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FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

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Spokane Citizen Hall of Fame Honorees Announced

Spokane, WA— The Spokane Public Library Foundation, in partnership with the City of Spokane and Spokane Public Library, announces the Annual Spokane Citizen Hall of Fame honorees. The honorees in six different categories were chosen from more than 100 public nominations. The honorees are:

Arts and Letters

Ken Spiering, artist

Shawn Vestal, author and columnist, The Spokesman-Review

Verne Windham, music director, KPBX

Education

Father Bernard Coughlin, former Gonzaga president

Leonard Oakland, Whitworth professor

Phyllis Stephens, horticulture specialist

Economic Development and Business

Kim Pearman-Gillman, business development executive, McKinstry

Jeff Philipps, president, Rosauers

Tom Simpson, co-founder, etailz

Innovation and Leadership

Ted McGregor, founder and publisher, The Inlander

Bill Bialkowsky, founder Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery

Sheri Barnard, former mayor of Spokane

Public Service and Philanthropy

Irv Zakheim, chairman & CEO, Zak Designs

Lois Stratton, former state representative and senator

Jack Geraghty, former mayor of Spokane and former County Commissioner

Science, Health, and Medicine

Dr. Deb Harper, Spokane pediatrician, Providence Valley Young People's Clinic

Dr. Katherine Tuttle, Executive Director for Research, Providence Health Care

At the event on May 1st, ten people will be given Mayor's coins and honored for their work in the community, and seven people will be inducted into the Citizen Hall of Fame and presented with a key to the city. Tickets can be purchased online [here](#) and the event will be held in the downtown Spokane Public Library, 3rd floor event space.

The Spokane Citizen Hall of Fame recognizes individuals in the City of Spokane for their achievement in six categories while raising funds for the Spokane Public Library Foundation which supports the library. The Spokane Public Library, as one of the centers of the community, is a resource to the citizens of Spokane and provides the tools and resources to enhance the lives of all citizens. The library is a valuable resource which provides access to experts, curators, and navigators of knowledge for our city and as such, nurtures outstanding citizens. Together, we want to honor these outstanding citizens who make Spokane great.

"These seventeen honorees represent some of our greatest champions in the community, and we are so excited to celebrate them with our entire community," said Sarah Bain, director of development for Spokane Public Library Foundation.

Citizens will be honored for their achievements in the following categories:

1. **Arts and Letters:** For activities that enhance and support the artistic/cultural and literary life and well-being of the community
2. **Economic Development and Business:** For entrepreneurial activity or significant contributions toward the economic betterment of Spokane
3. **Education:** For enriching and inspiring lifelong learning in our community
4. **Innovation and Leadership:** For activities that cultivate strong innovation and leadership city-wide
5. **Public Service and Philanthropy:** For exemplary voluntary and public service activities that benefit the community
6. **Science, Health, and Medicine:** For individuals who have made significant contributions in the area of science or medicine

About Spokane Public Library Foundation

The Spokane Public Library Foundation, a 501(c) 3 enhances programming, services and resources offered by the Spokane Public Library through advocacy, partnerships and private dollars to ensure the library's excellence. For more information about us visit www.spokanelibraryfoundation.org and follow the library @spokanelibrary on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter and Instagram](#).

About the City of Spokane

The City of Spokane, home to more than 210,000 people, is located in the heart of the Inland Northwest. Our 2,000 employees strive to deliver efficient and effective services that facilitate economic opportunity and enhance the quality of life for all our citizens. For more information visit spokanecity.org and follow us @spokanecity on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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