



# *“Synergy Rising”*

SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
& 225<sup>th</sup> Ave SE

2020

Artist  
Lin Garretson



**Sammamish ~ Our Community:** "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts." Aristotle

The City of Sammamish is made up of people from around the country and from around the world. Since our city was officially incorporated on August 31, 1999, we have grown tremendously. That means that most of us are transplants who grew up in other areas with other customs, cultures, traditions and environments. It means that we have chosen to be here ...and to share our unique and individual qualities as integral parts of this richly textured and diversely blended community. Together we are Sammamish...and we are better together!

**The Visual Language of Art:** The visual language of art is a language of universal communication...a language of the heart which uses symbols, colors, textures and designs to evoke emotions and connections which sometimes go deeper than words can express. This visual language offers a significant and appropriate means to express the sense of place, the civic identity, and the unique character of our vibrant young city.

**The Sculpture:** Inspired by the wisdom and rhythms of Nature, the sculpture is constructed with natural stone slabs and steel elements. Like many of us residing in Sammamish, the stone is not indigenous to this area, but originated from different points around the world. Each stone has its own unique composition and character, history and heritage. Having now been shaped and textured and bonded together with others and combined with the strength of steel, it is at home in a new place with a new purpose and meaning.



### **Symbolism:**

Together the stone and steel create symbolic, stylized representations of nature, which visually express some of the basic tenets of our city. The three faces of the sculpture represent three of these tenants ...Unity, Tenacity & Commitment.

### **UNITY ~**

Enriched by our differences, we are better together. The different pieces of stone combine to form patterns and images reminding us that the elements of Nature work in unity. The natural beauty of our physical surroundings...the mountains, the clouds, the lakes and streams, even our abundant rainfall, represented by steel rods, remind us that each has an integral part. Two eagles in flight cross the face of the sculpture remind us that although our individual strengths are significant...together we are even better!



#### TENACITY~

Unwavering stewardship of our environment and natural habitats. The steel salmon moving against the strong waves symbolize the wisdom of diligently moving ahead in a positive direction. They symbolize our staying power as a community and remind us of our important role as stewards of the natural beauty of our waters, green spaces and wildlife.



#### COMMITMENT~

Growing together as a uniquely caring and inclusive community. The tree-like image reminds us that in each passing season we strengthen and renew our resolve to put down our roots and to keep growing in ways that will sustain and enrich our community for years to come. The falling leaves symbolize the generous hearts and innumerable volunteer hours of caring community members who quietly nurture and enrich the human landscape of our city every day.



Lin Garretson is an artist and designer who resides in Sammamish with her husband, David. She is owner of Spaces by Lin Garretson, Inc.

Lin studied Art at Indiana University and served as a Sammamish Arts Commissioner from 2012-2018.

Lin gifted her time and service to the City of Sammamish in the creation and installation of this sculpture.

*The Construction Process:* Consistent with the concept of being better together, individual skills and combined efforts were invaluable in constructing the 12 foot tall sculpture at the 225<sup>th</sup> Ave SE / SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street roundabout site.

### Materials:

Like many of the residents of Sammamish, the stone used on the multi-sided 12 feet high sculpture is not indigenous to our area...rather it has come here from different points across the globe.

Each piece of stone has its own unique composition and character, history and heritage.

Now having been shaped and textured and bonded together with other stones and combined with the strength of steel, and carved deeply with sand and water, it is at home in new setting with a whole new place to belong. It has new purpose and beauty as it speaks of the past and the present and of differences and similarities.

**Becoming greater than the sum of its individual parts, this blended work of art speaks of past and future...of differences and similarities.**

### The Team.

Artist Lin Garretson recognizes and extends heartfelt thanks to the "Team" whose support and combined skills built the sculpture:

- Margaret Rosenow – Arts Commissioner
- Ronnie Simone & Gino Simone of Western Tile & Marble ~ General contractors & stone fabricators with their installers; Chris Lindsey, Cordell Fischer, Kye Edison & Kyle McCoy
- Attila Kilic of Meta Marble
- Frank Lescher of Frank Lescher Masonry.
- Josh Gorham of Skilfab
- Rick Oswald and Cecily Westall of Cutting Edge
- Randy Eaglestone, Engineer, Conducive CAD

### The Sponsors:

The Sammamish Arts Commission

The City of Sammamish

## How it all started:

In early 2016, Sammamish Arts Commissioner Rosenow took on the project of acquiring more public art in Sammamish. This involved many meetings with the Sammamish Arts Commission and the City Council. Because the funding was not there yet, the SAC could not proceed with a "Call to Artist". Several Council Members kept saying: "Show us some art". One of the members of the small sub-committee was artist Lin Garretson. At a local coffee shop she started designing a rough draft of a sculpture on a napkin. Later she made models from Styrofoam.

