

CONTRIBUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTS

Award

The Richland Arts Commission accepts nominations for two annual awards to recognize local contributions made in support of the arts. These awards are intended to distinguish two recipients for their outstanding contribution and support of the arts in Richland, Washington. The awards are presented to one individual and to one organization (for profit or not-for-profit) annually. The award is made for the year prior.

2018 RECIPIENTS



THE EMERALD OF SIAM

Dara Quinn, Owner



How long have you lived in Richland?

I have resided in Richland off and on for over 35 years. I'm a Hanford HS Grad. I returned home after living and pursuing a music career in the Seattle and Portland areas between 1990 and 2011.

What artistic projects and events have you initiated during your time in Richland?

Other than my own personal musical projects, my work has been providing a venue for local and touring musicians and artists to showcase their talents and meet others with similar interests.

What is your academic and experiential arts background?

I am a professional touring and studio keyboard player disguised as a restaurateur and venue owner. I've played piano for over 38 years, was a multi-instrumentalist in high school, drum major at Hanford HS for 2 years, played in the Mid-Columbia Youth Symphony and regional jazz bands as a kid. In the 90s, I ventured to the Seattle area where I learned to play steel drums and percussion and toured professionally playing with a steel drum ensemble and also playing keyboards and synthesizers in my own jazz-fusion project called Rockin' Teenage Combo. I also performed and recorded with other various Seattle music groups.

What are your future plans for arts in Richland?

I have enjoyed The Emerald of Siam becoming the musicians/music lovers hub in the Tri-Cities. I will continue to do my best to bring quality art and live music to the area. I also book shows at the renovated Uptown Theater and may or may not have plans for an outdoor music festival in the works.

How long have you lived in Richland?

I began working as a commuter with the Symphony in 2014 and moved to Richland in 2018.

What artistic projects and events have you initiated during your time in Richland?

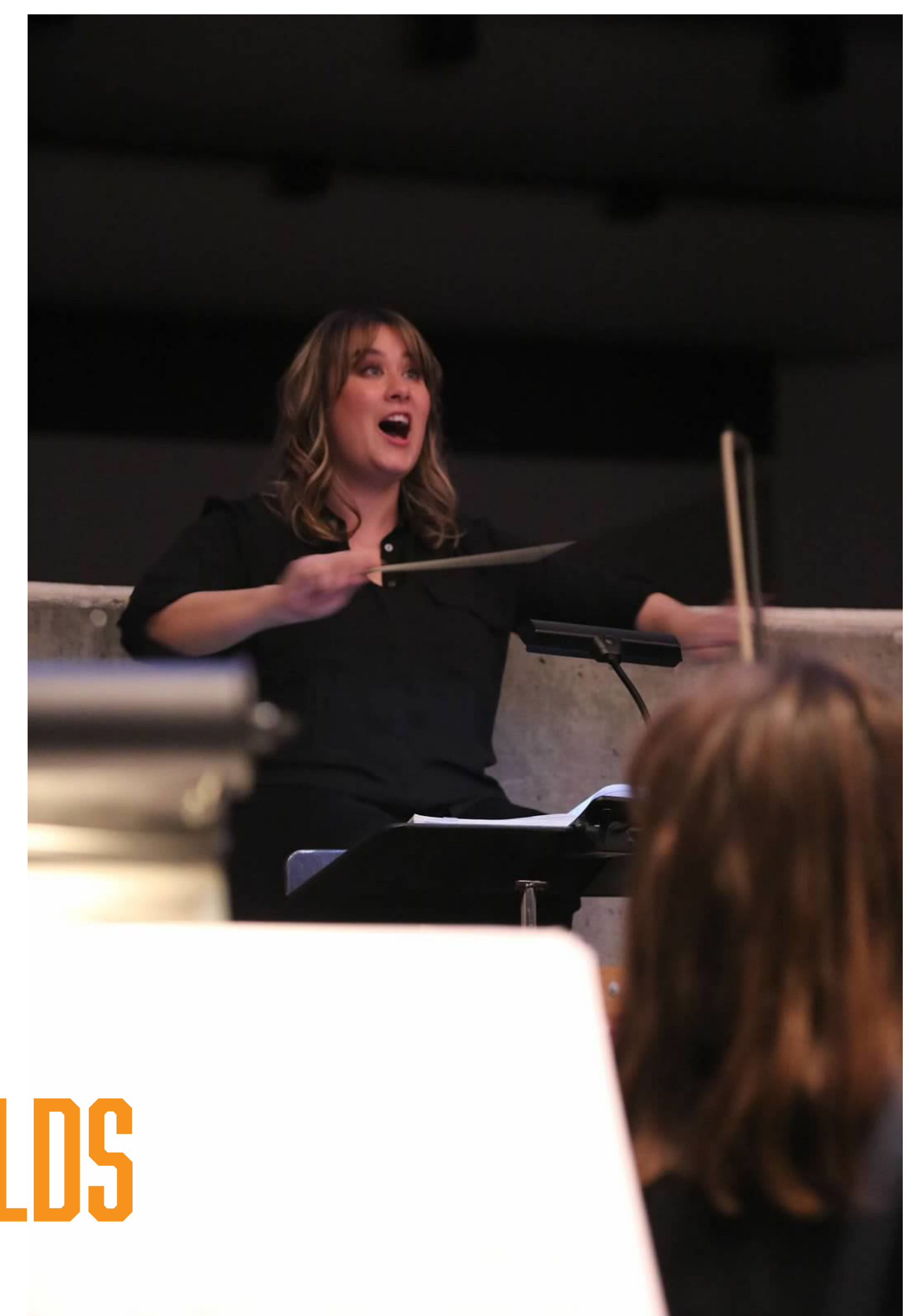
I am the founding director of the revived Mid-Columbia Youth Symphony. In addition to the Youth Symphony, I have added a strings ensemble to the program.

What is your academic and experiential arts background?

I earned a Bachelor of Musical Arts degree in Harp from Pacific Lutheran University and a Master of Music degree in Orchestral Conducting and Vocal Performance/Pedagogy from Central Washington University. I have been a resident Music Director for several community theatre organizations, public school programs, and non-profit youth programs. I spent several years working with Central Washington University Opera Workshop as a répétiteur, conductor, and music director.

What are your future plans for arts in Richland?

I want to see the youth symphony program continue to grow, adding more ensembles and increasing our footprint in both the community and in the students individually.



ADRIENNE SHIELDS

Music Director,
Mid-Columbia Youth Symphony

PAST RECIPIENTS

2018 – The Emerald of Siam | Adrienne Shields
 2017 - Tri-Cities Steel Band Association | Patrick Fleming
 2016 - Fox-Vance Family Foundation | Nancy Doran
 2015 - HAPO | Robert Waltrous
 2014 - Tri-Cities Chinese American Association | Debra Rogo
 2013 - RPBI (Market at the Parkway) | Chuck Eaton

2012 - Tumbleweed Art Studio | Jo Brodzinski
 2011 - Battelle | Justin Raffa
 2010 - (not awarded) | Tom Powers
 2009 - Columbia Center Rotary | Fred Dixon
 2008 - Allied Arts Association | Artis Vaughan
 2007 - (not awarded) | Jerry Greenfield