS](#)

[THANK YOU TO DONORS](#)

[WHO WE ARE](#)

IN THE FUTURE

We will leverage our visibility to advocate on behalf of artists.



"Ballerism"
Jana Brevick
2016 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

Strategic Plan

In 2016, Artist Trust created a new strategic plan in response to the needs of artists state-wide, and with input from over 1400 individuals. Artist Trust created three strategic goals to articulate Artist Trust's direction to actively and responsively support and encourage Washington State artists of all disciplines.

Alongside this plan, Artist Trust released a Racial Equity Framework to continue our work supporting underrepresented artist communities across Washington State.

IN THE FUTURE

We will continue to build racial equity assessments of programs and operations into annual planning, budgeting, and review cycles.

Goals

- 1 To provide direct support to artists.
- 2 To create deeper and broader connections between artists and communities.
- 3 To make visible current issues impacting the livelihood of working artists.

Artist Trust is

**TRANSPARENT
RESPONSIVE
FORWARD-
THINKING
& OPEN**

Shaun Scott at Artist Trust on Tour Spokane
Photo by Don Derosier
2015 GAP AWARD RECIPIENT

This is what it looks like when an organization is implementing their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion plans. Let's celebrate the good work Artist Trust is doing!

— Natasha Marin

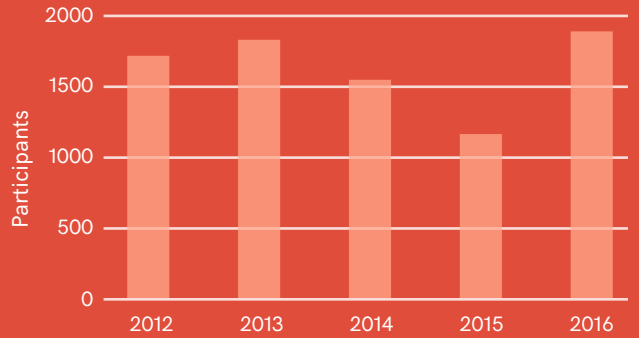
2012 GAP AWARD RECIPIENT &
2016 ARTIST TRUST WORKSHOP TEACHER

Programs

Artist Trust offers in-person and online resources to provide artists of all disciplines with the skills and information to launch and sustain successful careers.

Artist Trust’s online listings of [opportunities](#), [resources](#), and [events](#) connect artists with jobs, calls for artists, connections, and happenings. Town Halls provide spaces for artists to discuss and strategize about issues that impact their livelihoods. Artists can access grant writing assistance through Office Hours, [webinars](#), and [workshops](#). Artist Trust helps artists hone their business practices through statewide [workshops](#), [webinars](#), and programs such as Art Business Night School and EDGE. For Artist Trust’s 30th anniversary, we celebrated by hosting art shows across the state with Artist Trust on Tour, culminating in the Artist Trust Birthday Party.

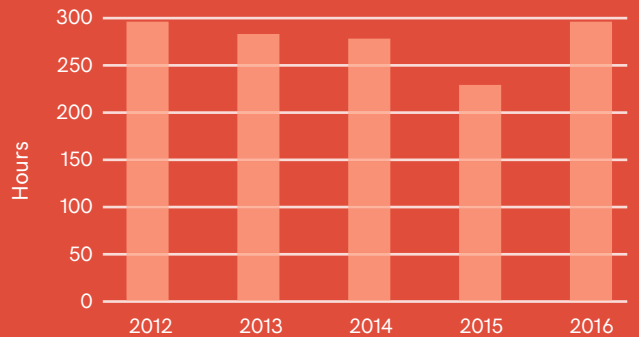
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS 2012-2016



GET INVOLVED

For discounts and priority access to programs, [become a member!](#)

PROGRAMMING HOURS 2012-2016



Elissa Washuta
Photo by Amber Cortes

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Elissa Washuta (Seattle)

2016 ARTS INNOVATOR AWARD RECIPIENT

“It’s incredible to think back to 2010, when I participated in the EDGE Program. I went into the experience thinking I was not the kind of artist—or the kind of person—who would ever receive a grant. I was young and my work was—is—weird. Artist Trust has been with me ever since then, supporting my work.”

I make an effort to challenge myself as an artist, and having the time to experiment is crucial to the evolution of my process. I would not be able to keep up with my ideas if not for support like this.

— [Leah Gerrard](#)

2016 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

GET INVOLVED

Post an [event](#) or [opportunity](#) for artists on our website!

