

## Kathleen Thorne and Alan Simcoe to be honored at the 2009 Island Treasure Awards Tenth Anniversary Celebration.



Kathleen Thorne and Alan Simcoe  
Photo: Ellen Bush

Beyond the many volunteer and philanthropic ways that Islanders support the arts and humanities, there are those who have made particularly outstanding contributions to our community. Ten years ago the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council created the Island Treasure Awards to recognize these individuals, following a double-blind process based on the MacArthur Genius Fellowship Grants.

The 2009 Island Treasure Award recipients are Kathleen Thorne, in the humanities and Alan Simcoe, in the arts. The Island Treasure Award provides a cash prize of \$3,000 and community recognition for the ongoing contributions of the recipients. In addition, each Island Treasure receives a trophy, designed by Island artist, Kent Van Slyke.

**Kathleen Thorne** started as a BIAHC volunteer over fourteen years ago. She served as a program manager for the Council until she resigned last August to pursue other work. She has served as editor of *Currents*, as well as managed, created, and supported a wealth of cultural programs including: the Humanities Inquiry series, Poetry Corners and National Poetry Month events, Celluloid Bainbridge, Great Decisions at the Library, and Artist Round Tables. Evidence of her presence exists in innumerable arts and humanities endeavors on the Island, spanning a vast range of disciplines. She's an organizer, a synthesizer, a driver.

**Alan Simcoe** has a Renaissance quality. He is a musician, teacher, performer, historian, luthier, and community music advocate. Simcoe was selected as an Island Treasure for the ongoing commitment he has shown to bringing "the method, the music and the melody" to the Island through his teaching, building and performing. He also very generously served on many arts and humanities panels as a representative of the Island's music community. 000A fellow musician described Simcoe by stating, "He is not loud, but he is complex with numerous overtones and we all are richer for it."

## **This Year's Celebration**

This year marks the 10th anniversary celebration of the Island Treasure Awards. The Awards Ceremony will also honor past Island Treasures and the over 120 individuals who have worked as nominators and panel members. Special to the anniversary, photographer Joel Sackett and graphic designer Jeanette Alexander, with the generous backing of an Island resident, have created a photographic commemorative booklet of the past and present Island Treasures. Copies of the booklet will be available for purchase after the event at the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council office.

For more information please contact the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council at 206.842.7901.