Here are some sample photos and parts of the agendas and minutes of the many meetings.

2016 Planning  
Budget  
Current Proposed Schedule  
Public Art  
New events

SAC Meeting Minutes June 27, 2016  
"Permanent Public Art  
Commissioner Rosenow gave a visual  
presentation identifying locations  
throughout the City which could  
host permanent public art: ....."

### Permanent Public Art

Commissioner Rosenow distributed the worksheets for "Art Vision for Sammamish" and Commissioners present brainstormed on vision points. Commissioners went through the worksheet and discussed their answers for each question. All questionnaires will be collected at the end of the meeting. Margaret will then prepare a paper with all the responses and distribute them to everyone in September.

SAC Meeting July 25 2016

### Margaret Rosenow

Council meeting Oct 1 2017  
Power point

## SAMMAMISH ARTS COMMISSION UPDATE

RAMU IYER, CHAIRMAN, ARTS COMMISSION  
MARGARET ROSENOW, ARTS COMMISSIONER



November 21st, 2017  
City Council Meeting

021

City of  
Sammamish



### PERMANENT PUBLIC ART PROCUREMENT PROCESS

1. Assess need for art
2. Conduct research
3. Comparison with other cities
4. Discussion with Sammamish Arts Commission
5. Select sub-committee with chair
6. Request and obtain funding
7. Broad search for artists
8. Limited call to artists to provide proposal for art piece(s)
9. Select artist and artwork
10. Align with **Parks & Recreation** and other stakeholders (including **Citizen Feedback**)
11. Propose art piece(s) to **City Council**
12. Prepare contract for artist
13. Artist creates art piece(s)
14. Installation of art
15. Public art "unveiling" ceremony

City Council Regular Meeting - Jun. 19, 2018  
 MINUTES City Council Regular Meeting  
 "Presentation: Sammamish Arts Commission  
 Progress Report Parks and Recreation Director  
 Angie introduced staff and members of the Arts  
 Commission.  
 Margaret Rosenow, Commissioner and Chair  
 Ramu Iyer, gave a PowerPoint presentation and  
 update for the Arts Commission."

Agenda Bill		
City Council Special Meeting March 24, 2015		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Contract 2015 Recreational Trailways Fabrication & Installation / Western Park & Marine	
<b>DATE SUBMITTED:</b>	February 25, 2015	
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Parks & Recreation	
<b>ISSUED FROM OFFICE:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action <input type="checkbox"/> Decision <input type="checkbox"/> Informational	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>	Authorize the Mayor/ City Manager to execute a contract with Western Trail & Trailers for the fabrication and installation of the 2015 Recreational Trailways.	
<b>CONTACTS:</b>	J. JARVIS - Sammamish Parks, Recreation, Western Trail & Trailers J. JARVIS - Sammamish Trailways J. JARVIS - Parks J. JARVIS - Sammamish Trailways J. JARVIS - Western Trailways	

# Installation





## News &amp; Events

CURRENT NEWS

ARCHIVED NEWS

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CITY EVENT CALENDAR

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TV 21

SPECIAL EVENTS

SAMMAMISH E-NEWS  
ARCHIVE

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## City of Sammamish Celebrates Completion of SE 4th Street Improvement Project & Unveils New Permanent Public Art as Its Centerpiece

**Release Date: August 13, 2020**

Sammamish, WA | August 13, 2020

Contact: [communications@sammamish.us](mailto:communications@sammamish.us)

The City of Sammamish announces the completion of improvements made to SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street between 216<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE to 226<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. This half mile stretch has been dramatically upgraded from an outdated rural two-lane road to a multi-modal street. The added sidewalks, bike lanes, and turn lanes improve safety and mobility, and serve as important connection points between the Town Center, Sammamish Commons Park, and Big Rock Park. One hundred and twenty new trees and close to 9,000 new plants and bushes, selected for their ability to thrive and withstand the harsh environs of a roadway, were planted along the corridor.