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES, RESOURCES, & EVENTS LISTED IN 2016



Grants

Artistic excellence is the highest priority in our funding programs. Artist Trust grants range from project funds and major merit awards to residencies across the United States. Recipients are selected by peer panels comprised of artists and arts professionals from around and outside the Northwest.

GET INVOLVED

For more information or to apply for a grant, visit [our website!](#)

“So many artists, myself included, put their hearts, their time, and their money into their work with no expectation of a return on this investment. The money from the GAP Grant will help me fund larger, more ambitious work that is close to my heart without financial stress.”

— Satpreet Kahlon

2016 GAP AWARD RECIPIENT

In 2016, we funded over
\$350,000
to 85 artists—our most ever!

Barbara Earl Thomas
Photo by Ingrid Pape-Sheldon



Barbara Earl Thomas (Seattle)

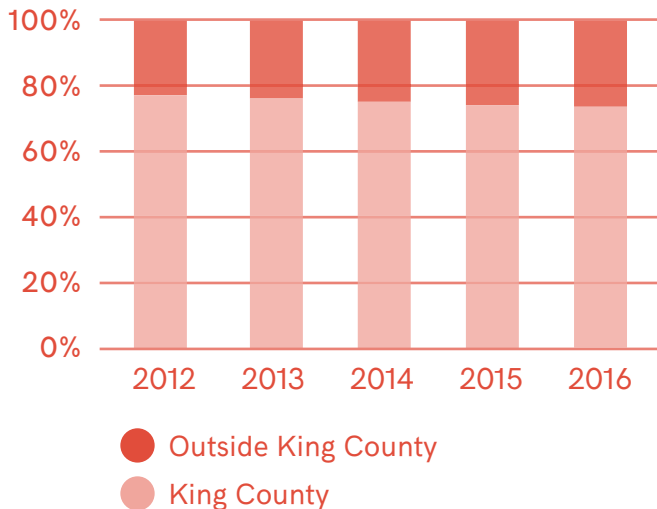
2016 TWINING HUMBER AWARD RECIPIENT

“I am grateful to Artist Trust for its vision, they have created a process that promotes art, community and teamwork. To the Twining legacy that gives not only recognition, but also support I say, thank you. I am honored to be in the company of all the great artists who have come before me.”

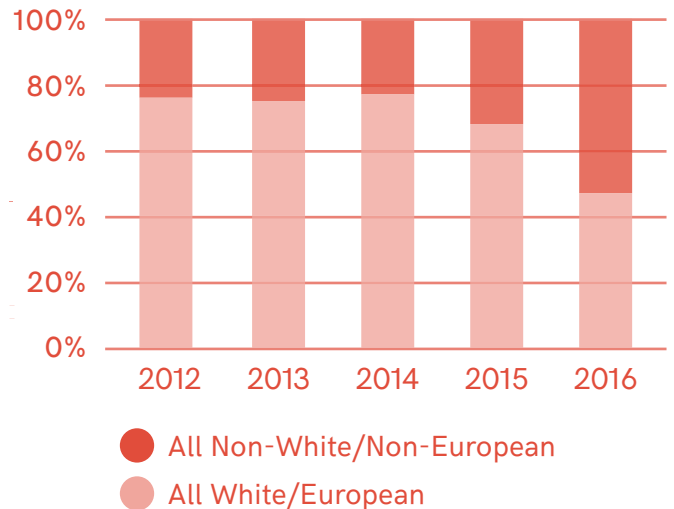
ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

LOOK HOW OUR GRANT RECIPIENTS HAVE CHANGED OVER TIME

COUNTY Where are they?



ETHNICITY Who are they?



