

King County's Oldest Community Service Award Goes To Paul Allen

By J. Lennox Scott

Each year, the Seattle-King County Association of Realtors presents the Seattle-King County First Citizen Award. This award recognizes a King County resident, family, or organization that exemplifies outstanding public service and leadership. This year's recipient is Paul Allen.

Founded by Seattle Realtors in 1939, the First Citizen award is given on behalf of the residents of the Puget Sound area to symbolize their appreciation of those who devote themselves to the well-being and prosperity of their community through voluntary service. Recipients include the likes of Dale Chihuly, Herb Bridge, Phil Smart, Sr., Jack Benaroya, Dr. Lester Sauvage, Dan and Nancy Evans, and the Gates Family.

First Citizens are recognized for their unselfish commitment to civic causes, such as humanitarian organizations, charitable and educational institutions, arts groups, the environment, and other worthwhile causes. Recipients are also praised for their visionary leadership and philanthropy to meet ever-changing community needs.

With an unwavering commitment to nonprofit organizations in the Pacific Northwest, Mr. Allen will join an elite list as a recipient of the region's most senior philanthropy award.

Mr. Allen's philanthropic involvement includes a range of work in honor of his parents. In the 1980s he donated \$18 million to build a new library addition at the University of Washington, which was named after his father, Kenneth S. Allen, who was associate director of UW libraries from 1960-1982. Mr. Allen subsequently created the Kenneth S. Allen Library Endowment Fund and was one of the lead donors to the Seattle Public Library Foundation. In 2003 Mr. Allen donated \$5 million to establish the Faye G. Allen Center for Visual Arts, named after his mother.

With lifetime giving totaling nearly \$1 billion, Mr. Allen has been named one of the top philanthropists in America. In 2004 he formed the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, consolidating six previous foundations to enable a more streamlined grant process and increased operational effectiveness to fulfill its mission. Since its inception, the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation has awarded grants to nearly 1,600 diverse nonprofit groups to support and advance their critical charitable endeavors in the Pacific Northwest.

Mr. Allen is the founder and chairman of Vulcan Inc and chairman of Charter Communications. His investment portfolio includes large stakes in DreamWorks Animation SKG, Plains All American, and Diego and he owns the Seattle Seahawks NFL and Portland Trail Blazers NBA franchises. Mr. Allen's passion for the arts is reflected in his founding of Experience Music Project, Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame, as well as Vulcan Productions.

As this year's recipient, Paul Allen will be honored at the annual First Citizen banquet on October 30 at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel. He is equally deserving of past award recipients and a welcome member to this elite group of community givers. For more information or to purchase tickets to this event, please visit www.seattlefirstcitizen.org.

REALTOR® J. Lennox Scott is the chairman and CEO of John L. Scott Real Estate. You can visit his website at www.johnlscott.com.

###

For More Information Contact:

Shelley Rossi

Director of Public Relations

John L. Scott Real Estate

206-230-7627

shelleyro@johnlscott.com