Design on the project began in 2015, with construction breaking ground during the summer of 2016. The cost of construction of \$14.5 million includes reimbursable costs of \$4 million for the installation of upgraded Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District utilities. Additionally, the City of Sammamish received a \$4 million grant from Washington State's Transportation Improvement Board towards this project. The Project Team included Jim Grueber, Project Manager with the City's Public Works Department, Perleet, who collaborated with the City on the design and construction management, and Marshbank Construction.

A major focal point of the SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street Project is a 15 foot sculpture constructed of natural stone slabs. The Sammamish Arts Commission with the City of Sammamish, and the support of the City Council, commissioned the sculpture, selecting Lin Garretson, a Sammamish resident and award winning designer. Garretson also served as a Sammamish Arts Commissioner between 2012-2017.

"The Arts Commission wanted to create Permanent Public Art that, using the universal language of art, expresses the core tenets of Sammamish. The three faces of the sculpture represent: **Unity**, enriched by our differences, we are better together; **Tenacity**, unwavering stewardship of our environment and natural habitats; and **Commitment** to growing a uniquely caring and compassionate community," said Garretson. "The natural stone slabs, like many of us in Sammamish, originate from different parts of the world. The stones were shaped by water jet cutting and sandblasting; and then combined with stainless steel images inspired by the rhythms of nature."

Special thanks and recognition to the team whose individual skills and combined efforts constructed the sculpture:

**Arts Commissioner Margaret Rosenow** for her diligence in working with the City through the administrative aspects of this project.

**Ronnie Simone & Dino Simone**, owners of Western Tile & Marble and General Contractors for stone fabrication and on-site installation.

**Attila Kilic** of Meta Marble for his generosity and price accommodations for the stone.

**Frank Lescher** of Frank Lescher Masonry for building the concrete block structure.

**Josh Gorham** of Skilfab for steel fabrication.

**Rick Oswald and Cecily Westall** of Cutting Edge Studio for sandblasting.

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# Unveiling of sculpture Aug 13, 2020



Interim City Manager  
Dave Rudat

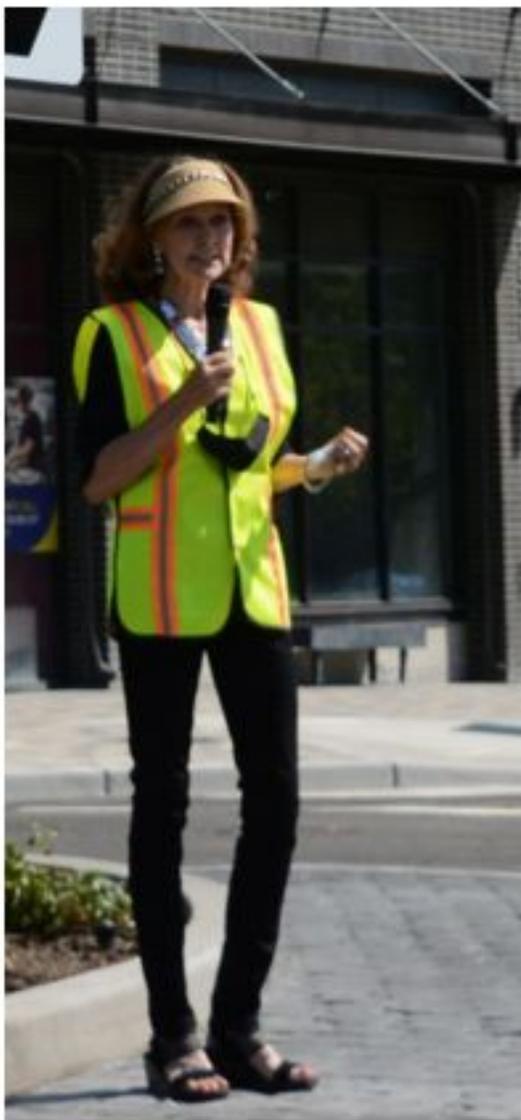


Sammamish Mayor  
Karen Moran



Sammamish Arts Commissioner  
Margaret Rosenow presents flowers  
To Lin Garretson





Lin explaining the symbolism of her sculpture

Margaret thanking her for all her work



### The Sculpture:

Is constructed of **Natural stone slabs. Like many of us in Sammamish, the stone originated from different points around the world.** The stone is shaped into pieces by water jet cutting and some pieces are additionally sandblasted to achieve the artwork and the textures. The stone is combined with stainless steel images which are inspired by the rhythms of nature.