Connections

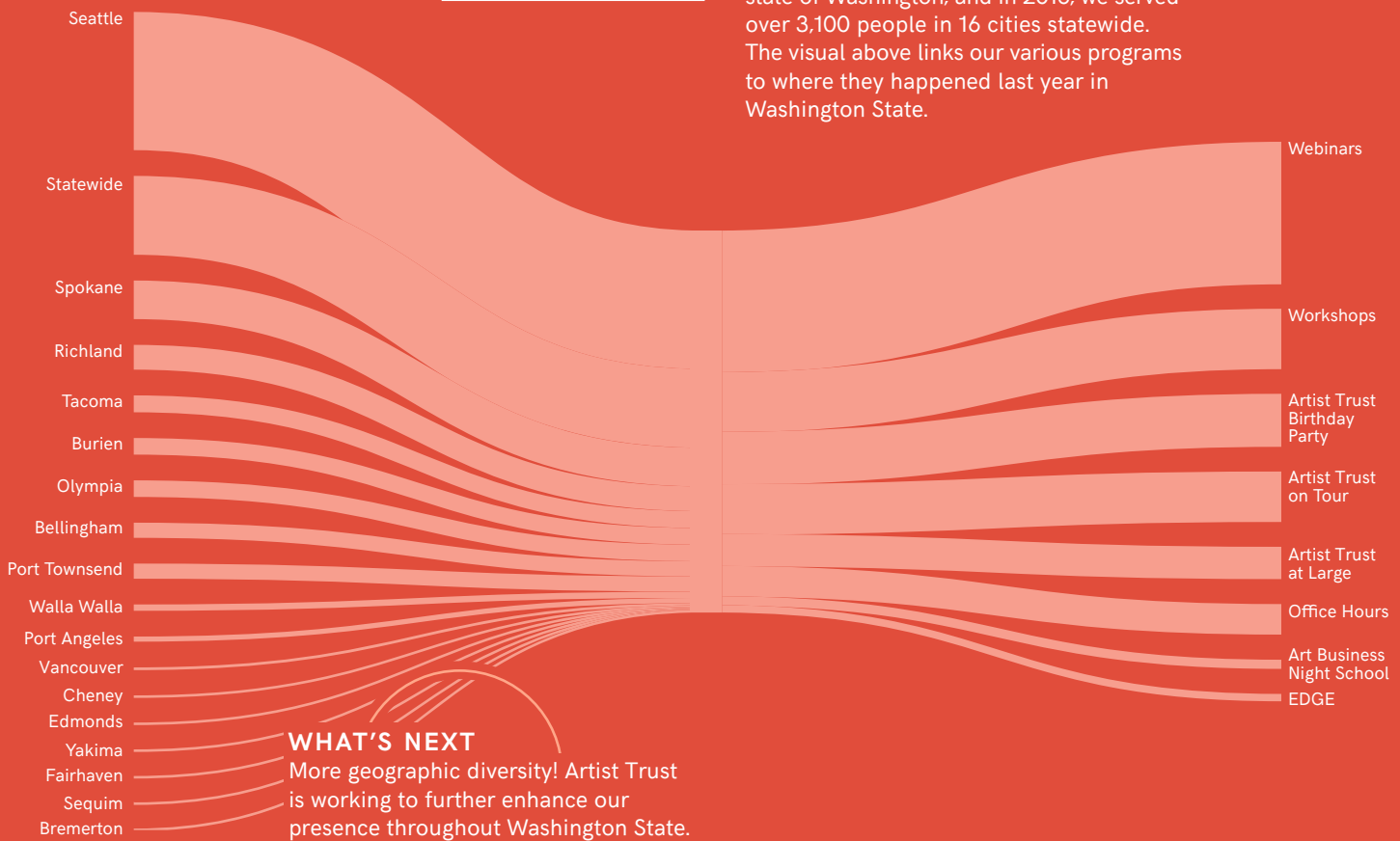
Artist Trust offers events, workshops, and convenings statewide where artists connect with each other across disciplines and geographies. Notably, Artist Trust launched the Spokane Project in 2016, hiring a Spokane Program Coordinator to focus on connecting with Eastern Washington artists through Artist Trust's grants and programs. As a result of these efforts, Spokane GAP applicants increased by 45%, and GAP recipients increased by 50% from 2015 to 2016.

2,248

artists and patrons participated in networking events

GEOGRAPHIC REACH BY CITY

Artist Trust is committed to having a strong geographic presence across the state of Washington, and in 2016, we served over 3,100 people in 16 cities statewide. The visual above links our various programs to where they happened last year in Washington State.



