

Nominee's Name

Award Nomination Category

Blue Mouse Theater

Outstanding Achievement in Community Engagement

Reason for Nomination: The Blue Mouse Theater has been a staple in Tacoma for many years, more than just a movie Theater, it is a venue that is accessible to community groups and private events.

Radio Club of Tacoma

Outstanding Heritage/Legacy Business

Reason for Nomination: While not technically a business, the Radio Club of Tacoma was founded in 1916 and is the second oldest amateur radio (HAM) club in the United States. It has been associated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the national association of amateur radio, since 1920. The club provides public classes for Ham radio operation, licensing up-grades, and Morse code. They also conduct licensing exams. Club members provide a valuable public service during public emergencies and natural disasters. Since 1958, they owned their "Clubhouse" at 1249 S. Washington St. where they maintain a circulating library and since 1996, the Antique Radio Museum W7OS that houses the club's collection of antique transmitters and receivers. "W705" refers to Clifford J. "Doc" Spike's personal call sign. Doc Spike (1900 - 1991) was an iconic, founding member of the Radio Club of Tacoma.

The Blue Mouse Theater

Outstanding Heritage/Legacy Business

Reason for Nomination: My goodness. You want Heritage? You want Legacy? The Mouse is celebrating its 100th birthday this year! Shall we try to count the number of businesses/organizations in Tacoma that can make this claim. In 100 years serving the people of Tacoma with entertainment, the Blue Mouse has seen more than five generations of Tacomans enjoy its offerings. But the theater is more than just a movie showplace. An anchor for the Proctor District it is also a gathering spot for its community. Institutions which have survived so very long can easily become part of the landscape. People know of them and know that they have always been there. Often, they may be taken for granted. Now, on The Blue Mouse Theater's 100th Anniversary would be the right time to recognize the organization for the Heritage they have preserved and for the Legacy they begin for the next 100 years.