### The Meaning:

Together the stone and steel create symbolic stylized representations which, through the **universal language of art, express some of the basic tenets of our city.**

The three separate faces of the sculpture represent three of these tenets.

**UNITY**~ Enriched by our differences, we are better together.

**TENACITY**~ Unwavering stewardship of our environment and natural habitats.

**COMMITMENT**~ Growing a uniquely caring and compassionate community.

The Artist: Lin Garretson resides in Sammamish with her husband, David. She is the owner of Spaces By Lin Garretson Inc., an award winning interior & exterior design firm. Lin studied Art at Indiana University and served as a Sammamish Arts Commissioner from 2012-2017.

Sponsors: Sammamish Arts Commission and the City of Sammamish.

### Special thanks to:

**"The Team"** whose individual skills & combined efforts constructed the sculpture:

**Ronnie Simone & Gino Simone,**

Owner of Western Tile & Marble and General Contractors for stone fabrication and on-site installation.

**Attila Kilic** of Meta Marble for his generosity and price accommodations for the stone.

**Frank Lescher** of Frank Lescher Masonry for building the concrete block structure.

**Josh Gorham** of Skillfab for steel fabrication.

**Rick Oswald and Cecily Westall** of Cutting Edge Studio for sandblasting.

### Very special thanks to:

**Arts Commissioner Margaret Rosenow** for her diligence in working with the city through the administrative aspects of this project, and to **Chris Jordan** for facilitating.

**Additional thanks to the Sammamish City Council** for recognizing the importance of Art and Culture through Permanent Public Art and especially, thanks to the **Sammamish Arts Commission** for sponsoring and supporting this project.

Video of unveiling the sculpture:



Lin was interviewed by SGN Sammamish:



September/October 2020

# SAMMAMISH NEWSLETTER

*The official publication of the City of Sammamish*



Detail from the SE 4th Street sculpture

## Neighbors & Friends:

The latest version of the City Newsletter is our Emergency Preparedness issue, and I encourage you to save the “disaster kit checklist” and read the articles. Being prepared for emergencies is important every year, and it’s even moreso this year as we also face the COVID-19 pandemic.

This newsletter also contains a “meet and greet” with new City Manager Dave Rudat, plus a well-deserved honor for the Reard House, new permanent public art for the City and more.

When I think about disaster preparedness, plenty of things keep me up at night. I worry about everyone at home in our city. With residents working and taking classes from home, what happens if we have a disaster here, like the fire that burned Paradise, Calif., in 2018? How do we get everyone out? Sammamish has 1.7 times worse evacuation constraints than Paradise, and we don’t have direct access to a major highway.

I worry about our COVID numbers. Sammamish has done well in keeping case numbers low, but we’re not perfect. If you look at our crowded parks, you see plenty of people who seem to think, “The virus won’t hurt me.” But even residents without symptoms can carry the virus to other, more vulnerable citizens. Sammamish is an affluent city, but not every resident is so well off. I worry about those of us struggling to make ends meet in these tough times.

The City has given rental assistance during the pandemic and held a community food drive to help those less fortunate, and that will need to continue. We have a very giving community, but I worry about those who fall through the cracks.

I worry constantly about our police and all our first responders. The COVID-19 crisis highlights the crucial work they do and how dangerous their jobs are.

*Please send me your thoughts and suggestions,*

*Mayor Karen Moran*



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## Outdoor sculpture unveiled at SE 4th

What started as a rough drawing on a coffee shop napkin four years ago became reality in August when the City of Sammamish unveiled its latest permanent public art, a 15-foot-high sculpture of natural stone slabs at SE 4th and 225th Street SE.

Designed by award-winning artist/designer Lin Garretson, a Sammamish resident and former Arts Commission member, the sculpture consists of three stone faces and symbolizes how the young city is a “whole new entity,” Garretson said. Sammamish combines the different traditions and customs of the city’s population, “blended together into a new form, and that is Sammamish,” she said.

Garretson began working on the installation in 2016 after a discussion with Arts Commission member Margaret Rosenow at a local coffee shop. Garretson drew some sketches on a napkin, and the process took off.

Garretson created and helped install the sculpture for no charge to the city.

Rosenow said she hopes the sculpture can be part of the city’s landscape “for the next 600 years.”

The community will be involved in choosing the name for the sculpture. Go to <https://connect.sammamish.us/> soon for more details.