WHAT'S NEXT

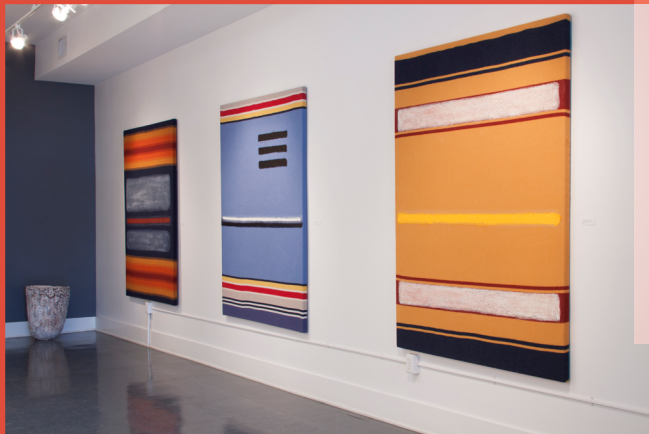
More geographic diversity! Artist Trust is working to further enhance our presence throughout Washington State.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Juventino Aranda (Walla Walla)

2016 JAMES W. RAY AWARD RECIPIENT

“Artist Trust has helped me bridge the gap between the east and west sides of Washington State. It was not until the Spring of 2015 at an Artist Trust event in Walla Walla that I fully realized the opportunities and resources Artist Trust had to offer.”



“Defect(ed)”
Juventino Aranda
Photo by Jenna Gard

Artist Issues

Artist Trust is devoted to discovering and making visible current issues impacting the livelihood of working artists.

WHAT'S NEXT

We will be on the leading edge of change in the arts and in our communities.

Read our Findings

In 2016, Artist Trust launched an Annual Survey engaging over 1,500 artists. Its findings include a snapshot of Washington State artists and their needs.

Read the [2016 Annual Survey Report](#).



“Farewell”
Donald Byrd
2016 JAMES W. RAY DISTINGUISHED
ARTIST AWARD RECIPIENT

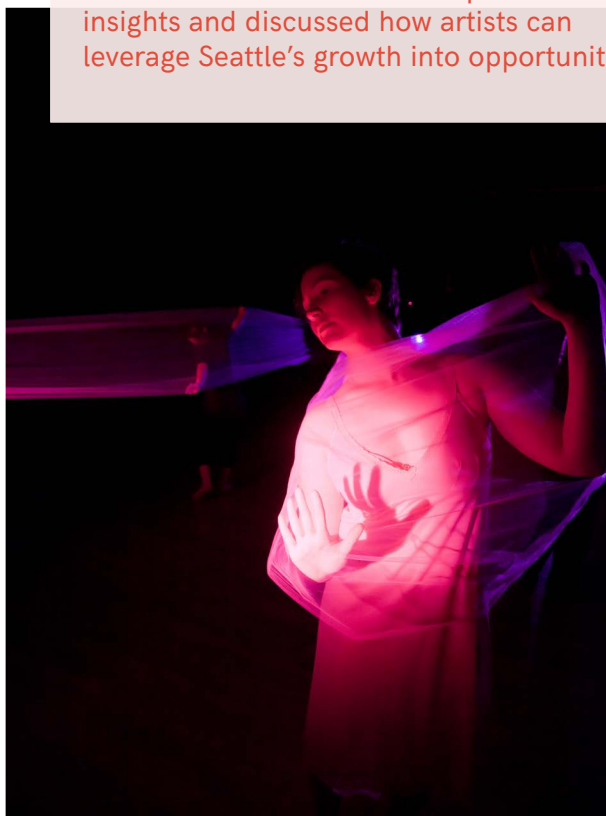
Town Halls

Town Halls provide opportunities for the arts community to gather and discuss the challenges artists currently face. In 2016, Artist Trust hosted two, in Seattle and Spokane, where panelists shared their expertise and available resources for artists.

TOWN HALL

A Space of One’s Own: A Conversation on Affordable Housing & Work Space for Artists

Artist Trust, in conjunction with the Henry Art Gallery and their exhibition at the time, Gift City: A Project by Keller Easterling, hosted a Town Hall focused on artist housing and work space. As artists are being displaced from the city, we wanted to initiate a conversation around the issues contributing to our quickly evolving city and how we can effectively address ongoing changes. A group of guest panelists including Capitol Hill Housing’s Michael Seiwert and Seattle Art Commission’s Vivian Phillips offered insights and discussed how artists can leverage Seattle’s growth into opportunity.



TOWN HALL

Weaving Native American Plateau Art into the Fabric of Spokane

Artist Trust, in partnership with Gonzaga University’s Art Department, Native American Studies, and the Public Humanities Center, hosted a Town Hall event to explore ways in which art and public art can make Indigenous peoples of the Columbia Plateau (both past and present) more visible in Spokane. The event featured a panel discussion including the Spokane City Council President Ben Stuckart and local Native artist Jeff Ferguson.

“Positive”
Angela Kiser
2016 GAP AWARD RECIPIENT

Financials

WHAT'S NEXT

We will keep furthering Washington State's development as a thriving arts region.



