OLYMPIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY & BIGELOW HOUSE MUSEUM



GERRY L. ALEXANDER ANNUAL
HERITAGE AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING
ACHIEVEMENT IN 2024





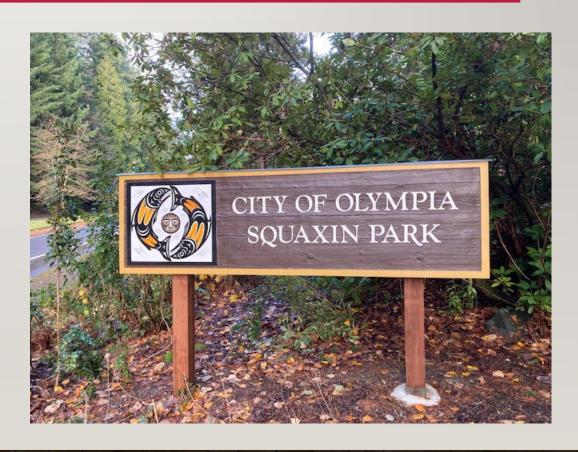






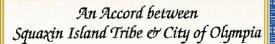
GERRY L. ALEXANDER HERITAGE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT: SQUAXIN PARK





GERRY L. ALEXANDER HERITAGE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT:

SQUAXIN PARK



WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribe's habitation of what is now Olympia spans thousands of years. The ancestral families who lived and thrived here named it Steh-Chass and occupied prosperous villages along the shores. Archeological findings of ancestral artifacts in the area suggest habitation by Squaxin ancestors since the retreat of the glaciers during the last Ice Age; and

WHEREAS today, the Squaxin people continue stewardship of these ancestral lands, from the Deschutes watershed and what is now Budd Inlet. The Steh-Chass (Squaxin) continue to call themselves "People of the Water" because of the bounty of the region's waterways and artesian waters, which have sustained the people for millennis; and

WHEREAS, both the Squaxin Island Tribe and City of Olympia honor the Medicine Creek Treaty and have established a strong government-to-government relationship between the two sovereigns; and

WHEREAS, the recovery of Budd Inlet and the Deschutes River are necessary to restore treaty-protected salmon populations, a mutual goal of Squaxin and Olympia as demonstrated by our support for the restoration of the Deschutes Estuary and our collaboration with the restoration of West Bay; and

Now therefore the Squaxin Island Tribe and the City of Olympia, in the spirit of understanding and mutual respect, commit to the following long-term actions:

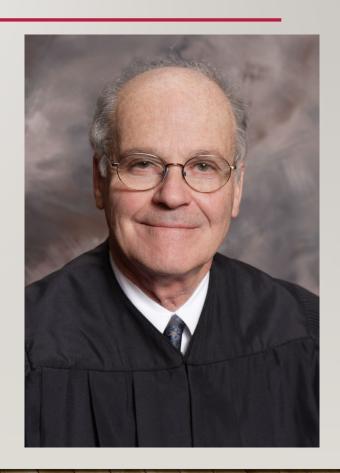
- Coordinate and cooperate to support economic and infrastructure opportunities, protect natural resources, and respond to climate change.
- Create more opportunities for public art, education, and community service that will promote a healthy exchange of cultures.



SPECIAL RECOGNITION: GERRY L. ALEXANDER







GERRY L. ALEXANDER HERITAGE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT:

TOY KAY







TOY KAY







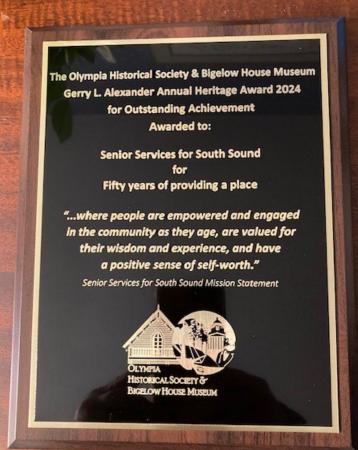
GERRY L. ALEXANDER HERITAGE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT: SENIOR SERVICES FOR SOUTH SOUND





SENIOR SERVICES FOR SOUTH SOUND







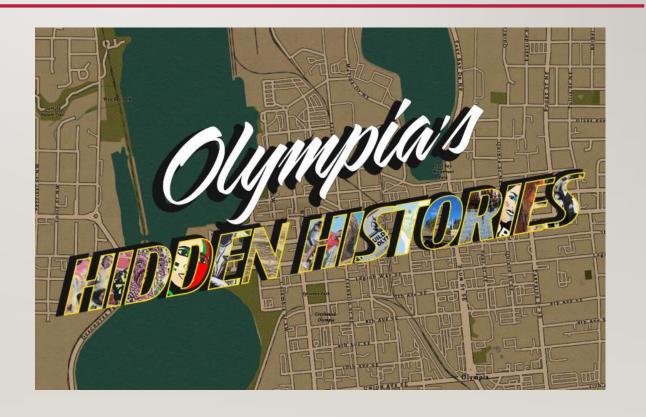
GERRY L. ALEXANDER HERITAGE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT: OLYMPIA'S HIDDEN HISTORIES WALKING TOURS



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OLYMPIA'S HIDDEN HISTORIES WALKING

TOURS













GERRY L. ALEXANDER HERITAGE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT: LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL













GERRY L. ALEXANDER HERITAGE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT: AVANTI HIGH SCHOOL

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