Special thanks go to several others who contributed skills, money and time to the effort: Rosenow, for her diligence in working with the City through the administrative aspects of this project; Ronnie and Gino Simone, owners of Western Tile & Marble and General Contractors, for stone fabrication and on-site installation; their installers Chris Lindsey, Cordell Fischer, Kye Edison and Kyle McCoy; Attila Kilic of Meta Marble, for his generosity and price accommodations for the stone; Frank Lescher of Frank Lescher Masonry, for building the concrete block structure; Josh Gorham of Skilfab for steel fabrication; Rick Oswald & Cecily Westall of Cutting Edge Studio for sandblasting; and Randy with Conducive CAD for engineering.



Speeding remains a concern near the Sammamish Landing Park on East Lake Sammamish Parkway, and heavy street parking also is creating issues. The City of Sammamish will take measures to increase safety around the park.

The City will install additional “No Parking” signs in the northbound direction on the east side, where the street curves north of the parking lot. In the area between the double-white lines on the west side of the street, up to 500 feet north of the park will be painted with white stripes to clarify it’s not a bike lane.

This work probably will be done at night to minimize traffic impact, then the City will request that police conduct another speed test in the area. The City will also contact King County to seek to construct another access point from the road to the trail.

The City asks residents to please slow down when driving near the park, for everyone’s safety.

# CONNECT SAMMAMISH

## Name the SE 4th Street Sculpture



The Sammamish Arts Commission and Artist/Designer Lin Garretson is inviting the public to submit name ideas for the new SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street Sculpture. Final selection on the offered names will be made by the Commission and Artist. Below is background information on the sculpture and its representation.

### **The 12-foot Sculpture:**

Inspired by the wisdom and rhythms of Nature, the sculpture is constructed with natural stone slabs and steel elements. Like many of us residing in Sammamish, the stone is not indigenous to this area, but originated from different points around the world. Each stone has its own unique composition and character, history and heritage. Having now been shaped, textured and bonded together with others, combined with the strength of steel, it is at home in a new place with a new purpose and meaning.

## **Symbolism:**

Together the stone and steel create symbolic, stylized representations of nature, which visually express some of the basic tenets of our city. The three faces of the sculpture represent three of these tenants.

UNITY ~ Enriched by our differences, we are better together. The different pieces of stone combine to form patterns and images reminding us that the elements of Nature work in unity. The natural beauty of our physical surroundings...the mountains, the clouds, the lakes and streams, even our abundant rainfall, represented by steel rods, remind us that each has an integral part. Two eagles in flight cross the face of the sculpture reminding us that although our individual strengths are significant...together we are even better!

TENACITY ~ Unwavering stewardship of our environment and natural habitats. The steel salmon moving against the strong waves symbolize the wisdom of diligently moving ahead in a positive direction. They symbolize our staying power as a community and remind us of our important role as stewards of the natural beauty of our waters, green spaces and wildlife.

COMMITMENT~ Growing together as a uniquely caring and inclusive community The tree-like image reminds us that in each passing season we strengthen and renew our resolve to put down our roots and to keep growing in ways that will sustain and enrich our community for years to come. The falling leaves symbolize the generous hearts and innumerable volunteer hours of caring community members who quietly nurture and enrich the human landscape of our city every day.

## **Artist:**

Lin resides in Sammamish with her husband, David. She is the owner of Spaces by Lin Garretson Inc., an award-winning interior & exterior design firm. Lin studied Art at Indiana University and served as a Sammamish Arts Commissioner from 2012-2017. Lin gifted her time and service to the City of Sammamish in the creation and installation of this sculpture.

## **The Team:**

- Margaret Rosenow – Arts Commissioner
- Ronnie Simone & Gino Simone of Western Tile & Marble ~ General contractors & stone fabricators with their installers; Chris Lindsey, Cordell Fischer, Kye Edison & Kyle McCoy
- Attila Kilic of Meta Marble
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- Rick Oswald and Cecily Westall of Cutting Edge
- Randy Eaglestone, Engineer, Conducive CAD

## **The Sponsors:**

- The Sammamish Arts Commission
- The City of Sammamish

*Photos courtesy of Margaret Rosenow*

## Share your name ideas!

1 day ago

The Sammamish Arts Commission and Artist/Designer Lin Garretson is inviting the public to submit name ideas for the new SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street Sculpture. Share your ideas on a name that embodies the symbols of **unity, tenacity, and commitment** represented in the sculpture. Final selection on the offered names will be made by the Commission and Artist.