INCOME BY SOURCE

- a** Earned Income
- b** Investment Income
- c** Special Events
- d** In-Kind Donations
- e** Individual Contributions
- f** Corporate Contributions
- g** Government
- h** Foundations

DONOR STORY

Ann Widditsch (1925–2014)

Ann was a writer and editor involved in many causes, including the League of Women Voters and the ACLU. A donor to Artist Trust since 1993, her belief in our mission led to her making a generous legacy gift in support of Washington State artists. The resulting bequest of over \$68,000 helped to fund Artist Trust's core grant making and educational programs for artists during 2016. There are many ways to support Artist Trust, and planned gifts make an amazing, positive impact on causes important to our donors. We are grateful to Ann and to all of our legacy donors.

To learn more about planned giving, please email Kristina Goetz at goetz@artisttrust.org.

DONOR STORY

Katie Haven

Katie, a Methow Valley resident, has been a monthly donor to Artist Trust for over a decade. Inspired by the consistent support that her sister, visual artist Victoria Haven, has received from Artist Trust, she says, "I have seen first-hand that a career in the arts involves so much more than creating artwork. Artist Trust treats working artists as professionals, which is priceless. Artist Trust can count on me for many, many years to come."

Fundraising

In 2016, Artist Trust kicked off a year-long celebration of its 30th anniversary with a record-breaking annual Benefit Art Auction in February, raising more from this signature event than ever before. We kicked off the Campaign for a Creative Future—to fuel innovation and stabilize our grants for artists—raising more than 50% of our goal of \$3.5 million. We've been fortunate to receive a number of generous multi-year grants: The Tremaine Foundation, The Boeing Company, Amazon's Literary Partnership, and The Dale & Leslie Chihuly Foundation, and also received continued funding from longstanding partners 4Culture, ArtsFund, ArtsWA, and the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture. Overall, 853 people, including 608 members, supported Artist Trust in 2016—we couldn't do it without you.

Campaign for a Creative Future

Artist Trust is looking boldly to the future to create a lasting legacy for the funding of individual artists in our state. These funds will sustain, fuel, and support artists in Washington State for years to come, with a Board-Designated Grants Fund that complements the current Endowment Fund, and an **unrestricted fund** that allows for **meaningful and rapid responses to issues** faced by artists and their communities.

52%
of \$3.5 million
goal raised



"Jody Lynn Bowman"
Amanda Kirkhuff
2016 GAP AWARD
RECIPIENT

View our Form 990s

Artist Trust is an independent 501(c)(3) charitable organization registered within Washington State.

Read our [IRS Form 990s](#) online.

Donors

\$100,000+

The Dale and Leslie
Chihuly Foundation
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\$20,000-\$99,999

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and Douglas Smith
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\$5,000-\$9,999

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and Barbara L. Billings
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Rick Workman

\$1,000-\$1,999

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Betsy and Peter Currie
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Nancy Weintraub
Edward Whatley
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Richard and Barbara Wortley
Virginia B. Wright

\$500-\$999

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Kristina Goetz
Goldman Sachs Matching
Gift Program
Allan Golston
Joanne Gordon Berk
Sarah Hart
Heather J. Helbach-Olds
and Matthew Olds

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Become a 2017 donor
today by [donating online!](#)

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*2016 Benefit Art Auction Sponsor
^ Commemorating Artist Trust's
30th Anniversary

View a [complete list](#) of our
generous donors online.

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FAMILY FOUNDATION



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Spokane Program Coordinator

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Cristina Friday
Foundation & Corporate
Relations Manager

Perri Rhoden
Development Assistant

Annie Holden
Communications Manager

Gems
Office Coordinator

Freya Wormus
Operations Director

WHAT'S NEXT

We will continue to be transparent in our operations, programming, and decision-making.

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Mark Olthoff

Paula Stokes

Ben Stuckart

Sarah Traver

Tanya Trejo

Robert Tull

Lorraine Vagner

Bryan Webster

Rick Workman

"Psychic Radio Star"

Ezra Dickinson

2016 GAP AWARD RECIPIENT

This award is like the sun coming out after a dark and turbulent storm. This award encourages, revitalizes, and invigorates me. I am beyond thrilled.

— **Donald Byrd**

2016 JAMES W. RAY DISTINGUISHED
ARTIST AWARD RECIPIENT

GET INVOLVED

To stay in the loop, follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!