Please **create a Connect Sammamish account** to contribute your ideas.

If there's a name suggestion you like, support your neighbors by giving them a thumbs-up!

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## UPDATE - Name the SE 4th Street Sculpture

Share on Facebook Share on Twitter Share on LinkedIn Email this link



The sculpture on SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street has a name:  
“Synergy Rising”

Wikipedia: Synergy is an interaction or cooperation giving rise to a whole that is greater than the simple sum of its parts.

After receiving 33 great ideas from the citizens of Sammamish, the Sammamish Arts Commission narrowed it down to 9 names. Today the original subcommittee of four, including the artist, Lin Garretson, voted unanimous for the name of “Synergy Rising”. This was mainly because the artist started her paper on symbolism of the sculpture with a quote from Aristotle: “The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.”

## Press release and many Internet postings



The Sammamish Arts Commission recognizes an exceptional volunteer resident who has made overwhelming contributions to the arts and culture in our area. Lin Garretson, an artist and designer who resides in Sammamish with her husband, David, owns and actively operates Spaces by Lin Garretson. Lin is an award winning interior and exterior designer who provides architectural planning and project management for custom homes & remodels. Lin studied art at Indiana University and served as a Sammamish Arts Commissioner from 2012 to 2017.

During her time as an Arts Commissioner, Lin introduced successful numerous projects and creative events, and the community responded with enthusiastic participation. She developed and coordinated the Special Arts Sammamish Series of programs focusing these art experiences on three underserved segments of our population: teens, seniors, and special needs children. All of these Special Arts Sammamish/Sammamish Arts Commission programs were at no charge to the community.

The multiple programs and events in which Lin was instrumental are wide-ranging and not limited to:

**“Au-Some Artists!”** is an event planned for students on the autism spectrum or with other special needs. Together with volunteer teen mentors, the participants did experienced printmaking, painting, weaving, and music under the guidance of professional artists.

**“Make It A Clay Day”** brought together special needs students and teen mentors. This event provided an opportunity to explore “hands-on” activities manipulating clay in a variety of artistic techniques.

**“Make It a Glass Day”**: These individual events focused on seniors (55+) and special needs participants with teen mentors.

**“Creative Characters” Cartooning** was a program focused on creating and illustrating a personal booklet and making clay critters and puppets, including guest Star Wars characters.

**“Life Stories”**: Teens paired with those 55+ and shared real-life short stories through visual arts, music, poetry, and the spoken word.

**“Gen-Fusion” Fused Glass Workshop**: separate events focusing on seniors (55+) and teens.

**“Theater of Possibility”**: Performing social skills through acting and improvisation to include special needs students and teen mentors.

**“Gen-Thriller” Murder Mystery Theater** event designed for senior/teen interactivity to solve “the case”.

For every year Lin was serving as a Sammamish Arts Commissioner, her programs provided these exceptional opportunities for community residents. Lin also established other events such as “The Poetry Event” partnering with the Sammamish Library, the Klahanie Welcome Event, Party-On, Sing-Alongs for seniors (55+), and Special Arts 2 Go.

Lin volunteered countless hours of her time and expertise to plan and provide well attended popular community staples. For these volunteer contributions, Lin was honored with the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Awards during her tenure as an Art Commissioner.

In 2016, the Arts Commission began considering specific public art pieces in Sammamish. For the four years following, Lin devoted her time, energy, and talents on the recently installed “Synergy Rising” art sculpture installed on SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

<https://sammamish.us/government/commissions-boards/arts-commission/se-4th-street-sculpture/>

Even after 2017 when she departed her specific Arts Commissioner role, Lin organized and volunteered nearly full-time her unusual focus and talents on this “Synergy Rising” sculpture which included designing the sculpture, selecting materials, coordinating with contractors, making templates, and being present on site on multiple occasions to include installation. All her work was done pro bono.

It is with pleasure and acclaim that the Sammamish Arts Commission recognizes Lin Garretson for her exceptional efforts and achievements on multiple arts and cultural Sammamish events. Most recently, we are appreciative of her willingness, assistance, and tenacity in bringing to completion an extraordinary permanent art piece which will enhance and entertain Sammamish residents for decades. Lin has exemplified generous caring and sharing, and the Sammamish Community voices and extends its “Thank you, Lin!”



Installation of signs while Margaret Rosenow (top) and Lin Garretson (left) are "supervising".

